## **SARGENT, William Henry**

[Not related to George Sargent]

William Henry Sargent was born on 22nd November 1822, at Devonport, Devon, England, the son of William (1799-1847) & Mary Ann (nee Clatworthy; 1800-1851) Sargent.

He married Mary Ann Kersey, daughter of Edward Kersey, on 12th September 1853, at St. Mary Stratford Bow, London, Middlesex, England. His occupation is ‘mariner.’

There does not appear to be any children from the marriage.

In 1859 W. H. Sargent & Co., Livestock and Colonial Produce Merchants, started operations in New Pitt street, near Circular Quay, Sydney (shipping supplied).

He was a purser, on board the ship *Stately* which had sailed from Otago, New Zealand, and arrived in Sydney, Australia, on 12th December 1862.**1**

On 8th January 1869, Mary Ann, the wife of W. H. Sargent, committed suicide by drowning in the Parramatta River, a short distance from her Gladesville residence, when in a state of mental derangement.**2**

On 30th November 1870, at Mr. H. Prescott's, Lyncombe Villa, Glenmore Road, W. H. Sargent was married to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Captain W. Parsons, 214, Lower

George-street, Sydney.

Mary Ann, born 1843 in N.S.W., was the daughter of William & Agnes Parsons.

The obituary for Captain William Parsons mentioned another daughter, married to Captain Prescott.**3**

Children of the marriage were:

Birth 1871 – Emily Agnes, born 8th September 1871, 54 Upper Fort-street

Birth 1872 – Sydney William, born 3rd December 1872, 54 Upper Fort-street [died 6th June 1875, North Shore]

Birth 1874 – Ernest Henry, born 15th July 1874, Observatory Villa, North Shore [the address of William Parsons]

Birth 1878 – Edith May, born 14th July 1878, Derwent Villa, Derwent-street, Glebe

Birth 1881 – Linda Marianne, born 12th January 1881, district of St. Leonards [died 13th May 1881, of whooping cough, Walker-street, North Shore]**4**

On 12th December 1891, at the residence of the bride's parents, Matthew D. Whittam was married to Emily Agnes, eldest daughter of William Henry Sargent, of “Edith,” [30] Walker-street, North Sydney. Their daughter, Winifred D., was born there on 18th February 1894.

A second daughter, Marjorie P. D., was born at Beecroft on 27th September 1895.**5**

William Henry & Mary Ann Sargent moved to Beecroft about 1902.**6**

In December 1904 William Henry Sargent, of Cheltenham, was at the official opening of the Beecroft School of Arts. In 1908 he advertised for sale ‘23 White Leghorn Hens, 3s 6d pair; 7 Indian Runner Ducks, 4s 6d pair. All good layers. SARGENT, Cheltenham.’**7**

On 23rd September 1914 Mary Ann, wife of William Henry Sargent, died suddenly at her residence, “The Cottage,” Cheltenham. The deceased had been ailing from heart trouble for the past two years. She was about 70 years of age, and in addition to her husband, is survived by a married daughter as well as a single daughter [son Ernest Henry not mentioned]. The remains were interred at the Necropolis, Rookwood. The late Mrs. Sargent had been connected with the local Presbyterian Church for quite a number of years.**8**

In January 1916 Willian Henry Sargent, aged 93 years, left Cheltenham, where he has resided for about 14 years, to reside with his daughter at Bondi.

On 20th February 1917, at “Cathay,” Woodstock-street, Waverley, William Henry Sargent, late of Cheltenham, died in his 94th year. Interred at Rookwood.

He was buried at the Rookwood Presbyterian Cemetery, Section 6D Part 5, Row 37.**9**

**SARGENT, Ernest Henry**

Ernest Henry Sargent was born 15th July 1874, the son of William Henry & Mary Ann Sargent, at Observatory Villa, North Shore.**10**

In February he and Mr. Whyte were auditors of the Beecroft branch of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows (G.U.O.O.F.), and In June he was its honorary secretary.

Also, in February 1896 he was elected president of the newly formed Waratah Social Club, with a limited number of 25 members. Activities were generally held at Thornleigh School of Arts. He resigned his position as president (replaced by Mr. Whyte) and as a member of the Waratah Social Club in May and in that month was elected a vice-president of the Hornsby, Thornleigh, Pennant Hills, Beecroft, and Carlingford Horticultural Society. In July he took out a prize in poultry at the annual show of the Horticultural Society. In August Mr. E. H. Sargent, of Beecroft, had great success at Kiama Show with his pigeons.**11**

His association with the Hornsby, Thornleigh, Pennant Hills, Beecroft and Carlingford Horticultural Association continued up till 1899. In August 1898 he agreed to accept the position of secretary of the association upon the resignation of Mr. Brack, and in 1899 he remained as secretary until August, when he handed in his resignation [most likely due to his leaving the district]. His address then was East Carlingford (now Epping).**12**

After moving from East Carlingford, he was worked for a while with the Sydney law firm of Minter, Simpson and Co.**13**

On 18th December 1901, at St. Stephen's Church Phillip-street, Sydney, Ernest Henry, only surviving son of William Henry Sargent, of Stanmore, was married to May Lillian, third daughter of Major Henry [& Mary] Blackshaw, of Goulburn.

May [birth recorded as Mary] was born in Goulburn in 1871.**14**

Children of the marriage were:

Nancy, born 4th May 1904, at Broughton, Victoria-street, Grafton

Sadie, born 3rd January 1910, at Victoria-street, Grafton**15**

By 1904 he had moved to Grafton, N.S.W., again employed in the law. His two children were born there.**16**

In 1912 the family moved to Cootamundra, N.S.W.

After law practice, in Sydney and Grafton, he subsequently qualified after coming as assistant to Mr. C. A. Vaughan at Cootamundra, who would later invite him to the partnership which would become Vaughan, Sargent, and Dawson. That year he was a poultry judge at the local show. The following year he was secretary of Cootamundra Literary Institute.**17**

On 23rd May 1939, Ernest Henry Sargent, Cootamundra's well-known solicitor, of the firm of Vaughan, Sargent, and Dawson, died in the Sacred Heart Hospital, after lingering for some days. For years he had been afflicted with poor health, and subjected to many operations, till nothing could be done for him.

During his time in Cootamundra he had taken a keen interest in the affairs of the community, in which he enjoyed esteem and respect. One of the institutions was the District Hospital, which he served for many years on the Board, and for a while as president. He was also keen on the Literary Institute, and particularly tried to keep the debates going there. His financial support went to many of the associations and clubs during all the years, and up to the formation of the Chamber of Commerce he was a Past Master of Cootamundra Lodge, St. John (Freemasons), and was also a member of the Manchester Unity Oddfellows' Lodge for 34 years

Interment was in the Presbyterian portion of the Cootamundra cemetery.

Deceased left a widow, May Lillian, and their two daughters — Nancy (Mrs. Geoffrey Horsefield, of Coolamon), and Sadie (Mrs. James White, Cootamundra). There are two sisters— Mrs. Holman and Mrs. Whittam, both of Artarmon.**18**

On 19th June 1954, May Lillian, widow of Ernest Henry Sargent, died suddenly, at Brisbane, aged 83 years, leaving two daughters, Nancy (Mrs. G. Horsfield, Peak Hill), and Sadie (Mrs. J. White, Brisbane). Her remains were interred in the Presbyterian portion of the Cootamundra Cemetery, where her late husband was laid to rest.**19**

**Matthew Douglas & Emily Agnes Whittam**

On 12th December 1891 Matthew Douglas Whittam married Emily Agnes, eldest daughter of William Henry and Mary Ann Sargent, of “Edith,” Walker-street, North Sydney.

Matthew was the son of William & Catherine Whittam.**20**

Children of the Marriage were:

Winifred D., born 18th February 1894, at “Edith,” 30 Walker-street, North Sydney

Marjorie P. D., born 27th September 1895, at Beecroft

William D., born 1901, district of Randwick**21**

In 1895 Mr. Whittam was manager of the Sydney branch of Ostermeyer, Dewez & Co., shipping agents.**22**

In December 1909, at the distribution of prizes in connection with Miss Long's school and kindergarten at Beecroft, Winifred Whittam was presented with a medal as dux of the school. On 8th March 1925. at a private hospital, Chatswood, Winifred Douglas, daughter of Matthew and Emily Whittam, of Hampden Road, Artarmon, died aged 31 years.**23**

In 1912 Matthew Whittam was an ore buyer, residing at Woodstock-street, Waverley. In 1918 he was referred to as a mineral broker. In 1922 he was agent for R. C. Young, J. Edwards, Edward Kelly, and Edward Fowler, in respect of mineral leases.**24**

Matthew Douglas Whittam died on 17th May 1940, at 20 Hampden Road, Artarmon, the husband of Emily and father of Winifred (deceased), Marjorie, and Will. Privately interred.**25**

Emily Agnes Whittam, widow of Matthew Douglas Whittam, died in 1955, in the district of Chatswood.**26**

**Bibliography**

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5 Sydney Morning Herald, Fri 25 Dec 1891; Sydney Morning Herald, Mon 28 Dec 1891; Australian Star (Sydney, NSW), Sat 24 Feb 1894; Australian Star (Sydney, NSW), Fri 13 Sep 1895

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17 Cootamundra Herald (NSW), Fri 20 Sep 1912; Cootamundra Herald (NSW), Fri 4 Jul 1913; Cootamundra Herald (NSW), Wed 24 May 1939

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23 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 25 Dec 1909; Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW), Wed 11 Mar 1925

24 Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW), Wed 14 Aug 1912; Maitland Daily Mercury (NSW), Fri 1 Feb 1918; Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate (NSW), Wed 1 Feb 1922

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