

## Otago Peninsular (2) South Island, New Zealand

In the last issue of the Journal, I included an article about this area of New Zealand. One part of the article was about a Richard FRY from Weston-super-Mare who was one of the first settlers in this area. I asked for any information that our members may have.

I am happy to say that I jumped in with both feet first here as our long standing member Anne WOLFORTH of West Sussex is a relation of Richard FRY. Anne has kindly sent me the following article and pictures. She also points out that all of the information can be found in the Research Room at Weston Library. *Editor*



Richard & Agnes Fry

Richard FRY was the only son of Richard & Elizabeth FRY (nee Maiden), born on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1816 at Sion Row, Clifton and baptised at St Andrews Church, Clifton on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1817. The family moved from the hotel at Sion Row to Weston-super-Mare when Richard was age 2 and took over the first hotel at Weston later called Fry's Hotel.

He was educated at Yatton and apprenticed there as a carpenter (This is not proved but the New Zealand family say so). He fell in love with a Scottish maid which the family did not approve of so he went on the *John Wickliffe* to Dunedin, New Zealand in 1848.

Agnes McLEOD followed on the Mary in 1849 with her sister, brother, his wife and two children. Richard and Agnes married in 1850 in Dunedin and made their home in "Spring Bank", Waikouati, Otago (a house he built himself, sadly no longer remaining).

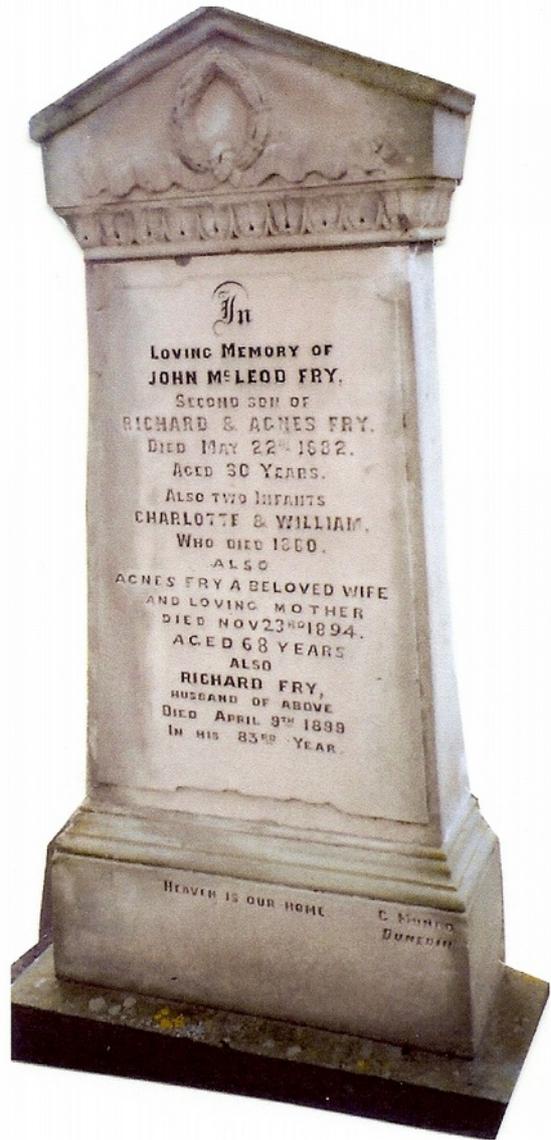
Richard and Agnes had eight children and have helped to populate the South Island of New Zealand. Unfortunately the name Fry has died out in N.Z. Anne made a connection with the family in 2000 and has been out to see many of them twice since then. She is the first members of the family to visit since 1848.

The picture opposite shows the Memorial Gravestone of Richard FRY, his wife Agnes and their sons John McLeod, William Walter and daughter Charlotte.

The sailing ship *John Wickliffe*, along with the *Philip Laing*, was chartered by the New Zealand Company in association with the Lay Association of the Free Church of Scotland to bring the first migrants to form the Otago settlement in 1848. Richard FRY never went to Scotland!

*John Wickliffe* loaded the essential supplies for the settlement and took on board 97 emigrants in London whilst the *Philip Laing* carried the majority of emigrants from Greenock. *John Wickliffe* sailed from Gravesend on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1847 but encountered very severe weather, which caused her to put into Portsmouth on 5<sup>th</sup> December for repairs. She sailed again on 14<sup>th</sup> December and arrived at Port Chalmers on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1848. Under the command of Captain Bartholomew DALY, the passage from Portsmouth to Otago had taken 100 days.

The *John Wickliffe* was lost at sea with all hands in 1854. No circumstances or position of loss are known.



## Children of Richard Fry & Agnes McLeod



George Richard



Mary Ann Taylor



Joseph James & Frances Ellen Farrell



Mary Jane



Emily Maiden & William Maxwell



Family Group Sheet

**Husband: Richard Fry**

Born: 24 Dec 1816 in: Sion Row Clifton Gls England  
 Married: 26 Mar 1850 in: Dunedin Otago New Zealand  
 Died: 09 Apr 1899 in: Spring Bank Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand  
 Father: Richard Fry  
 Mother: Elizabeth Maiden

**Wife: Agnes McLeod**

Born: Abt. 1824 in: Edinburgh Scotland  
 Died: 23 Nov 1894 in: Dunedin Otago New Zealand  
 Father: John McLeod  
 Mother: Betsy Young

**CHILDREN**

1 M	Name: George Richard Fry Born: 04 Jan 1851 Died: 24 Nov 1925 Married: 20 Nov 1876 Spouse: Mary Ann Taylor	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand
2 M	Name: John Mcleod Fry Born: 01 Jun 1852 Died: 22 May 1882	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand
3 F	Name: Elizabeth Agnes Fry Born: 24 Aug 1855 Died: 23 Jun 1938 Married: 29 Jul 1876 Spouse: Patrick Nihill	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Dunedin Otago New Zealand
4 F	Name: Emily Maiden Fry Born: 17 May 1857 Died: 30 May 1941 Married: 25 May 1881 Spouse: William Maxwell	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Dunedin Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand
5 F	Name: Mary Jane Fry Born: 27 Mar 1859 Died: 06 Jan 1945 Married: 17 May 1882 Spouse: William Hallum	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand
6 F	Name: Charlotte Fry Born: 17 Sep 1860 Died: 07 Nov 1860	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand
7 M	Name: Joseph James Fry Born: 26 Jan 1862 Died: 03 Jun 1944 Married: 1893 Spouse: Frances Ellen Farrell	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Gisborne Bay of Plenty New Zealand in: Gisborne Bay of Plenty New Zealand
8 M	Name: William Walter Fry Born: 25 Apr 1865 Died: 26 Apr 1865	in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand in: Waikouaiti Otago New Zealand