INQUIRY

Mrs. L. Morrison of 13 Bunbury Road, Macquarie Fields 2564, is anxious to locate any descendants of John and Margaret Tighe who settled on a farm in O’Brien’s Road, Figtree, in the 1850’s. Their daughters Mary and Honorah married Michael McDonough and John McDonough respectively. Mrs. Morrison’s letter is so informative that it is published in full:

I am researching the life of John and Margaret Tighe and their two daughters Mary and Honorah. John Tighe came to Australia as a convict in 1834 and served seven years before gaining his freedom. His wife Margaret and daughter Mary were reunited with John Tighe in the late 1850’s after a separation of some 20 years. About that time John Tighe bought a farm called “Keelogues” in O’Brien’s Road, Fig Tree. His other daughter, her husband John McDonough and their three children also lived on the farm after their arrival from Boston, U.S.A. Mary Tighe married a Michael McDonough at Wollongong Catholic Church in 1858. John Tighe was a member of the Illawarra Council from 1864 to 1875.

The reason I am writing to your Society is to ask if you would have any information or knowledge of the Tighe and McDonough families, also the O’Brien’s Road farm. John and Margaret Tighe as well as Honorah and John McDonough are buried in a family grave in the Wollongong Cemetery. Michael and Mary McDonough are buried in a separate grave in the same cemetery. My mother-in-law Honorah Margaret (Burns) Morrison who is John and Margaret Tighe’s great-grand-daughter, now 90 years of age, is the daughter of Mary Ann McDonough.

The A.B.C. is doing a story on John Tighe for the Bicentenary in 1887-88, as it is a very moving story. As a descendant of John Tighe, my husband has been asked for any information on the family. I would particularly like to find a likeness of John Tighe or a sketch of the Fig Tree farm. I am also endeavouring to locate any of the family who might still be living around the Wollongong area, and who might have some information regarding the family that I don’t have.

INQUIRY

On behalf of the N.S.W. Midwives Association, Miss C. A. Grieve of 2/4 Beverley Avenue, Unanderra 2526 is seeking information.

“The N.S.W. Midwives Association is currently researching information for a book on the history of midwifery in this state. It is proposed to include a segment on the Illawarra and South Coast, and it has been suggested that the Illawarra Historical Society may have information about relevant areas such as visiting midwives, lay midwives, cottage hospitals and the like. If such information is available, we would appreciate your permission to examine it. Thank you in anticipation.”

Can any of our members help?