

Copy

5. Books Chambers Elizabeth Street.
Hobart. 12th April 1894.

Mess^{rs} Alex W. Gregor & Co

Dear Sirs

In accordance with the promise I made before Easter, I now acquaint you that I have been looking up matters in connection with the family of the late Captain Arch. Milne, and in order to make things as clear as possible, & at the risk of repeating what I wrote you last December, I will endeavour to give you a detailed narrative from the date of Captain Milne's death.

In 1851/2 the late Captain Milne occupied a house in Hauppden Road, opposite Arthur Circus, Battery Point, and resided there with his wife, and one child, Marion Milne. There was no other child but this little girl, who at her fathers death about 4 years old. I resided next door, living with my parents and sister, and knew both Captain & Mrs Milne. My sister was an unmarried woman then 21 years of age. She is now Mrs James Mackay and knew Mrs Milne well. She now tells me she never saw any other child but Marion, nor did she ever hear Mrs Milne mention any other children, If there had been other children she feels sure she must have heard from Mrs Milne about them, from knowing her as she did so very well. The child Marion, Mrs Mackay says, was constantly in and out of our house. My late Mother & sister were very fond of the child, she

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being a bright little thing, bearing the same name as my sister - Marion.

After the death of Captain Milne, his widow (my sister informs me) accepted employment from Mr. R. Worey (Auctioneer), as Housekeeper, she being without means. As Mrs. Milne's position in Mr. Worey's house was considered equivocal, my sister dropped her acquaintance, but taking an interest in the child Marion Milne, she ascertained from time to time that she was well cared for, and was being brought up and educated by Mr. Worey. Mr. Worey had also heard that Mr. Worey married Mrs. Milne, she knows that she resided with him to the time of her death.

Having obtained above particulars from my sister, who is a very clear headed woman, with a remarkably good memory, and I also having known the late Captain & Mrs. Milne well, I proceeded to the Registry Office and have made a careful search with the following result.

Arch^d Milne was married to Rachel Marion Saunders at St. David's Church Hobart Town by the Rev^d W. Bedford, on 20th November 1839, he being described as a Bachelor aged 34 & she as a Spinster aged 18 years.

On 11th November a female child was born, and it died on 30th December 1844 aged 3 weeks. The child is un-named in the register.

On 15th January 1848 a female child was born named Marion. There is no other record of this child, and there is no other issue of Arch^d Milne and his wife Rachel, ^{Marion} Milne registered.

Percy George Milne.

Noting the mention of this name in Mr. Hossack's letter I made search for it, and find that he was born 23rd January 1842, at Hobart Town, his father being George Fletcher Milne a clerk in the Comms^r department, the mother's name was Sarah Ann, formerly Saunders. It is singular that this is also the maiden surname of Mrs Arch^d Milne. This is doubtless the husband of Mrs Margaret Milne of Orson Street, Hay, Australia. As Commissary Clerks had a military standing, Geo. F. Milne may have been designated "Captain" Milne, and Mrs Margaret Milne may not have known the Christian name of her late husband's father, hence her claim to have been married to the son of the late Captain ^{Arch^d} Milne of Hobart Town. It must be quite clear that Percy George Milne is not the son of the late Arch^d Milne.

The following particulars may be of interest to Mr. Hossack & the parties for whom he is acting

Marion Rachel Milne on 29th September 1860 was married to Robert Worey, and on 7th October 1861 she gave birth to a son who died same date, she died on 10th Oct. 1861 three days after the birth of the child (a boy)

Marion Milne continued to live with Mr. Worey, but on 8th November 1862 he married a widow named Frances Cochrane who had a grown up daughter. Marion Milne left Mr. Worey's protection about 1863 and lived in the family of Mr. Henry Smith of Wilford, Cambridge, Tasmania, & in 1864 went with Mr. Smith's family, as nurse, to New Zealand

in the barge "Christina". about. say same year Mr. Smith no longer requiring her services she took a situation as help and ⁱⁿ companion with a lady at Lyttelton, named it is supposed, "Denis" whose brother was a surveyor

I think Mrs. Ganeau who claims to be Marion Milne should be required to give a proper account of herself, and to enable Mr. Hossack to frame some questions for her to answer, that she may be properly identified & propose as under

- A) She being so young to remember much if anything of her father's house at Battery Point, her first recollections would be of the house her mother found with Mr. Robt. Worley, who resided at New Town near Hobart, also her ^{age}
 - B) she should remember that Mr. Robert Worley brought her up and educated her
 - C) that her mother married Mr. Worley, but she may not know the date of the marriage, as it may have been secret. Mrs. Milne must have lived at Mr. Worley's house for 7 years previous to the marriage
 - D) Marion Milne should remember the marriage of Mr. Worley with Mrs. Cochran, and also the name of Mrs. Cochran's daughter (Milne Cochran)
 - E) Her leaving the protection of Mr. Worley and going to live with Mr. H. Smith, Milford, Cambridge Tasmania, say in 1863, the cause of her leaving
 - F) Her leaving Tasmania with Mr. Smith's family for New Zealand, in the barge "Christina" in 1864.
 - G) Her leaving the service of Mr. Smith and taking employment as help & companion with a lady at Lyttelton New Zealand, whose name is supposed to be Denis, and whose brother was a surveyor
- This may about. July 1864.

It is unfortunate that Mrs. Vanhul is out of the colony. She is the Mrs. Cochrane who married Mr. R. Worley, after the death of Mr. Milne. She is a very old friend of mine, and I wrote to her end of last year, for information and she informed me about Marion Milne leaving Mr. Worley & going to Mr. Smiths. She was then leaving Sydney to proceed to Fortrose Tas^t and was not likely to visit Hobart. I have not heard of her since. If any further information is required, she might be able to furnish it. But I do not think anything further can be required. It is to me abundantly clear that there were but two children born of the marriage of Arch^d Milne & Rachel, M. Saunders.

The sole survivor is Marion. The only question is her identification, & I think I have furnished information which should make this an easy matter. I enclose Certificates as under

- (1) Marriage of Arch^d Milne & Rachel Saunders
 - (2) Birth of first child un-named
 - (3) Death of said child aged (3) ~~months~~ three weeks
 - (4) Birth of second child
 - (5) Birth of Percy George Milne son of G. J. Milne
 - (6) Death of Marion Rachel Worley former wife of Arch^d Milne. She is variously described in the Register as Rachel, Rachel Marion, & Marion Rachel.
- Captain Milne's death is not registered, but it is recorded in the arrival book at the Marine Board Office as having occurred 21st September 1862 he being then master of the barge "Cacique"

I am Dear Sir's

* This may be the brother mentioned by Mrs. Garland's son

(signed)

Yours faithfully

D. Macmillan