

Charles Cotterill Obituaries

Nov 28 1924, Bombala Times

The late Charles Cotterill whose death was reported last week, was one of the first arrivals in the district. He was born in Sydney & came to Bombala in 1848 when he was 6 years of age with his father the late Captain Thomas Cotterill.

At that time there were only 2 Bark Huts in Bombala, one where the Court House is now & another where the Showground is. These were occupied by Shepherds who were minding a couple of flocks of sheep. In these days, fences were unknown & the sheep had to be tendered by Shepherds. Their travelling routes were but tracks & the methods of travel were by either Bullock Team or Horse back.

It took three weeks to drive a bullock team to Eden & six months to get to Sydney & back by the overland route.

Mr Cotterill and the late Emanuel Jones were the first to drive down the Big Jack Mountain after the road was made. Mr Cotterill could tell many tales of the older times when white people were scarce on Monaro & blacks were plentiful.

On one occasion at Currawong he saw a fight by blacks. One young black had stolen a Gin belonging to another tribe & when the theft was discovered ten members of the offended tribe took after him with Boomerangs, spears & Nullas. The fight lasted a couple of days but in the end the Bridegroom tapped one of the attackers on the head with his Nulla & the fight was brought to a satisfactory end as far as he was concerned.

Mr Cotterill evidently comes of a long living family. His own age was 82, he has two brothers, one 79 & the other 80 & his cousin Captain Banks died in Sydney the other day at the age of 95.

Unknown Newspaper

Mr. Charles Cotterill Senior died on Tuesday last at his residence, ' New Haven ', near Bombala. He was born in Sydney and came to Bombala in 1848, aged 6 years, with his father the late Captain Thomas Cotterill. At the time in Bombala there existed only two bark huts. The deceased was a life long resident, and for many years was in the employ of Mr. R. Campbell, of Cambalong Station. He leaves two brothers, one aged 79, and the other aged 80. His cousin, Captain Banks, died the other day in Sydney, aged 95.

A grown up family of sons and daughters mourn the loss of a devoted father. The funeral on Thursday was largely attended, the Rev. Sherris reading the burial service."