

The death of Mr. Philip C. Michelmores at Pentland recently, at the age of 95 years, marked the passing of a well esteemed early-day carrier who blazed the track in the outback with the bullock teams long before the advent of the Iron Road. Deceased was a native of Plymouth, County of Devon, and, at the age of eleven, joined his parents, who migrated to Australia eight years earlier, at a farming settlement near Adelaide. At the age of 23 he set out for Moreton Bay, as Queensland was then called, and eventually acquired a bullock team to join the band of carriers who freighted rations into the interior where sheep and cattle stations were being rapidly developed. His base was Rockhampton, and, along with other carriers, his operations extended as the railhead advanced, section by section, until it reached Barcaldine in 1886. Horse teams ultimately supplanted the bullock waggoners and the late Mr. Michelmores set out for new fields, arriving at Torrens Creek with what was to be his last load just on 40 years ago. There he forsook the carrying business and settled with his wife and family in the Pentland district, where he resided up till the time of his death. Of his many experiences in the carrying days he could talk lucidly, if in the mood, but he was one of the old unostentatious bushmen, who were hard to draw. His only ailment in his 95 years was an accident 31 years ago when he lay 16 or 17 hours in the bush with a broken thigh, but he was soon back in harness as virile as ever and, among the group at the graveside was Mr. Fred (Barbine) Erickson, who was one of the party that rescued him from his plight. Deceased leaves a wife, one son, five daughters, twenty-five grandchildren and one great grandchild to mourn his passing.