

Entry type: Person  
Entry ID: AWE3685

Evans, Henrietta Matilda Jane

(1827 - 1886)

Born	7 August, 1827, Peckham Park Surrey United Kingdom
Died	22 October, 1886, Adelaide South Australia
Occupation	Novelist, Teacher, Writer

Summary

Matilda Evans arrived in Adelaide with her family in 1851. Her first novel, *Marian, or the Light of Someone's Home* was completed in 1861 while Evans was working as a governess near Mt Barker. After the death of her husband, Ephraim Evans, she opened a school at Angaston and resumed writing novels. Her works, which always had religious and temperance themes, included *Vermont Vale: or Home Pictures in Australia* (1866), *Emily's Choice: An Australian Tale* (1867), *Minnie's Mission: an Australian Temperance Tale* (1869) and *Golden Gifts* (1869). Evans opened Angaston House in North Adelaide in 1868. A collected edition of her fourteen novels was republished several times.

## Published resources

### Edited Book

200 Australian Women: A Redress Anthology, Radi, Heather, 1988

### Conference Proceedings

All Her Labours: Third Women and Labour Conference, Adelaide, Publications Collective, Women and Labour Conference, 1984

### Book

Vermont Vale, or, Home Pictures in Australia, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1866

Beatrice Melton's Discipline, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1880

Emily's Choice: An Australian Tale, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1875

Golden Gifts: An Australian Tale, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1869

Hall's Vineyard, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1875

Into the Light, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1885

John's Wife, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1876

Little Mercy, or, For Better, For Worse, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1877

Marian, or, The Light of Someone's Home, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1866

Minnie's Mission: An Australian Temperance Tale, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1869

No Longer a Child, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1885

Silken Cords and Iron Fetters: An Australian Tale, Franc, Maud Jeanne, 1870

South Australian Christmas Annual, 1881: Containing Tales, Franc, Maud Jeanne, George E. Loyau et al, 1881

### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Resource Section

Evans, Matilda Jane (1827-1886), Finnis, H. J., 2006,  
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A040147b.htm>

### Author Details

Barbara Lemon

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