

# Obituary



*Dinton*

## **GEORGE WYNDHAM**

### **DEATH OF MR WYNDHAM**

On Saturday afternoon very great regret was felt and shown in Maitland on intelligence being received of the death of Mr George Wyndham, of Dalwood, Hunter River. Mr Wyndham had gone to Sydney on business, and intended to have returned to Maitland by Friday evening's steamer, but sent a telegram to his family that he would remain in Sydney that night, and return to Maitland the next evening. But on Saturday a telegram was sent up stating that Mr Wyndham had been taken suddenly ill, and died.

Thus another of our oldest and most respected residents has been removed by death. Mr Wyndham was one of the oldest remaining old landholders of the Hunter, having been forty-six years here in his granted estate, Dalwood. He was, we believe, about seventy years of age at his death.

Although for several years Mr Wyndham had retired from anything like public life, yet when the *Mercury* was first established, in 1843, we found him one of the most active of the leading landholders of the Hunter, taking part in most public matters. He was not, however, a public speaker, so far as we recollect, although a man of very good ability. Very early we heard of the vineyard formed by Mr Wyndham at Dalwood, but after a time it was common report in Maitland that some disappointment respecting wine making or wine selling, we forget which, had induced him to give up pursuit. And it was not till some years after that the repute of the present much larger Dalwood vineyard began to be heard of, in connection with the name of Mr John Wyndham.

The only public subject which we now remember Mr Wyndham's taking a personal interest in was the land question. But he had adopted a theory which never found many admirers – a theory for Australia

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based on the original landed system of India, before the English had interfered with (and spoiled) the ancient relation of the zeminders and ryots. If our memory serves us correctly, Mr Wyndham's predilections were in favor of a kind of patriarchal relation between the actual grower of produce and the landlord, or owner of the soil. But as he never attempted to get up a public movement, and subject his views to the ordeal of public criticism therein, we are not certain of the accuracy of our memory.

At one time Mr Wyndham was an active magistrate, and he was remarkable for the strict impartiality of his treatment of poor and rich, bond and free – at that time not a universal feature.

*(The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, New South Wales, Australia, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December, 1870)*

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## **THE LATE MR WYNDHAM**

The *S. M. Herald* publishes the following notice of the death of this lamented gentleman :-

“It is with great regret that we have to announce the death of Mr George Wyndham, the intelligence of whose sudden decease will awaken feelings of painful interest among a very wide circle of his friends. Mr Wyndham enjoyed his usual good health up to about six o'clock on Saturday morning, when he was prostrated with some sudden illness, and died about an hour afterwards. The deceased gentleman was the third son of Mr William Wyndham, of Dinton, England, who was intimately related to George Wyndham, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Egremont, and Baron Cockermouth. By the death of this Earl, in 1845, the peerage became extinct. Mr Wyndham arrived in the colony about forty years ago, and lived to the advanced age of seventy-one years. He was one of the pioneers of colonization and settlement in New South Wales, and he devoted his energies to the development of the natural resources of the country. As a grazer, he discovered and occupied several blocks of country new to pastoral pursuits; and, if we mistake not, he was the first to introduce the Hereford breed of cattle to this colony, of which breed was understand there is still a very fine herd at Dalwood. My Wyndham was also entitled to some distinction as an importer of blood horses and other descriptions of first-class stock; and the name of Wyndham has now become almost a household word in these colonies, in connection with the vintages of Dalwood and Bukkulla. Before emigrating to Australia, Mr Wyndham travelled a good deal on the Continent of Europe; and he was, no doubt, largely indebted to the information, which he then gained for the success which afterwards rewarded his intelligent enterprise as a vigneron in this colony. He planted extensive vineyards in New England, and on the Hunter; and having embarked an ample fortune in wine growing, he was one of the first to demonstrate the remunerative character of that industry. His Dalwood and Bukkulla wines obtained a silver medal at the Paris Exhibition of 1867, which was the first prize gained in European competition by Australian wines. Of Mr Wyndham's private character, it is needless that we should remark further than to observe that it was without reproach. He was beloved and honoured in his own family, and his many estimable qualities have endured his name to all who were associated with him in the friendships and business of life.”

*(The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, New South Wales, Australia, Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December, 1870)*

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## DEATH

At Pittsville House, Upper William-street, Sydney, on the 24<sup>th</sup> Instant, George Wyndham, Esq., of Dalwood, near Branxton, aged 69 years.

*(The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, New South Wales, Australia, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1870)*

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*(Previously)*

## DEATHS

At her residence, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, aged 65, Margaret, the beloved wife of George Wyndham, Esq., of Dalwood, near Branxton, N. S. Wales.

*(The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, New South Wales, Australia, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 1870)*

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### George & Margaret Wyndham

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