



The University of Newcastle

History Club

Department of History

STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS
IN
AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

No 4

1979

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

HISTORY CLUB

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PREFACE

This issue continues the practice, begun in 1976, of publishing the best original research papers done in the Australian History course. The series is now well established as a useful contribution, particularly to the history of Newcastle and its environs. Students are encouraged to work with primary sources from the University Archives, the City Archives, local collections up and down the Hunter Valley and private documentation that may surface during their searches.

This year students were offered a three-fold choice: to find their own primary research topic, to use a given set of primary documentation (e.g. The Bigge Report, the Newcastle Morning Herald) to answer a specific question, or to do a conventional assignment based largely on secondary sources. The four papers offered this year are from the first two categories. They represent some, though not all of the most original and best presented studies. Other papers which we did not have room to publish, but which deserve special mention were:

Susan Bentley	The Life and Times of 'Mona Vale'
Cathy Berecny	The Effectiveness of Newcastle as a Place of Punishment and Rehabilitation
Doug Cassidy	The Fight to Survive: The Great Depression in Newcastle 1930-33
Mark Clement	Socialism in Newcastle: The Elections of 1885 and 1895
Stephen Dunn	The Impact of the 1843 Depression on Hunter Valley Living Standards: An Examination of the <u>Maitland Mercury</u> .
Toni Flanagan	The Coal Monopolies held by the Crown and the A.A. Company in New South Wales
Eva Higgs	Security and Newcastle in the War of 1914-1918
Leonard Notaras	The Effectiveness of Newcastle as a Place of Punishment and Rehabilitation
Anne Pill	Cooks Hill: Its Contribution to the Development of Newcastle
Janelle Redmond	Beginnings of a Town: Life in the Cessnock District 1900-1906
Kim Tait	The Decline of the Lake Macquarie Aborigines in the early Nineteenth Century
Mark Watchorn	Camden Haven 1870-1930

All the local history papers, as with those of previous years, are available for public perusal in the Local History Collection of the Newcastle Public Library.

John Turner, Margaret Henry, Peter Hempenstall

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MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS: J.J. EDSTEIN AND HIS SONS

1855 - 1941

BY

TRACEY EDSTEIN

SYNOPSIS:

The prosperity of the nineteenth century between the gold rush era and the depression of the 1890s meant that the construction industry was thriving, and stone was an important commodity where public buildings were concerned. Joseph John Edstein, the grandson of German immigrants who had come to Australia as vine dressers, began his apprenticeship as a stone mason in Maitland, (c.1880). This was the first step in a career that led to the establishment of "J.J. Edstein and Sons, Monumental Masons" in 1896. Despite depression and world war, the firm is still in operation, eighty years later. The history of the business reflects the changes, both technological and social, of the period.

On 9th March, 1855, the "Cateau Wattell", which had sailed from Hamburg, berthed in Sydney with its quota of German immigrants. Among those on board were Joseph and Christina Edstein and their three children, aged thirteen, seven and five. They had come from Erbach on the Rhine in the Duchy of Nassau, Germany, to live on the estate of Alexander Walker Scott on Ash Island. Joseph had been assigned to work as a vine-dresser in Scott's vineyards.

Considering the upheaval of the preceding years in Germany, it is not surprising that the family accepted the opportunity to begin life in a new and more peaceful land. George Nadel has documented the history of a similar group of German immigrants through letters written home within a few months of their arrival in 1849. He says, "If Germany, like other countries, was losing tens of thousands of its oppressed inhabitants to places as scattered as Chicago and Johannesburg, it was only natural that some should come to the Australian colonies."¹ The letters describe a country of freedom and dignity: "The state...is not as it is with us; here you cannot tell the master from the servant...six oxen need not do what one does in Germany..."² These sentiments are expressed over and over. Perhaps Joseph Edstein had heard similar reports of the advantages of Australian life, particularly as he had two married sisters already living at Albury. Both Joseph and Christina's parents were dead, and many of the immigrants on the "Cateau Wattell" were also from Erbach, so the Edsteins would not be without friends in their new country.

A.W. Scott's name appears on a "List of Persons to whom permission has been given to import Labourers from the Continent of Europe under the Notice of the 7th April, 1847."³ Scott had applied for five vine dressers. The Macarthur brothers had pioneered the introduction of German immigrants to work in the field of viticulture in 1836, since "the best vine-dressers in Germany are to be found on the banks of the Rhine...and the Duchies of Nassau, Baden and Hesse."⁴ James Macarthur had written in 1847, "From the

experience thus obtained, I can have no hesitation in expressing my conviction of the importance as regards Imperial, as well as local interests, of introducing into this Colony several thousand persons skilled in Vine culture, the making of Wine, the preparation of dried fruits and other processes of rural economy, with which the peasantry of the British Islands are unacquainted."⁵ Further, John N. Beit, an ardent supporter of German emigration, wrote, "...the want of a sufficient supply of labor is so severely felt; but...no consideration would induce me to engage in the undertaking if I had not obtained a very clear and distinct conviction that the benefits and advantages which would accrue to the German Emigrants of all classes, who would be led to this Colony, exceed greatly those which any other field for Emigration affords them."⁶ Thus, German emigration was believed to be mutually beneficial to the colonists who required skilled labour and to the Germans who sought a more prosperous way of life.

A.W. Scott, described in the Australian Dictionary of Biography as "entomologist and entrepreneur",⁷ was engaged in a multifarious range of activities, including the establishment of an iron foundry, forge and patent slip and tanks for the evaporation of salt from seawater at Stockton. He was also responsible for salt works at Moscheto Island and grew tobacco, flax, oranges and other fruits on farms at Maitland and Ash Island. In addition, he was involved with the Hunter River Railway Company, the Newcastle Mechanics' Institute, Christ Church Cathedral and the Royal Society of New South Wales, and was a member of the Legislative Assembly for Northumberland and Hunter.

Scott's estate at Ash Island comprised some 2560 acres and on it he grew, among other products, oranges which were well-known as "Ash Island oranges." Ludwig Leichhardt, the German explorer, was befriended by Scott on account of their mutual interest in entomology. In a letter to Lieutenant Robert Lynd in 1842, Leichhardt described Ash Island thus:

"...it is a remarkably fine place, not only to enjoy the beauty of nature, a broad shining river, a luxuriant vegetation, a tasteful comfortable cottage with a plantation of orange trees..."⁸ Later, in a letter to Wilhelm Kirchner in 1842, he wrote of the island, "It's a romantic place, which I like well enough to think that - perhaps - I'd be content to live and die there."⁹

Leichhardt's speculations concerning German emigration to Ash Island are particularly relevant: "...it would pay to encourage German families to come out here. Germans...with their understanding of family life, would eagerly embrace the opportunity of doing so much better in a fertile country like this, than they can at home. Whilst the husband...was attending to his employer's affairs, the wife and children could be attending to their own, to the gradually increasing advantage both of themselves and of the owner of the property..."¹⁰

In 1865, Scott sold the Ash Island estate, and it is not known whether the Edstein family remained to work for the new owner or moved to their own property. Christina had died, "of disease of the heart and kidneys and dropsy"¹¹ in 1858 and by this time at least one son, Joseph John, was married.

Joseph John Edstein, born in 1866, was the second of six sons of Joseph Edstein and Ellen McDonald. His parents and grandparents had lived and worked on the land but Joseph was not agriculturally inclined. His son's estimate of him as a "very energetic type with inventive mind"¹² suggests the field of construction he was to enter. He began his apprenticeship with Thomas Browne, a monumental mason in Maitland, c. 1880. At that time apprentices were not paid a wage; instead they agreed to pay £50 over a period of five years for their training. Joseph arranged with the manager to care for his horses and cows, clean his boots and assist in the kitchen at night, in return for meals and accommodation in a shed near the stables. Working hours were 7.00 a.m. until 6.00 p.m. and then there were the animals

to attend to. Conditions were not easy, but Joseph appears to have been a believer in persistence and hard work, qualities which were to stand him in good stead when he became his own master. His own employees have testified that the harshness of Joseph's apprenticeship was reflected in their conditions.

After five years he completed his apprenticeship and was paid six shillings daily, at a time when the award rate was seven shillings. The horses and cows were still his responsibility, in return for the use of the shed. He remained in Maitland for two years, then moved to Sydney to work with John Howie and Son (at award rates). Stone construction was in great demand - buildings such as the Wool Exchange and the Town Hall were in progress at the time. Joseph obtained board with a local family and later married the daughter of his landlord, Mary Josephine Halloran. He became John Howie's 'leading hand' after two years with the firm, and with that his salary rose to eight shillings a day. Joseph was improving all the time, both in technical and practical work, and only a few months after his marriage, he was asked to go to Melbourne as foreman on the Prince Street Bridge for which he was paid nine shillings daily. This was an opportunity too good for a young man to refuse and so Joseph and his young bride made the journey to Melbourne. They remained for some years, living at Kensington where four children, three sons and a daughter, were born. Joseph was continually gaining experience in his trade.

However, national economic events intervened, with the bank crisis of the 1890s. According to A.G.L. Shaw, the crisis was "an inevitable result of a period of overinvestment, particularly in land, where much of the capital imported was not used directly in or in sustaining productive enterprises. It was made possible by the supply of English loans; but...the Australian borrowers were responsible for the misuse of their loanfunds. By 1889 the 'malaise' was apparent, and three years passed in great apprehension. Confidence was lacking; unemployment, falling prices, and adverse

weather combined to make the depression more severe. But the final blow fell when the source of loans dried up, when British investors in their turn grew uneasy. Then nothing could stop the disaster...."¹³ Furthermore, "Victoria, where speculation had been the greatest, suffered the most."¹⁴ As Francis Edstein later wrote regarding his father, "...the job was finished and so was everything else." With no reason to remain in Melbourne, far from both Joseph and Mary's relatives, the family returned to Sydney. However, the position there was little better, and so in 1896 Joseph returned to Raymond Terrace, not far from Ash Island where he had been born.

Joseph judged that the time had come to fulfil his life's ambition by establishing his own business. As the Raymond Terrace Examiner was later to report, "When Joseph John Edstein came to Raymond Terrace in 1896, to begin work as a stonemason, there were many who doubted the wisdom of his move...To contemplate moving from Melbourne to Raymond Terrace before the turn of the century, must have been like considering taking a step back in history. It was a long way from the southern capital to the North Coast of New South Wales. The North Coast was a long way removed from Melbourne in living standards."¹⁵ However, there were advantages in the choice of Raymond Terrace. The town was centrally located and afforded access to the North and South Coast of New South Wales and the New England area, as well as the Hunter Valley itself. The Hunter was a developing district and Joseph Edstein may have seen its potential. In addition, Raymond Terrace was an important river port and this was significant for a firm which would require supplies of stone, marble and granite, as well as tools and building materials. Finally, Joseph had relatives in the district and would be beginning his new venture in familiar territory.

At this point it may be useful to determine what stage of development Raymond Terrace had reached in 1896. Although the population numbered approximately 800,¹⁶ it was well catered for. There were 227 buildings, with capital

value of property £71,500 in c. 1900. The area of the town was 384 acres.¹⁷ A Council for Local Government had been established in 1843 and the municipality proclaimed in 1884. There were several churches, Anglican, Methodist, Catholic and Presbyterian, a school, a School of Arts and a number of hotels. The Gloucester (now Raymond Terrace) Examiner commenced publication in 1893. Furthermore, "Raymond Terrace was a busy place as far as shipping was concerned from the 80's till about the 1920's when the railways and motor traffic became very strong competition. It was a regular thing to see three boats a day and some times more, calling at the Terrace. They would be boats plying from Sydney to Morpeth, Newcastle to Clarence Town, and Newcastle to Raymond Terrace."¹⁸

Letters from friends in Melbourne suggest that they viewed the move to Raymond Terrace as ambitious, if not unwise, for a man with a family. M. McMahon wrote, "...there are always difficulties and anxieties in the working up of a new concern..." (6.1.1897). Indeed this was to prove true, but in time the problems were solved and progress was made. Joseph arrived on the "Namoi", a Hunter River Steam Navigation Company vessel, with thirteen shillings and fourpence. He obtained work at St. John's Theological College, Morpeth, at four shillings daily and supplemented this with whatever was available, painting, cutting firewood and so on. The first business premises were situated on a small block between Port Stephens and King Streets, Raymond Terrace.

The first order was executed for a Mrs. Yard on 21st January, 1897. In the first year of business, thirty two orders were taken. The majority, nineteen, were cemetery memorials and this was to be the pattern for many years, but in addition, grindstones were supplied, door steps and footpaths laid and repairs done. Gross turnover for the year was £255-17-6.

The firm's sphere of operation gradually expanded, and as "J.J. Edstein, Monumental Sculptor" became known, business increased. At some stage during these early years, a second branch was opened in Dungog. The only information available (from the order book) is that the

branch was operating in 1900. As transport services improved, Joseph found that he could serve the Dungog area from Raymond Terrace and the branch was closed. In 1899, Joseph and Mary's fifth child, a daughter, was born at Raymond Terrace and the following year, his business premises were moved to a larger site on the corner of Sturgeon and William Streets. The firm operated from there until 1970 when new premises were built on the Pacific Highway south of Raymond Terrace.

The company records of the early years provide a great deal of information regarding the types of memorials and inscriptions popular at the time. The most outstanding features, readily evident in historic cemeteries, are the imposing appearance of many of the memorials and the amount of detail provided on headstones. Not only the name, age and date of death of the deceased, but also cause of death, occupation and notable achievements were often recorded. In addition, Scriptural extracts and popular verse were frequently added. For example, one reads of "William O'Brien who was suffocated at East Greta," (1916); "Lesley Farley...First bursar from Karuah Public School, who, while in attendance at Newcastle High School, was drowned in heroically saving his cousin's life on Stockton beach on 13th Mar. 1915. Thy will be done" and "Nurse Mary Carr...died at the Maitland Hospital, whilst nursing during the Influenza Epidemic July 13, 1919, aged 23 Years and 2 months." Of particular interest are the monograms, which indicated "religious, occupational or craft affiliations",¹⁹ and the emblems of a particular occupation or interest; for example, fireman's tools, violin, football, tennis racquet, horse, gun, and so on.

There are several reasons for this wealth of detail. Firstly, the cost of monumental work, both in terms of labour and materials, was far lower than the equivalent today, and so people could afford to indulge their tastes. In addition, the art of the stonemason and the letter cutter was flourishing; there were men willing to serve the long apprenticeship and continue in what was essentially difficult, exhausting work. Complementing this was the lack of the pressure which prevails today. Then there was time

to perfect one's work and to use individual skill to the utmost. The classic example of detail in the lettering of a headstone is that of James King of Irrawang. It was originally erected in the Raymond Terrace Cemetery but later repositioned at Sketchley Cottage, a local history museum. Erected by his widow, the headstone boasts some sixteen lines of inscription, detailing King's life and achievements.²⁰

It is difficult and risky to draw conclusions in sociological terms from the information supplied on headstones. Whether those who chose to have their relatives commemorated with such lines as "In the midst of life we are in death" and "Call not back the dear departed" genuinely possessed such a spirit of faithful resignation, or merely followed the pious leanings of the period, is open to speculation. Certainly the extravagance of nineteenth century memorails is no longer evident, but this applies in most fields. Perhaps the apparent ready acceptance of death was the product of familiarity with death. According to the records available, infant mortality was high. In the mid nineteenth century, four of the seven children of Christina Edstein died under the age of fifteen years. Many grieving parents appear to have entertained fond notions of their children "safe in the arms of Jesus" or as "our bud in heaven."

By 1908, the firm had progressed to the point where expansion was possible, and Joseph decided to establish a branch at Taree. "Although it was only just out of the hamlet stage then, he saw its potential as the centre of operations for a wide area."²¹ When Joseph purchased land in the main street of Taree for £150, local opinion decreed that it was, to say the least, a foolish move, and that he would never recover his investment. In 1972, the land was sold for some \$90,000, coincidentally, to the same firm which had purchased the William Street site in Raymond Terrace in 1970. Alfred Widgery became the first of a line of managers at the Taree yard. When Widgery began his own business on the Bellinger River in 1912, an agreement was made between Widgery and J.J. Edstein, whereby the former agreed

that he "shall not at any time hereafter commence carry on or be concerned in or employed in whether as owner partner employee or otherwise howsoever the business of a monumental mason or dealer in tombstones or other accessories in cemeteries usually supplied by monumental masons at Taree aforesaid or within a radius of fifty miles of the Post Office at Taree aforesaid and that he will not at any time hereafter take orders from any person or persons within the said radius or supplied goods to be erected in any cemetery within the said radius whether as owner employee canvasser or otherwise...". The agreement originated from Joseph Edstein's undertaking to supply Widgery with necessary materials on credit.

By this time Joseph's sons were of school age and old enough to help with the family business by crushing marble and stone chips. Economy was of the essence; as Francis Edstein later wrote meaningfully, "no money to buy gravel...no waste."²² As they finished school, the boys moved into their father's yard. Vincent was assigned to letter cutting, Francis to canvassing and fixing and James to general duties. Francis spent the first ten years of his working life operating from the North Coast and travelling by bicycle. Vincent, too, rode his bicycle from Raymond Terrace to the Gloucester-Bulahdelah area, carrying a tool kit and the few clothes he required. On arrival in the cemetery he would cut inscriptions on the headstones already erected. The purchase of a horse and second-hand sulky was a major one.

Some years after the Taree opening, a third branch opened at Kempsey²³ and Joseph was able to build a new home for the family. The firm was an established one and the risks Joseph had taken in 1896 were justified. The progress of the business was largely due to Joseph's determination, backed up by sheer hard work. H.J. Chapman, apprentice to Joseph from 1924-29, said of his employer, "He was a very, very hard man...but in the old school, they were all tough, they had to be, and you had to comply with his requirements." When the firm erected a memorial to Les Darcy, international boxing champion, the Darcy Memorial Committee wrote in the following terms:

"...your work...is...a realistic proof of your skill. Your work though massive, loses none of its artistic beauty. The carving has been carried out in a flawless manner. The colouring and tone are admirable, and the delicate workmanship as a whole is an eloquent testimony to the minute care you have given to your task..."²⁴

The coming of World War I in 1914 and the changes brought by the war, are reflected in the inscriptions of the period. The inscriptions chosen by parents for the memorials of their sons who were killed in action show that national pride was at its height, especially after Gallipoli, when the young soldiers were seen as responsible for their country's 'baptism by fire.' Since few, if any, of the dead were brought home for burial, the monuments were no more than memorials, and obviously those concerned felt that they were eminently worthy of remembrance. Details of the deceased's force, rank and battalion and place of death were often indicated, and, less frequently, cause of death. The following portion of an inscription was certainly not typical: "...Norman Osborne Herbert Gall. Sergeant 20th Batt. A.I.F. an "Anzac". One of the last to leave Gallipoli at the evacuation who fought unscathed through the battles on the Somme and was about to receive promotion to Lieut. when he was killed in action in a charge from the trenches at _____ in France on November 16.1916 aged 23 years."

J.J. Edstein and Sons were also engaged to erect district memorials at Raymond Terrace, Millers Forest, Kempsey and other centres. These invariably listed on an Honour Roll "our boys" who had served their country and indicated those who "paid the supreme sacrifice."

It is a measure of his success that in 1921 Joseph Edstein toured the world, including the battlefields of Europe. He spent three months in Rome studying ecclesiastical architecture and from this time ecclesiastical work played a significant role in the firm's development. Joseph also made arrangements to purchase supplies of marble direct from an Italian firm. This

arrangement remained until the mid-1960s. On his return, Joseph immediately displayed the fruits of his study by spending three months designing and building what was then, and still is, one of the largest Gothic marble altars in Australia, at the Catholic Cathedral, Armidale. From that time onwards, Joseph devoted himself to ecclesiastical work, leaving monumental orders in the hands of his sons. This concentration on the ecclesiastical field effectively widened the firm's sphere of operations. Joseph worked in three dioceses and returned to Melbourne to erect two altars. The firm was responsible for marble altars in the local churches, St. Brigid's and St. John's, and for extensive ecclesiastical work throughout the Maitland diocese. After Joseph's death, his sons Francis and James were to travel to Rabaul and Ceylon to erect marble altars in churches there.

By 1924 James had served his time as a stonemason in Raymond Terrace and he moved to Taree to manage the branch there. He remained until his death in 1974. Also in 1924, Joseph's first apprentice, H.J. Chapman, joined the firm at the age of fourteen. His indenture is indicative of working conditions of the period. There was no sick leave, only the minimum public holidays were allowed, and worker's compensation was a thing of the future. According to the indenture, "for every day's absence during the said term from attention to the said trade, art, business, or occupation, without such consent, he shall serve one day at the end of each year of his apprenticeship, and such year shall not be considered complete until the said additional day or days shall have been served." In addition, the weekly wage for each year of the apprenticeship was stipulated in 1924. These were: for the first year, £1-3-0; for the second, £1-10-10; for the third, £2-1-4; for the fourth, £2-11-10, and for the final year £3-6-2. No doubt the apprentice's undertaking to "faithfully, diligently, and assiduously serve and obey all lawful commands of his said master" was strictly enforced by Joseph; when speaking of his apprenticeship,

Chapman stressed that he had served his five years "to the day."

The year of the completion of Chapman's apprenticeship, 1929, was also a year in which the conditions preceding the establishment of "J.J. Edstein and Sons" were repeated. As Shaw says, "the history of the depression of 1929-1933 is in many ways similar to that of the 'nineties."²⁵ At the onset of the depression, the firm employed seven men, Joseph, Francis and Vincent, two apprentices and two masons. These remained throughout the depression years, but as Chapman says, "there were weeks we didn't work, and then there were weeks we worked three days...". Naturally, there was a marked decline in monumental orders and the verses and extravagance of preceding decades were no longer evident; but nevertheless, business continued. In fact, it was in 1936 that the Alexander memorial, worth £800, was erected at Bulga Cemetery. It was constructed of red granite, measuring twenty eight feet by twelve feet, and the headstone listed seven names.

The firm's survival during a period of national hardship was due to a number of factors. The most significant of these is the fact that the business was primarily a family concern. Wages were low and the brothers simply shared what was available. As mentioned earlier, benefits such as worker's compensation, holiday pay and sick leave were unknown. In addition, as in all Joseph's activities, economy was practised and luxuries were unknown. Joseph's sons travelled far and wide in search of work and were sometimes away for weeks at a time. When work was available, men could be hired cheaply for short periods, since the labour surplus was enormous. Overhead expenses were lower than today, and a great deal of stock was on consignment. At one stage ecclesiastical statues worth £1000 were on display. Also, it was the city dwellers who were worst hit by the depression, whereas Raymond Terrace was predominantly a rural area. Finally, a significant, if somewhat abstract, factor was the service provided by the firm: a high degree of quality and workmanship had always been demanded and when business was scarce, this became even more necessary.

R.J. Barnett began his apprenticeship in 1930 at the age of sixteen. He worked throughout the Depression, completing his apprenticeship in 1935 and has remained with the firm until the present day. The fact that Barnett's stipulated wage was maintained throughout his apprenticeship is evidence of the firm's stability. These rates were: £1-7-0 per week for the first year; £1-13-0 for the second; £2-3-0 for the third; £2-13-0 for the fourth; £3-5-0 for the first half of the fifth year and £3-10-0 for the second half of the fifth year. In 1930, a qualified mason earned £6-10-0 per week, but this dropped to £4-10-0 during the depression years. Barnett remembers the depression years well. If work was available in, for example, Manilla, the men would leave at 7.00 p.m., arriving in time to begin work at 7.00 a.m. the next morning. If the work was completed that night, they would then begin the journey home. At this time the stone required would be sent to the site by rail. Similarly, a day's work in Gloucester began at midnight the night before, so that the men could commence work at 6.00 a.m. The supplies for this area were carried by bullock wagon from Raymond Terrace.

In general, stone from Gosford Quarries was sent to Newcastle by rail, then to Raymond Terrace by road. Earlier, stone had been obtained from Pymont, Waratah, the local quarry (the famous Muree sandstone) and occasionally Melbourne (bluestone). Granite and marble came from Sydney importing agents, Custer's and Acton's. The latter still supplies the firm.

The firm continued to progress after the depression, with Joseph concentrating on ecclesiastical work and leaving the monumental side to his sons. In 1941, the most extensive ecclesiastical project for some twenty years was announced, the Sacred Heart Church at Hamilton. The order was worth over £2200. Joseph's tender was accepted, and, as Francis later wrote, he would have been satisfied to complete the work. However, he died on 7th April, 1941.

Through a firm that has operated continually since 1896, with no outside assistance, and his own forty-five year career as principal of "J.J. Edstein and Sons", Joseph Edstein had proved that hard work, determination and skill are sufficient for success. Francis, assisted by Vincent, managed the Raymond Terrace branch until his death in 1968, and was succeeded by his son Lionel. James was succeeded by his son John in 1974.

FOOTNOTES

1. George Nadel, "Letters from German Immigrants in N.S.W.," J.R.A.H.S., 39, Pt. 5 (1953), p.253.
2. Ibid., p.257.
3. Historical Records of Australia, Series I, XXVI, p.10.
4. Ibid., XXV, Kirchner to Merewether, 11th March, 1847, p.511.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid., p.495.
7. Australian Dictionary of Biography, 6, 1851-1890, p.93.
8. The Letters of F.W. Ludwig Leichhardt. trans. M. Aourousseau, Vol.II, Cambridge, C.U.P., 1968, p.526
9. Ibid., p.532.
10. Ibid., p.619.
11. Burial Register, Court of Petty Sessions, Raymond Terrace.
12. Francis William Edstein's Notes. Most information concerning J.J. Edstein in this period is from his son's notes on the history of the firm.
13. A.G.L. Shaw, The Economic Development of Australia, Melbourne, 1944, p.109.
14. Ibid., p.107.
15. Raymond Terrace - Port Stephens Examiner, 20th May, 1970 (Bicentenary).
16. Census figures for 1901, quoted in H.W.H. King, The Urban Pattern of the Hunter Valley (Newcastle: Hunter Valley Research Foundation, 1963) p.68, indicate a population of 823.
17. These figures from Hunter and Gloucester Tourist Guide, c.1907, no other details available.
18. 1801-1951 Raymond Terrace 150th Anniversary Celebrations, 1951, p.21.
19. E. Lea-Scarlett, Roots and Branches: Ancestry for Australians, Sydney, 1979, p.85. See list of examples on same page.
20. See C.J. Mitchell, Hunter's River, Newcastle, 1973, p.47.
21. Manning River Times, 23rd December, 1966, p.7, 70th Anniversary Feature.
22. F.W. Edstein's Notes.

23. Few details, however, are known about the Kempsey branch. Joseph had originally planned a branch for each of his sons, but Vincent, who was destined for Kempsey, preferred to remain in Raymond Terrace due to ill health. The yard was sold to Joseph's brother, Henry, in 1923, for £800, payable over four years at 7% interest. The branch was managed by Henry's sons after his death, but closed some time during the 1940s.
24. Darcy Memorial Committee to J.J. Edstein, 19th February, 1919.
25. Shaw, op. cit., p.153.

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