



Captain
Richard TAPLEY
(1801 – 1874)

1558 RICHARD TAPLEY (1801 - 1874)

Richard TAPLEY was the eighth child of Richard TAPLEY (1870-1824), Tailor of Folkestone, and Elizabeth TAPLEY, nee STEVENSON. He was the second child to bear the name Richard, the first having died soon after birth in 1797.

Richard was born at Folkestone, Kent, England in 1801, being baptised there on 16 October 1801. (1)

He grew up in Folkestone, and the family lived in Dover Street, which was near the church yard, not far from the waterfront. (2)

During the time of his childhood, the Napoleonic scare was on, and as Folkestone was across the channel from France, the naval activity in the area would have been attractive to the young Richard.

He became associated with the sea, eventually becoming a Master Mariner.

Richard, at the age of 26 years, married his cousin Margaret TAPLEY, the daughter of his uncle Thomas and aunt Jane TAPLEY of Folkestone. Margaret was also about 26 years of age when they married at Folkestone on 17 February 1827, by licence. (3)

Richard and Margaret were to have only one child of their marriage, a son who was born two years later.

15581 Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY, born at Folkestone in 1829. (4)

Richard TAPLEY'S first known record of his occupation as a Master Mariner is recorded when he was the Master of the vessel " ALFRED ", of 716 tons displacement on a voyage from London to Madras in 1832. (5)

According to family oral history a pair of Silver Candlesticks were presented to Captain Richard Tapley to commemorate his first voyage from India to London. See Picture following References.

According to Lloyd's Registers, he made 6 annual trips to Madras between 1832 and 1837.

In 1839 he made a trip to Sydney, Australia, but the owner of the vessel, Captain J. FLINT was recorded in Sydney as being the Master of the Vessel upon arrival there. (6)

Subsequently he and his family were to emigrate to South Australia, and they arrived in South Australia on the 10 March 1840. They travelled on the Barque "ORISSA", a vessel of 323 tons under Captain J. BROWN, from London, England. (7)

It appears that by this time, that Richard had given up his sea-faring career, as by 1842, he was described as a Shipping Agent in the South Australian Almanac of that year. (8)

In 1843, he was shown as having a registered cattle brand "RT", in Coulter's Almanac. (9)

On 8 November 1843, Richard was a witness at the marriage of his nephew Thomas TAPLEY, (son of his older brother Thomas), to Jane BOWMAN at the Congregational Chapel, in Adelaide. (10)

In the 1844 Almanac, he was recorded as having 55 acres of land at Albert Town, 7 acres of barley, and 65 cattle. (11)

Also in 1844, on the 18 December, he was one of the witnesses at the marriage of his niece Susan TAPLEY, (daughter of his brother Thomas), to Frederick RANSFORD at Stow's Chapel, Adelaide. (12)

In 1847, under the Waste Lands Act, he obtained licences for three islands-- Thistle Island, Wedge Island, and Revesby Island. (13)

Richard was also an owner, or a least part owner of various small vessels involved in coastal trade and passenger transport in South Australia. in 1849 being part owner of the Schooner "Lady Flora", and in 1852 of the Cutter "Breeze". (14)

In 1851 he was well established as a shipping agent, at Port Adelaide. (15)

The Trinity House, which was the first institution to regulate marine affairs in South Australia, was incorporated by Act No. 5 of 1851, and under this Act, the Trinity Board was constituted with Captain LIPSON as Master, and three Wardens. (16)

Richard TAPLEY was one of the original three Wardens of the Trinity Board.(17)

His wife Margaret, died of influenza on 5 December 1852, at Port Adelaide. Richard was listed as Agent of Port Adelaide on the death certificate.(18)

On 28 September 1854, he signed as one of the witnesses of yet another nephew James Morford TAPLEY, (son of his brother Thomas), to Mary SHARPE at Christ Church, O'Halloran Hill, S.Aust. (19)

His only child, Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY, married on 24 February 1859, at St. Pauls Church, Vincent Street, Port Adelaide, to Mary Ann Hannah MILLS. (20).

In 1861 he was shown as having two runs on Kangaroo Island, one at American River, and the other at Hog Bay.(21)

His son, Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY died on 30 January 1865, at Kingston near Port Adelaide. (22)

Richard was once more a witness at the marriage of another niece, Hannah TAPLEY, (daughter of his brother Thomas), on 17 April 1866, to John SAUERBIER, at St Mary's Church, South Road. (23)

Richard TAPLEY, Shipping Agent, of Woodville, South Australia, died at the age of 73 years on Gout, on 1 December 1874. He died at Woodville. (24)

In his will he referred to his "land in St. Vincent St., Port Adelaide, my store and weighbridge" in a codicil dated 1873. (25)

REFERENCES:

1. Information from Stuart E. TAPLEY.
2. Information from Shirley P. ANTHONY.
3. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS
4. Calculated from marriage and death certificates.
5. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS.
6. Ibid.
7. E.A.D. OPIE- S.A. Records Prior to 1841.- page 93
8. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS
9. Ibid.
10. From Marriage Certificate.
11. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS.
12. From Marriage certificate.
13. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS.
14. Information from Letter of Ronald PARSONS.
15. The Paddocks Beneath, By Elizabeth WARBURTON, page 359
16. The Cyclopedia of South Australia Vol I, page 399.
17. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS.
18. From Death Certificate
19. From Marriage Certificate.
20. From Marriage Certificate.
21. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS
22. Death Certificate of R. M. TAPLEY
23. Marriage Certificate

24. Death Certificate of Richard TAPLEY
25. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS.



Pair of Silver Candle-Sticks presented to Capt Tapley after his maiden Voyage from India to London. The TAPLEY Family Bible can be seen behind the Candlesticks.

REFERENCES FOR RICHARD TAPLEY

DEATH CERTIFICATE:-

No..... 449 of 1874 District of Port Adelaide 200
When died..... 1 December 1874
Names..... .Richard TAPLEY
Sex & Age..... Male 73 years
Trade or calling.. Shipping Agent
Usual Res..... .Woodville
Cause of Death... Gout
Place of Death... Woodville.
Informant..... Michael McMAHON, of Portland Estate, Port Adelaide
Registrar..... Edw. ALGER
Date..... 3 December 1874

Reference: The Paddocks Beneath, By Elizabeth Warburton, p 359

AT THE REQUEST OF A NUMBER OF PASSENGERS,
The A1 clipper brig,
ANNE,
D. Hamblin, commander, will sail for Melbourne
on Wednesday next, the 17th instant, and from
thence to Hobart Town, and Canterbury, New Zealand,
she has first rate accomodation for passengers. Apply
to Mr. Orme, Royal Admiral Hotel, Hindley Street; to
J.F. DUFF
King William Street; or to
R. TAPLEY
12 December, 1851 Agent, Port Adelaide.

FROM Dr. Ronald SAWERS, Melbourne - July 1986

Richard TAPLEY, bachelor, married Margaret TAPLEY, spinster on 17 February 1827 at Folkestone (by license) - Parish records and I.G.I. and A. J. Willis "Marriage Licenses 1810-1837" p157.

Margaret daughter of Thomas and Jane, nee MINTER, m. 9 Aug 1791 Folkestone, according to Will, but no record of Baptism

Thomas' Will (sighted at Public Record Office London) refers to "...my son-in-law Richard Tapley" and to "...my daughters Margaret, Jane Ann and Hannah" - Will dated 3 Feb 1836 and proved 7 July 1836.

Richard Tapley's occupation as a mariner is first recorded when he was the master of vessel "Alfred" 716 tons displacement on a voyage from London to Madras 1832(Lloyds Registers). According to Lloyds he made 6 annual trips to Madras (1832-1837) and in 1839 one to Sydney, but the owner of the vessel Capt J. Flint was shown in Sydney "Arrival" records as being the master on arrival there.

In 1842 he was described as a Shipping Agent (R.S.A. Almanac p 149) and this continued in other almanacs. In 1843 (S.A. Almanac(Coulter)) he was shown as having the registered cattle brand "RT" and in 1844 at Albert Town as having 55 acres of land, 7 acres of barley, 65 cattle. This was before the arrival of his nephew Richard Edward. In 1847 under the Waste Lands Act he obtained Licenses for 3 islands, Thistle, The Wedge, and Revesby. In 1861 he was shown as having two runs in Kangaroo Island, in American River and Hog River Run.

It is also clear that he was owner or part owner of various small vessels involved in coastal trade and passenger transport. In his will he referred to his "land in St Vincent St, Pt Adelaide, my store and weighbridge" in a codicil dated 1873. As mentioned priorly he was one of the first three wardens of the Trinity Board, later the Marine Board..."

SPOUSE OF RICHARD TAPLEY

Margaret TAPLEY (1800 - 1852)

Margaret TAPLEY was the daughter of Thomas TAPLEY (1769 - 1836), and Jane TAPLEY, nee MINTER. Margaret was born about the year 1800. (1)

See also 1541 under Thomas TAPLEY.

Margaret Married her cousin Richard TAPLEY, on 17 February 1827 at Folkestone. Margaret was about 26 years of age at this time.

They had a Son, Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY, born at Folkestone in 1829.

In 1840, the family migrated to South Australia, and settled at Albert Town (Alberton), South Australia.(2)

Margaret TAPLEY contracted influenza, and died at Port Adelaide, on 5 December 1852, at the age of 52 Years. (3)

REFERENCES:-

1. Calculated from Death Certificate.
2. See life of Richard TAPLEY
3. Death Certificate of Margaret TAPLEY.

DEATH CERTIFICATE DETAILS

1852.....Deaths in the District of Adelaide

Number.....	374
When Died.....	5 December 1852
Name and Surname.....	Margaret TAPLEY
Sex and Age.....	Female Fifty Two years
Cause of Death.....	Influenza
Rank or profession.....	Wife of Richard TAPLEY, of Pt. Adelaide, Agent
Informant.....	----- of Rundle Street
When Registered.....	6 December 1852
Registrar.....-	----

Child of Richard & Margaret TAPLEY

RICHARD MORDAUNT TAPLEY (1829 - 1865)

Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY was born in England, probably at Folkestone, in the year 1829. His father was Richard TAPLEY (1801-1874), a Mariner, and his mother was Margaret TAPLEY, nee TAPLEY (1800-1852). (1)

The young Richard was brought up in a family associated with the sea, and the family emigrated to South Australia in 1840, when Richard was 12 years of age. They sailed from London, arriving in South Australia on 10 March 1840, on the barque "ORISSA". (2)

Richard's father was a shipping agent and had interests in coastal trading vessels in South Australia. On 5 May 1844, a master R. TAPLEY was a passenger on the cutter "ALBATROSS" from Port Lincoln. The captain of the "ALBATROSS" was Captain TAPLEY, but whether this was his father or his uncle John is not known. Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY was 15 years of age at this time. (3)

The young Richard, apparently worked for his father in the firm of Shipping Agents, as he was also to become an Agent. (4)

On 28 September 1854, R.M.TAPLEY was a witness at the marriage of his cousin James Morford TAPLEY to Mary SHARPE, at Christ Church, O'Halloran Hill. (5)

On 24 February 1859, Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY, aged 30 years, Agent of Port Adelaide, married Mary Ann Hannah MILLS, aged 17 years, of Woodville, at St Paul's Church of England, Vincent Street, Port Adelaide. The officiating Minister was Charles MARRYAT.

Witnesses were J. M. HARDEN, of Woodville, and Henry A. -----, Port Agent, Port Adelaide. (6)

Richard and Mary Ann lived at Kingston, near Port Adelaide, (present day GILLMAN, to the east of Port Adelaide). (7)

As far as is known there were no children of their marriage.

Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY became associated with the Talisker Mine, a silver-lead-zinc ore mine. (8)

The Talisker Mining Company was established in 1862, having been discovered by the McLEOD's of Cape Jervis while looking for gold. The mining operation involved seven shafts along the main lode, the deepest being 132 metres. A Poppet head was installed over the Main shaft, and the others were served by horse whims. The mine was managed initially by Captain JENKINS, and in 1864, Captain PRICE took over the management of the mine and a treatment works was built at the mine.

One of the shafts of the mine was named **Tapley's Shaft**, and was 372 feet deep, and was recorded as having good ore at the bottom. (9)

At the time of his death in 1865, Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY was the secretary of the Talisker Mine. (10)

On 31 January 1865, Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY, aged 36 years, Agent of Kingston, died of Chronic Nephritis at his home. The death was notified by Robert MAIN of Port Adelaide, on 7 February 1865.(11)

His wife Mary Ann Hannah TAPLEY was aged only 23 years at this time.

On Obituary was carried in the REGISTER newspaper of 3 February 1865. (12)

REFERENCES:-

1. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS
2. S.A. Records Before 1841, By E.A.D.OPIE- p 93
3. HODGE Index of Arrival 1837-1845.
4. Marriage Certificate.
5. Marriage Certificate of James M. TAPLEY.
6. Marriage Certificate of Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY.
7. From Death Certificate.
8. Information from Dr. Ronald SAWERS
9. To Find The Way, by R. F. Williams, page 49
10. Register of 3 February 1865
11. Death Certificate of Richard M. TAPLEY
12. Register of 3 February 1865.

REFERENCES For Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY

MARRIAGE Certificate Details:-

No. 2 of 1859.....	District of Port Adelaide	
When Married.....	24 February 1849	
Names.....	Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY	Mary Ann Hannah MILLS
Age.....	30 years	17 years
Trade or Calling.....	Agent	----
Res at time of Marr.	Port Adelaide	Woodville
Father.....	Richard TAPLEY	John MILLS
Place celebrated....	St Paul's Church	
Witnesses.....	J.M.HARDEN ----- Woodville	Henry C..... Port Agent Port Adelaide
Officiating minister...	Charles MARRYAT	

DEATH Certificate Details:-

No 572 of 1865.....	District of Adelaide
When Died.....	31 January 1865
Name.....	Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY
Sex and Age.....	Male 36 years
Trade.....	Agent
Usual Residence....	Kingston, near Port Adelaide
Cause of Death.....	Chronic Nephritis
Place of Death.....	Kingston near Port Adelaide.
Informant.....	Robert MAIN of Port Adelaide
Registrar.....	John RIPPON
Date.....	7 February 1865

SPOUSE OF RICHARD M. TAPLEY

Mary Ann Hannah MILLS (1842 -)

Mary Ann Hannah MILLS was born in 1842, not in South Australia, as no record of her birth is recorded in the B.D. & M. Indexes.

Her Father was John MILLS, about whom nothing further is known, nor is her mother's name known. (1)

On 24 February 1859, Mary Ann Hannah MILLS, aged 17 years, of Woodville, married Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY, 30 years, Agent of Port Adelaide, at St Paul's Church. The minister was Charles MARRYAT, and the witnesses were J.M. HARDEN, of Woodville, and Henry A. C---, Port Agent of Port Adelaide. (2)

Richard and Mary TAPLEY lived at Kingston, near Port Adelaide.

Mary Ann Hannah TAPLEY was just 23 years old when her husband Richard died on 31 January 1865 at their home, of Nephritis.(3)

Mary Ann appears to have returned home to live at Woodville, as she was living there a few years later when she married again.

On 17 July 1869, Mary Ann Hannah TAPLEY, widow, aged 27 years, of Woodville, married Edward Pattison CLARKE, aged 23 years, bachelor, Civil Servant of Findon. The marriage was held in St. Luke's Church, Adelaide (Whitmore Square), and was conducted by H. M. POLLITT.

Witnesses were Edward LAUGHTON, Stock Agent, of Burnside, and L.A. CLARKE, Merchant, of Port Adelaide. (4)

L. A. CLARKE, was possibly a brother to Edward, as Edward's father was William Falla CLARKE. (5)

Nothing further is known of this marriage.

REFERENCES:-

1. Marriage Certificate
2. Marriage Certificate of Mary Ann Hannah MILLS
3. Death Certificate of Richard M. TAPLEY
4. Marriage Certificate of Mary Ann Hannah TAPLEY
5. Marriage Certificate.

NOTES ON THE MILLS AND CLARKE FAMILIES

MILLS FAMILY

There are no suitable entries in the Biographical Index that would appear to tie in to the John MILLS as the father of Mary Ann Hannah MILLS, so nothing further is known of the MILLS family at Present.

CLARKE FAMILY

According to the Marriage certificate of Edward Pattison CLARKE, his father's name was William Falla CLARKE, and a witness was L.A. CLARKE.

In the Biographical Index of South Australians, can be found the following entries--

CLARKE, Leander Armytage par: Mathilda
occ: Pastoralist rel RC
m: Sarah nee CAMERON par: Alexr and Mgt nee
MCKILLOP b: 1852 Penola SA

CLARKE, William Falla b: c.1822 d: 25.8.1864
Woodville SA bd: Alberton SA arr: 1851 CONDOR
occ: Merchant res:LeFevre Pen, Woodville rel C/E
m:(1/2) Letitia b: c1822 d: 16.11.1858 ch: Emily
(1852 -), Arthur Whitley (1854 -1855), Frank (1855-),
Maria (c1857-)*, Harry Whitley (1858-)
m:(2/2) Apr 1860 Jane Mary nee HARDEN ch: Chas
Geo (1860 - 1931), Florence (1862-), Adelaide Augta
(1864-1864)

NOTES:- A couple of interesting points about this last entry. The name William Falla CLARKE corresponds with the name of the father of Edward Pattison CLARKE on the marriage certificate. It is unlikely that there would be two William Falla CLARKE's in South Australia of about that same age, and the date of birth of Edward was about 1846, as he was 23 in 1869.

Also the L. A. CLARKE a Witness is quite likely a brother born also prior to those named above. Letitia and William could well have been married by 1846, and had these two children before those born in Australia, as the only marriage for William F. is in 1860 in the B.D.& M. Indexes.

Also of note, is that when Mary Ann Hannah MILLS married Richard Mordaunt TAPLEY in 1859, one of the witnesses was a J. M. HARDEN of Woodville. This was probably Jane Mary HARDEN, who married William Falla CLARKE in 1860.

My conclusion would be that this is the case, and how Mary Ann Hannah TAPLEY came in contact with the CLARKE Family.

D.E.PORTER (Sept 1987)