**Essays on Mount Crosby - Edward Powell**

Powells Road, between the new school and the old, reminds us of the Powell family, pioneers of Kholo and Mount Crosby, and the last owners of the property on which the school is now situated.

The first Australian Powell was Edward, who was born in Preston, Herefordshire, and emigrated to Australia on the famous ship *Young Australia* in 1870. Edward had been employed on the land from the age of eight and it served him well to have such knowledge when he made landfall in Moreton Bay and almost immediately accepted work on a farm owned by Mr Walter Gosling. This is the same Gosling, I venture to say, after whom the verdant river pocket north of Kholo is named (also known as Worlds End Pocket, according to whose map you read).

Being a handy sort of fellow, Edward began, in a very little while, to apply his skills to other work. At different times he could be found constructing part of the Mount Perry telegraph, or farming sugar at Maryborough, or even working as a navvy on the Stanthorpe railway extension, but it all led back to Ipswich where Edward purchased the Kholo estate of Mr Peter Smith and divided his time between employment at the Ipswich Waterworks (Kholo) and the development of a quality dairy herd. Subsequently, he devoted his entire time to dairying and for fifteen years sold his milk in Ipswich before passing the business to his fourth son, Peter. Incidentally, there is a long tradition of "Peter Powells", one in every generation, and indeed so many that they often answered to different names - Peter of my age was always known as Brett to avoid any confusion(?).

Edward passed away in 1919, a popular pioneer who spent 48 years under the Queensland sun and was remembered in his obituary with words that say much about the man: "Possessing a kindly and genial nature, the late Mr Edward Powell was always good company and he had many interesting stories to relate of the difficulties he had to contend with during his career under the blue canopy of Queensland.

There are many of his old comrades still living who received a helping hand from this kind-hearted old gentleman, who is survived by a widow (Mrs Christina Powell); two daughters (Mrs J. Williams and Miss Jessie Powell); and five sons - Messrs. E. P. Powell (who has been connected with the Light Horse for some 22 years, now a farrier-sergeant in that Corp), Harry, Matthew, Peter and Thomas (the last named being absent in France)." You will be pleased to know, although Edward never did, that his son Thomas made his way back from France safely.

Col Hester