**Helen Macfarlane** (born 25.09.1818)

1853.03.28 Prouse (sic), Mrs and child on Lady of the Lake, from London, Intermediate. (Natal Witness 01.04.1853).

Mrs Prouse’s (sic) husband left the ship at Deal, being too sick to continue the voyage. (Natal Mercury 31.03.1853).

1853.04.01 Consuela Pauline Roland, infant daughter of M.F. Proust, died at McDonald’s Hotel\*, Durban. (NM 07.04.1853).

1853.04.02 Proust, Consuela Pauline Roland, 8 months, of McDonald’s Hotel, buried. (Burial Register, St Paul’s Anglican Church, Durban).

1854.06.21 Proust, Mrs on Gitana for Cape Town. (NM 21.06.1854).

According to the death notice of **William Stenhouse** Macfarlane (Died 27.01.1877), filled in by his brother **John**: – Agnes (sic) (deceased) left two children Herbert (a major) and Walter Edwards (21 on 03.08. 1879). (Master of the Supreme Court Deceased Estates 4/323).

According to the will of **Mary** Macfarlane (Died 29.07.1881), Helen was married to John William Edwards, Rector of Baddily (sic), Cheshire. (Master of the Supreme Court. Deeds/Wills 49/1881).

\*McDonald’s Hotel (now the Royal Hotel) an upmarket establishment then and now.

**Thomas Macfarlane** (11.10.1815 – 11.04.1873, Estcourt).

Aged 33 he came to Natal on the Washington (London Public Record Office passenger lists) which arrived on 18.07.1849. (Clark, John. *Natal Settler Agent: the career of John Moreland*. Cape Town: Balkema, 1972).

A fellow passenger John Moreland described Thomas as “A very agreeable fellow – formerly a clerk in a merchant’s counting house in Manchester – going to pave the way for his family consisting of three or four brothers and the same number of sisters – one brother is agent for [Joseph Charles] Byrne in Manchester. His present intention is to commence speculating in cattle – what knowledge he brings to bear on the subject, or capital appears not.” (Moreland’s rewritten ship’s diary 23.04.49)

“Got an excellent sketch today of Macfarlane sat on a camp stool smoking his meerschaum with his unshaven beard and wide awake hat, he is quite a character”. (Ibid 15.05.1849).

Settled first with brothers **Walter** (G.Holgate in Kit Bird papers), who arrived on the Dreadnought 02.11.1849 (Clark) and **John** (Dobie, John Shedden. *South African Journal1862-6.* ed. Alan F. Hattersley. Cape Town: Van Riebeeck Society, 1945. note p.87), who arrived on the Devonian 31.10.1850 (Clark).

The name of the property which they leased was Wilgefontein just outside Pietermaritzburg. According to Dobie, Thomas farmed with **John** (note p. 87 as above). **Walter** was still leasing and occupying the property in 1854. (Natal Government Gazette 08.08.1854).

1857.04.20 Living in Ladysmith when he signed a petition of Ladysmith Anglicans. (Colonial Secretary’s Office vol. 2246 no. D163 dated 20.04.1857).

1857.07.16 Signed a petition pp. John Brown [Durban merchant], at Ladysmith, about the state of the road from Pietermaritzburg to the interior. (CSO 2246 no. D734 dated 16.07.1857).

1859.04.01 Granted farm Craig , 3 014 acres, deeds forwarded by post to Ladysmith 11.05.1859. (Surveyor Generals’ Office III/12/1 p.95).

1859.06.?? Described as manager for John Brown in Ladysmith. (Master of the Supreme Court. Insolvent Estates 3/11 no 72).

1863.04.21 Tuesday – “…called at [**John**] Macfarlane’s and had a nip with brother Tom”. This was at Estcourt, seat of John Macfarlane’s magistracy. (Dobie – Ibid. p.87)

1873.04.11 A gentleman, he was killed by lightning at the age of 56 at the farm Wagon Drift on the Bushman’s River near Estcourt. He was a Justice of the Peace. (Estcourt Government Register of deaths).

**William Stenhouse Macfarlane** (05.08.1817 – 27.01.1877, Pmb)

It is not known when he came to Natal. Obviously he intended to come in 1849 on either the Washington or Dreadnought with his brother **John**. However, their names have been crossed off J.C. Byrne & Co.’s Washington passenger list to Moreland (Moreland papers vol. 21) and Byrne informed Moreland that neither William nor **John** would be coming on the Dreadnought but at some later time. (Byrne to Moreland 01.08.1849 in Moreland papers).

**John** is the brother of 3 Cooper Street, Manchester, who was an agent for Byrne. (Clark).

1873.11.24 To act as Resident Magistrate and Administrator of Native Law, Weenen County, during absence on duty of **J**. Macfarlane. (Government Notice 266/1873 of 24 Nov.).

1877.01.27 Died at Pietermaritzburg, aged 59. (NW 30.01.1877). Justice of the Peace for Weenen. (NM 30.01.1877).

Of Pietermaritzburg, gentleman, born in Renfrewshire, Scotland, son of George and Helen Macfarlane, unmarried. (MSC 4/323).

In the Master’s report on his intestate estate dated 13.04.1880 it says he died in Grey’s Hospital [Pietermaritzburg] and left property at the Diamond Fields, including a 1/3 share of a claim at Kimberley, amounting to £1 794.17.3. Administration and Distribution accounts confirmed. (Registrar of the Supreme Court 1/8/83 no. 7739).

He is buried in Commercial Road cemetery, Pietermaritzburg.

NOTE

The Moreland papers, the Kit Bird papers, and all the official references quoted except the MSC Deeds/Wills are in the PMB Archives. The Deeds/Wills are in the Master of the High Court’s office (no longer called the Supreme Court)