

**THE CALEDONIAN
UNION HOTEL,
SANDFORD.**

J. GRANT

BEGS to announce to his Friends and the Public in this and the neighbouring towns and district as well as in the metropolis, that he has now nearly completed his magnificent Hotel at Sandford, and solicits a share of the patronage which his long management of his former establishment entitles him to hope for.

THE CALEDONIAN HOTEL

Is the largest and most commodious building in the Western District, and has been erected and furnished in the very best manner, and at a great outlay. The accommodation now offered to gentlemen and ladies visiting this part of our unrivalled colony has never before been attempted.

Besides the numerous large single bedrooms, servants' room, and other apartments usually provided, the Caledonian Hotel boasts an elegant and lofty

DRAWING ROOM,
38 feet in length;

Suited for Balls, Concerts, and Public Entertainments.

And several Private Sitting Rooms, for families, with bedrooms.

All these have been comfortably carpeted, and handsomely furnished.

J. GRANT begs to acquaint those Gentlemen who may honor him with their custom, that the TABLE and attendance are under his own management, and the Stock of Wines and Spirits has been selected by excellent judges, and on the whole they will be found as perfect as anything in the colony. The charges will be extremely moderate

N. B. —Stabling very complete, with loose boxes for races, and the better bred nags.

J. Grant begs to announce to his friends and the public that he intends to have

A HOUSE WARMING
on the 1st of July

Towards the end of 1848, John and his family left the district in search of unoccupied grazing land in South Australia. They acquired a run near Penola, naming it *Morningside Station*, and two more children were born there: John and Annie. However, the gold rush lured them back to Victoria in 1853 and John became one of the luckier miners. His success on the goldfields financed the purchase of the *Woodford Inn* at Dartmoor¹ in 1854¹ and their seventh child, James Scott Grant (my great grandfather), was born there in the following year.

Not long after, John and Ann were drawn back to the Casterton district when town allotments became available for sale in the new settlement of Sandford in 1856.¹ John purchased five town lots in Sandford on the Casterton- Portland Road on 17 September 1856¹ and subsequently sold the hotel in Dartmoor and moved his family to Sandford.¹

Caledonian Union Hotel

During the summer of 1856/1857, John and Ann built a large two-storey brick hotel on their land in Sandford at an estimated cost of 5,000 pounds.¹ They named their new hotel the *Caledonian Union Hotel*, reflecting their joint Scottish heritage. The hotel licence was approved on 18 May 1857¹ and it was the second hotel in the town to gain a licence. The first hotel licence had been granted two weeks prior, to Thomas Walker of the *Sandford Hotel*.¹

The *Caledonian Union Hotel* was an impressive structure but considered by some to be 'a rather pretentious building.'¹ It quickly gained a good reputation, with one local recalling that 'it was a fine two-storied building and had a good name too... it was a splendid building, with fourteen inch walls'.¹

*Caledonian Union Hotel*¹



During the winter of the following year, John and Ann invited all the locals to the housewarming of their new hotel:¹



