

## **Shetlander's Death in New Zealand**

“The Southern Cross”, New Zealand, says:- A very highly respected resident of Invercargill North passed away (in his 80<sup>th</sup> year) at his residence, 69 King Street, on 4<sup>th</sup> November, in the person of Mr Haldane Georgeson. The eldest of a family of seven sturdy Shetlanders, Mr Georgeson was born at Sandsting, and like most of the Islanders he followed a seafaring life, being connected with the fishing and sealing industries, in which calling he had many adventures. Subsequently Mr Georgeson voyaged to the East, when he visited India, Burmah, China, the Malayan archipelago, Strait Settlements, etc. In 1877, with his young wife and two children he left for New Zealand by the sailing ship Oamaru, landing at the Bluff on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1878, after a three months' voyage. Coming to Invercargill, Mr Georgeson took up work in the building line, but met with a severe accident and for twenty years was employed as night-watchman.

Mr Georgeson was not a public man, being of a retiring, though genial and kindly nature. For nearly 35 years he held the position of church officer of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, and faithfully and well he performed his duties. He devoted much time to his garden and greenhouses, which were models of what can be accomplished by industry.

The funeral, on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, was attended by a large gathering of mourners, including many members of the Druids' Lodge, of which he was a member. A large number of wreathes and other tokens of sympathy were received.

Mr Georgeson is survived by his widow and grown-up family of six – four sons and two daughters – and the only surviving member of the family of the seven sturdy Shetlanders is Magnus, who resides at “Dunvegan,” Inverell, Australia. Mr Georgeson was a brother of Sergeant T. Georgeson who died in March last year at “Sea View,” Gruting, Bridge of Walls.

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