

The Warrnambool Examiner (Victoria, Australia)
Saturday 15 December 1894:

DEATH OF AN OLD COLONIST

On Sunday last one of the first settlers of the Tower Hill District passed over to the great majority. **Mrs Donald McLean**, sen., was a native of Coll, Scotland, from which she and her husband and family emigrated to Australia, landing in Melbourne in the year 1840. They lived there till the beginning of 1846, when they came overland to Tower Hill, where they were about the third to lease land on the famous Farnham Survey, then a dense forest.

They settled near the outlet of the lake, where they remained for some years before removing to another spot near the main road. At the Farnham Survey, Mr McLean died and the deceased made her home with her sons in various places, and from her genial temper she was always a welcome guest. In addition to the loss of her husband, she lost her two sons, Malcolm and Allan, the former being drowned in the Glenelg a few years ago.

For the last two or three years she has been a sufferer from cancer, to which she at last fell a victim. Throughout her suffering her bearing was characterised by the uncomplaining and cheerful disposition that had marked her whole life.

In life she was a living exemplification of the virtue of charity and the hospitalities of the McLean homestead were the subjects of comment far and wide. However, all things come to an end, and the tired hands were folded, and the wearied body laid away to rest in the pretty Tower Hill cemetery on Tuesday, the Rev. Mr Riddle, of Koroit, officiating at the grave. The survivors of the family are - Mrs Grundy, of Koroit, Mr Donald McLean, of Hawkesdale, and Mr John McLean, of Myamyn.

Notes

Mrs McLean was born Euphemia (Effie) McLean, and was a descendant of the first Maclean of Coll. She married Donald McLean in Coll on 7 January 1834, and with her husband and their two children, Donald (b.1835) and John (b.1836), emigrated to Australia on the *Brilliant*, arriving in Sydney on 20 January 1838.

After a few years as tenant farmers, first on *Castle Forbes*, an estate on the Hunter River near Singleton, New South Wales, and later in Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania), they settled near Melbourne, Victoria.

The obituary of her son John is recorded at No.6 in this series and the death notice of her sister Mary at No.5.

[transcription and notes by John McLean]