

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2015 No 1 Issue 21

March 2015.

1820 SETTLERS COMMEMORATION



The famous painting by Thomas Baines of a group of settlers being brought ashore in Algoa Bay

EDITORIAL

I had a reasonable response to the idea of telling about your 1820 Settlers. Certainly I found it useful because I thought I had completed my research on John WILKINSON, only to discover that his brother, Stephen came out on the same ship—*Zoroaster* and one of Stephen's descendents became the schoolmaster of St Paul's Church in Rondebosch where I am the current minister.

Cynthia Winstanly's article is on Adam GILFILLAN from the THORNHILL party. He came out on the *Zoroaster* so my descendent and Cynthia must have known each other and spoken. Interesting to think two members of your committee have a ancestral connection.

Paul Schlaphoff sent me information about his settler family and it was the first time I've had to look up the St Helena data. Very interesting and learning curve.

SLAVERY CONNECTION

How about making this the theme of our next edition? I would welcome stories on your family's slave background. Also other articles on slavery at the Cape would be welcomed.

While researching through the St Helena Baptismal Register I found an entry which said:

Sophia, property of Capt. Kenniard

"Property of..."! Wow! I wonder how that Church of England minister felt as he wrote that into the Baptismal Register? It certainly touched me when I saw that. Maybe I would have accepted "Slave of..." as historically speaking slavery was accepted at that time but "Property of ..." was going a bit to far. [See Page 4]

Would love to hear from you on slavery in your family.
dpratt@mweb.co.za

1820 SETTLERS COMMEMORATION

WHY WAS THERE AN 1820 SETTLER SCHEME?

Derek Pratt

What started the British Government thinking it might be a good idea to send settlers out to the Eastern border of the Cape Colony? The reasons are multi-faceted but let's explore some of them.

Foreign Policy

At the end of the 19th Century Britain and France were at war in Europe and so Britain fearing the Dutch might hand over the strategic Cape to the French, decided occupied it themselves in 1795. However, in March 1802 peace between France and Britain resulted in the Cape being given back to the Netherlands, now known as Batavia. Further conflicts began when Napoleon left Elba and so after a fierce battle at Blaauwberg in January 1806 the British occupied the Cape again. But it was only in 1814 that the Cape Colony was officially ceded to the British with Britain paying the Dutch six million pounds compensation, thus the route to the East around Africa was secured.

Local events at the Cape

One of the first changes that the British made was the abolishment in 1807 of the Slave Trade Act. Slaves could still legally be owned but they put an end to trading in slaves and outlawed torture of any kind. Besides the Dutch, the slaves and other European settlers there were the indigenous people. These included the Khoisan people in the Western Cape and the Xhosa people in the Eastern Cape.

In 1809 Cape Governor Caledon passes a law curtailing the freedom of movement of the Khoisan and coloured peoples by introducing a pass system. Their land had been taken over by the encroaching European settlers, they were twice defeated in battle with settlers and had been decimated by smallpox in 1713 and 1755. The Khoisan ultimately lost their identity as a distinct cultural group and intermarried with slaves and others to form what was later called the Cape Coloured people. But in the Eastern Cape the AmaXhosa



Conflict between amaXhosa and British troops

were a real threat to stability.

Lord Charles Somerset became Governor of the Cape Colony in 1814. He wrote letters home to Lord Bathurst (Colonial Secretary) with regards to the Eastern frontier of the Cape, but the British Government was not prepared at this stage to increase the army's presence in the area. The army on the ground, however, was unable to cope with the hostilities which were occurring almost daily on the frontier.

Somerset began to lobby for more people to be sent out to the Cape and to be settled in the Eastern Cape in particular. He put forward his idea of an immigration scheme. With the onset of the Fifth Frontier War in 1818, the British Government finally decided to take some action and appointed a Committee to investigate the feasibility of Somerset's settlement proposal.

Local events and conditions in England

With the material needs for the Napoleonic War the Industrial Revolution had begun in Britain. Agricultural labourers made their way to the newly forming cities and found work in the new factories. The inventions of the steam engine, spinning jenny and weaving machine at this time made Britain the first industrial nation in the world and launched her into a period of expansion and transition.

The downside of this modernisation was that the small cottage crafters who had up to then been the main source of supply were replaced by factories that required less manpower and so more and more people found themselves unemployed. During the war years these unemployed could sign up for the armed forces but at the end of the war England had thousands of returning soldiers who required employment. This was further aggravated by an increase in population growth. Death rates had declined and birth rates had increased.

The poor and class divisions

At that time it was the local parish that had to supply poor relief. The contrast between the rich ruling class and the rest was huge. Politically speaking, King George III had stepped down in favour of his son, the Prince Regent who was known for his extravagance

(Continued on page 3)

and opulence. The people became frustrated with what they saw as an oppressive government and began demanding political change and more employment. The Government's inability to provide a solution resulted in political unrest and in Manchester some 50,000 people gathered to protest and call for change. This unfortunately ended violently and became known as the Peterloo Massacre.

The Scheme

In 1819, after the announcement, in July, of an ambitious, government-sponsored settlement scheme to the eastern frontier of the Cape Colony, Britons openly debated the potential merits and pitfalls of the venture. A "booster" notice in *The Times* of London, for instance, envisioned "the finest soil and climate in the world" in the Eastern Cape settlements, together with "all the luxuries of life". In *Hints on Emigration to the Cape of Good Hope* (1819), the naturalist William John Burchell (1781-1863), who had already toured southern Africa and testified before the House of Commons on the region's suitability, describes "a beautiful and delightful country, issued with every diversity of scenery and surface, abounding in herbage, wood and water, and having a soil capable of feeding large herds of cattle". Less experienced observers, however, predicted disaster the scheme. For example, in *A Correct Statement of the Advantages and Disadvantages attendant on Emigration to the New Colony forming near the Cape of Good Hope* (1819), the pamphleteer James Griffin stated: "You give up your country, your friends, and all the polish of European society [in South Africa]. . . . You are likewise destitute, in the case of illness, of any sort of medical assistance; perhaps you may reckon this a blessing; but that is for your consideration".

Griffin was sceptical that infrastructure of the Cape Frontier could be sustained and he was also suspicious of Rousseau's return to a more perfected state of human existence before the advent of European modernity, in Africa. Griffin believed the settlers would "all feel the bitterness of wandering upon a foreign land, friendless, homeless [and] penniless".

If critics in Britain had been fully aware of the challenges awaiting the immigrants, their opposition to the scheme might have been more pronounced. Booster literature conveniently failed to mention that the farm plots assigned to the settlers were intended to serve as a buffer between "more established western regions of the colony" and amaXhosa and amaThembu communities further east who had lost territory to European commandoes. In other words, the 1820 settlers were to be situated within a region that had recently undergone "ethnic cleansing" in a former "contact zone" between colonial troops and local African groups.

The Scheme as set out by the British Government had a three-fold purpose: To settle the disputed eastern frontier of the Cape of Good Hope with an agrarian farming community whose presence would discourage Xhosa pastoralists and cattle raiders from crossing the colonial boundary. To increase the English-speaking community in their newly acquired Colony; and to ease political tensions in Britain that had been stretched to breaking point with post-war unemployment, industrialisation and poor trade.

Settlers and the Situation in Cape Colony

The Colonial settlers and military had already engaged in a series of frontier wars with the amaXhosa. To make matters more complicated, the new arriving settlers, who would soon to be engaged in this huge agrarian endeavour, were merely "tradesmen, artisans [and]

(Continued on page 4)



Cruikshank's cartoon of what the settlers could expect from the 'Hottentots'

(Continued from page 3)

mechanics" from Britain's industrial towns and cities, some of whom "passed themselves off as rural folk, and sailed to South Africa with grand dreams of finding a natural paradise that would support them with little effort". Yet even if the settlers had been adequately prepared for the rigors of agricultural development, some experts believed that the region chosen for settlement—known as the Zuurveld or "sour field" in Cape Dutch—was unsuited for crop-farming. The plots were thought to be too small, rainfall was often unpredictable or scarce, and the soil retained an abnormally high level of acidity, which was harmful, even fatal, to cattle in autumn and winter. From top (British imperial command) to bottom (the settler's agricultural skills) the 1820 settlement scheme appeared somewhat precarious. Noel Mostert says "The operation was probably the most callous act of mass settlement in the entire history of empire."

Back home in England

As the debate over South African immigration continued, the rhetoric surrounding it took a curious detour into domestic politics. Some believed the scheme was simply devised to displace Britain's poor and unemployed onto foreign shores—and though the four thousand applicants (out of some forty thousand) selected for the scheme represented a cross section of early nineteenth-century British society in all its layered complexity from parish indigent to gentry, the depressed economic climate at home fostered an impression that Parliament was solely attempting to displace the lower orders of society abroad.

The British Settler Scheme

However, the British Government decides to go ahead with the scheme and on the 12th July 1819 £50,000 was voted for the Cape Emigration Scheme.

The Scheme as set out by the British Government had a three-fold purpose:

1. To settle the disputed eastern frontier of the Cape of Good Hope with an agrarian farming community whose presence would discourage Xhosa pastoralists and cattle raiders from crossing the colonial boundary.
2. To increase the English-speaking community in their new Colony. Obviously up to that time the Colony had been populated mainly by the Dutch, with a smattering of German, French and African languages and so already had quite a mixed society with different cultures. By bringing in the English Settlers they hoped that some of the English cultures and systems of administration would be implemented within the country and that English would become the language of preference since this was now a British Colony. The English system of Justice was quite different to that of the Dutch and was more democratic in that people were allowed to voice their grudges before Magistrates and have them sorted out, whereas the Dutch



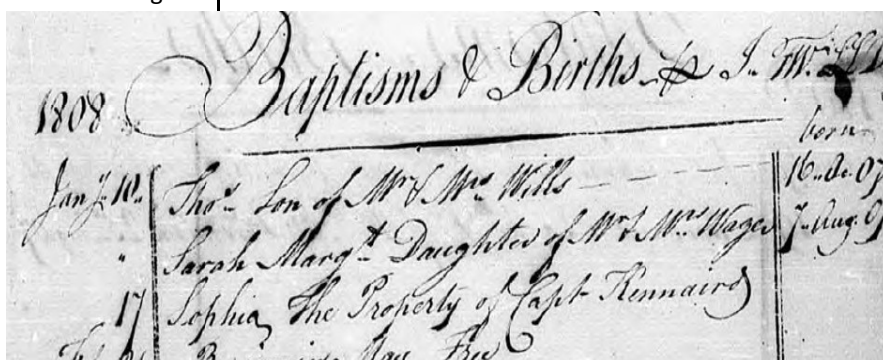
Peterloo Massacre

system did not allow people the freedom to express their opinions. You just had to swallow hard and perhaps move away as the trek boers did.

3. To ease political tensions in Britain that had been stretched to breaking point with post-war unemployment, industrialisation and poor trade. The Peterloo Massacre was still very fresh in their minds and the Government needed to be seen to be doing something where unemployment was concerned and so keep the peace within its own nation.

In terms of the scheme, selection was to be limited to men who could afford to engage and maintain a party of at least 10 able-bodied labourers over the age of 18, with or without families. In return they would receive free passage and 'victuals' and be granted 100 acres of land in the Eastern Cape plus 100 acres per man in their party. Their initial aim was that the settler parties would be made up of middle to higher-class people who had some capital and would enter into agreements with members of their parties in exchange for land and a number of years working in the employ of the party leaders. They envisaged them arriving in Albany and establishing little English villages since the countryside supposedly resembled that of an English park! It does when it rains! This didn't happen as soon as they hoped.

From the St James, St Helena Baptismal Register of 1808



MY 1820 SETTLER CONNECTION

by Cynthia Winstanly

Until I bought "The Settlers' Handbook" by Dr Margaret Nash I did not know that I had an 1820 Settler connection

GILFILLAN

Adam GILFILLAN aged 20 years was a member of the Thornhill party who came out on the *Zoroaster*

"A Story of one branch of the Gilfillan family in south Africa" by Marjorie Gilfillan and published in 1970 was mainly about the eldest brother (William Frederick Anderson GILFILLAN) but there was a little information about Adam GILFILLAN and a dreadful picture of the three brothers looking like absolute drips!

Adam GILFILLAN married	Sophia Cecilia MARAIS
b. 1800 Kirkendbright, Scotland	b. abt 1804 Cradock
d. 1874 Cradock	d. 1884 Cradock

Hester Johanna GILFILLAN married	Jan Willem KIRCHNER
b. 1843 District Albert	b. 1842 Amsterdam
d. 1898 Sterkstroom	d. 1919 Sterkstroom

Children of the above:

1. Andreas Daniel
2. **Adam Fleetwood** (my grandfather)
3. Hendrik Laurens
4. Sophia Cecilia
5. John William
6. Christina Wilhelmina
7. Hester Johanna
8. Rachel Charlotte
9. Daniel Jacobus
10. Agnes Florence May

Besides the reference to Adam GILFILLAN in Margaret Nash's book it also appears in "*73 Somerset Street, Graaff Reinet 1816-1993*" by J T Kemp.

Jan KIRCHNER also started the first school in Sterkstroom, was the organist and Justice of the Peace. They lived there for over thirty years.

To go back on the KIRCHNER side and forward to me:

Daniel Andreas KIRCHNER married – 1834 Amsterdam
Christina Wilhelmina VAN MARLE

Jan Willem KIRCHNER married – 1866 Craddock
Hester Johanna GILFILLAN

Adam Fleetwood KIRCHNER married – 1900 Molteno
Paula Anna RÖRICH

George Daniel KIRCHNER married – 1928 Port Elizabeth
Aletta Susanne VERMAAK

Cynthia Paula KIRCHNER married – 1966 Port Elizabeth
Miles WINSTANLY

Sources:

A Story of one branch of the Gilfillan Family in South Africa by Marjorie Gilfillan (Johannesburg: Privately Printed), 1970.

The settler handbook : a new list of the 1820 settlers by M. D. Nash. (Diep River : Chameleon Press), 1987.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THORNHILL PARTY from <http://1820settlers.com/genealogy/settlershowparty.php?party=Thornhill>

No. 57 on the Colonial Department list, this party was led by Christopher Thornhill, a merchant from a landowning family of Sutherland, Durham. Thornhill initially entered into a partnership with William Wait and Arthur Barker to take a party of some 50 labourers and their families to the Cape, under Wait's direction. Labourers were recruited in Buckinghamshire in October 1819 and signed on at a meeting attended by parish officers at the Greyhound Inn, Marlow. In December the settlers were assembled at Marlow and a nephew of Thornhill's **Adam Gilfillan**, supervised their journey on foot to Deptford where they were to embark. The settlers marched with the baggage wagons and spent a night at an inn at Hounslow en route.

Towards the end of December 1819, when the party was about to board the *Zoroaster*, the Colonial Department was notified that Wait had been arrested for debt and a writ to prevent his leaving the country had been issued on the application of a former business partner. Thornhill was appointed head of the party in Wait's place. Three weeks later however, with the *Zoroaster* still lying at Deptford, Wait managed to settle his affairs and obtain his release. Thornhill was unwilling to place himself and his share of the party's finances again under Wait's direction, and a quarrel developed that the Colonial Department was called upon to settle by arbitration. An official was sent from Downing Street to Deptford to dissolve the partnership and divide the party into two separate units, and the settlers on board were given the choice of which master they would serve. Twenty-six men signed a new service agreement with Wait, and Arthur Barker with his steward Henry Ulyate and nine labourers (two of whom deserted before the ship sailed) also chose to remain

under Wait's leadership. When the settlers eventually reached Algoa Bay, Barker's party split off and was located separately.

Thornhill was made head of a party of his own, comprising 16 men, including two of his nephews, **Adam Gilfillan** and Philip Camm. His labourers signed an agreement similar to Wait's, binding them to six years of service at a daily wage equivalent to the value of half a bushel of wheat. Working hours were to be from eight in the morning to four in the afternoon, and each man would be entitled to 'a suitable habitation' and half an acre of garden ground. Three of Thornhill's party deserted before the *Zoroaster* sailed, but a late replacement, William Stokes, was allowed to board the ship while she was detained in the Downs awaiting a favourable wind.

The *Zoroaster* left the Downs on 12 February 1820, and reached Simon's Bay on 20 April. Here her charter terminated, and the settlers were trans-shipped to the *Albury* for the voyage to Algoa Bay, which they reached on 15 May. Thornhill was granted a plot of land at Algoa Bay for the erection of a prefabricated wooden house which he had brought with him, as its size made it difficult to transport to his location in Albany.

Thornhill's party - described by one of the colonial officials as 'the best regulated of any yet landed here' - was located between the Kowie and Rufane Rivers, and the location was named Thornhill. Lieut **William Gilfillan** (half-pay, late 60th Regt), a brother of **Adam Gilfillan**, also lived at Thornhill after his marriage to Christopher Thornhill's daughter Ann. **William Gilfillan** did not, as is popularly supposed, emigrate with Thornhill's party; he landed in Cape Town from the Importer brig in March 1820, and applied for a grant of land by virtue of his seven years' army service at the Cape.

LIST OF THORNHILL'S PARTY

ANNANDALE, George 20. Smith.

BROOKS, William 31. Farmer. w Ann 40. c Elizabeth 12, William 10, Ann 9 Joseph 6.

BRUTON, Thomas 27. Smith. w Charlotte 24. c Charlotte.

CAMM, Philip 20 Clerk.

DELL, Edward H. 38. Cooper. w Hannah 38. c John 10, Stephen 8, Edward 6, Samuel 3.

GILFILLAN, Adam 20. Merchant.

HOWARD, William 30. Chemist. w Sarah 25. c Jane 6, Richard 4.

MILDENHALL, Joseph 26. Husbandman.

SOPER, Robert 24. Carpenter. w Ellis 22.

STOKES, John 26. Husbandman. w Mary 26.

STREAK (or STREET), James 18. Husbandman.

STREAK (or STREET), William 27. Husbandman. w Elizabeth 22. THORNHILL, Christopher 47. Merchant. w Dorothea 35. c John 15, Ann 13, Mary 10, Christian 8.

WHITE, Thomas 29. Husbandman.

*HOWARD, John Hassall 27. Chemist, druggist and apothecary. w 27. 2 children under 4.

*John Hassall Howard, whose name does not appear on any official list, claimed to have emigrated with his wife and family as members of Thornhill's party, and was discharged from Thornhill's service in 1821 when he injured his right hand (Cape Archives CO 158,142). In a letter to the Colonial Department before emigrating, he described himself as a chemist, druggist and apothecary. It is not known how he was connected with William Howard, or whether he sailed in the *Zoroaster* in place of some other settler.

SIR RUFANE DONKIN

When the 1820 Settlers were arriving, the Governor of the Cape, Lord Charles Somerset was on furlough and so the responsibility of receiving them devolved to Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin, who while on his way home from India after his wife's death was asked to stand-in as acting-governor. The official landing place of the Settlers was Algoa Bay and needless to say with these settlers arriving, there was soon a small settlement there and Sir Rufane Donkin named it after his late wife, Elizabeth. But this was a town she never saw as she had died in India in 1818.

Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin, 1773 – 1841, married Elizabeth Frances Markham, 1790 – 1818. She was the daughter of George Markham (a former Dean of York) and Elizabeth Sutton. Her grandfather was the Archbishop of York. Soon after their marriage on 1st May, 1815 Donkin, as a Major-General, was transferred to India and he was accompanied by his wife Elizabeth. There she gave birth to their first child, George David on 20th December, 1817 but in the heat of India she never fully recovered and died of fever in Meerut on 21st August, 1818. Rufane was devastated and left India to return to England with his baby son and Elizabeth's embalmed heart. Rufane was intercepted on his journey and asked to take the position of acting governor of the Cape while the Governor, Lord Charles Somerset, was away in England on furlough.

Perhaps more sympathetic to the Settlers as they tried to settle in, than Lord Charles Somerset would be later, he overturned some of Lord Charles' orders and when he left Lord Charles refused to see him. In 1832 he married Lady Anna Maria Elliott, but never got over the loss of Elizabeth. In 1841,

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)



Sir Rufane Donkin and his wife, Lady Elizabeth

on the anniversary of Elizabeth's death, Lieutenant-General Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin KCB, GCH, FRS, FRGC took his own life.

If you were wondering about his first name, I found an interesting article about it in the Eastern Cape Newsletter of the EGGSA. His Christian name is not a standard English boy's name. It is, in fact the name of another distinguished soldier and Colonial official.

Rufane Donkin's father, Robert was born in 1717 and entered the army in 1746 and served in Flanders and the West Indies in the Seven Years War. As a captain, he was secretary and aide-de-camp to Major-General William Ruffane, governor and commander-in-chief of the island of Martinique, which had been taken from the French in 1762.

When Robert Donkins' wife, Mary, the daughter of the Rev Emmanuel Collins, gave birth to their only surviving child in 1773, the boy was named after the old General, who had died the previous year. The name was slightly anglicised by the removal of an "f". General Ruffane had served a long life in the British army, having come from early privation, due to his family's exile from France as Huguenot's. William (or Guillaume) Ruffane was born in 1702 in Southampton. His father, Francois Duchesne de Ruffane, from Chevreux in the old province of Poitou, had come to England probably, like so many Huguenots, in William III's army, in 1688. He married the daughter of another refugee, Marguerite de Pinsun, who bore him five children.

Major Francois de Ruffane had been naturalized in 1699 and his son Guillaume or William became an ensign in Colonel Wentworth's regiment of Foot at an early age, eventually becoming colonel of the 6th Regiment of Foot, and in 1762 Major-General. He died in London in 1772.

DISCOVERING MY 1820 SETTLER CONNECTION

One could say my interest in genealogy began from a comment from my late mother that we were from 1820 stock. She went on to show me my great grandfather's bible which had a family tree written up on its fly leaf.

Henry Jacob KENNETT came to the Cape Colony in 1862 and married Francis Catherine WILKINSON in Graaff Reinet in 1865. "That's the connection," my mother said. The problem was Francis WILKINSON was obviously a daughter or a granddaughter of an 1820 Settler. So, a quick check of 1820 family names showed me that there were quite a few WILKINSONs including a party leader with that surname. So at that point I let my genealogical interests lie.

After my mother's death I received the bible, which made interesting reading as far as Henry KENNETT and his children went but besides giving the name and dates of his wife, Francis Catherine WILKINSON and that they were married in Graaff Reinet, it said nothing about her antecedents.

By this time I had learnt about the Archives and Death Notices and NAAIRS online. I searched for Henry KENNETT and found his death notice and found he died 1897. Francis KENNETT (born WILKINSON) outlived her husband by thirty years and died only in 1927. Her Death Notice had her maiden name as WILKINSON but written next to it said, "Christian names of parents unknown". That was a blow! I still had six WILKINSONs who could be my great great grandparents as well as my 1820 connection.

Firstly there was George WILKINSON who was leader of the Wilkinson Party. He was listed as a farmer and 21 years of age. No wife is mentioned so he might have married in the Cape. He came on the *Amphitrite*.

Then on the *Zoroaster* we have the remaining five WILKINSONs. Four of these were Stephan and Cornelia WILKINSON and their two children, Joseph and Esther. Looking at their ages, the children could be the parents of my Frances but by this time I had chatted to Bernie Cramer, who is a descendent of Stephen and Cornelia and he assured me that he had no Francis among his ancestors. That left me with a John and a George WILKINSON.

Off to NAAIRS I went and there I found
MOOC 7/1/329 Ref 47 WILKINSON, JOHN. WILL. 1867

(Continued from page 7)

MOOC 7/1/329 Ref 47 VORSTER, HESTER ELIZABETH JOHANNA. WIFE OF JOHN WILKINSON. WILL. 1867

Obviously a joint will for husband and wife. So I searched for their death notices but only found hers.

MOOC 6/9/328 REFERENCE 1043 WILKINSON, HESTER ELIZABETH. NEE VORSTER. 1894.

But that gave me a list of the children including the youngest child, "Francis Wilhelmina [sic] married in community of property to H J Kennett". Besides getting the second name wrong it appears to be my great grandmother, who my mother knew as "Granny Kennett".

Online I also found at:

www. Southafricansettlers.com that she was listed as "Francina Christina married to Henry Kenneth". Just a few typos there!

But the issue still remained, 'Where was John WILKINSON's Death Notice?' I asked at the Reading Room Desk at the Cape Archives about this and they suggested I look at the original handwritten index. Sure enough I found an entry for John Wilkinson in 1873 Volume with Reference No 9520. I converted with help from the desk this into a MOOC 6/1/ format and drew the file; went to Ref 9520 and found a Mr Du Plessis – certainly no WILKINSON! Thus began a search using the logical that the number had been transposed in some way. After a few permutations I found his death notice at Ref No 9250! His death notice had a few extra children than his wife's Death Notice 24 years later – they presumably died without issue but I'm still researching them.

I think the lesson here is – nothing in genealogy is simple and straightforward. Sometimes the detective in you has to come out to find an ancestor.



Life on board an 1820 Settler ship

MY 1820 SETTLER CONNECTION AND THE WAITS PARTY

by Derek Pratt

In the previous article in this Newsletter I told you how I discerned who my 1820 Settler was – John WILKINSON. This article tells of John WILKINSON until he arrived in Graaff Reinet.

According to most of the records including M.D. Nash's 1987 book *The 1820 Settler Handbook* John WILKINSON was a member of the WAIT's party, single, 20 years old and a husbandman which I had to look-up and found it meant a farmer. According to these records he came from Deptford in Kent. As this was where the WAIT's party ship, *Zoroaster* departed from, and the fact that the WAIT's party had some difficulties, I thought perhaps he made up the numbers locally as Wait's Party was recruited in Buckinghamshire.

Wait's Party was no. 42 on the Colonial Department list. It was led by William Wait, a wine merchant of Walnut Tree House, Windmill Lane, Brentford, Middlesex. Wait obtained a letter of recommendation to the Governor of the Cape, Lord Charles Somerset, from the Duke of Beaufort, and the same illustrious patronage may have influenced the Colonial Department's acceptance of his application to emigrate.

This was initially a proprietary party of 50 labourers financed by a partnership of three principals: William Wait, Arthur Barker and Christopher Thornhill. Labourers were recruited in Buckinghamshire, and signed a service agreement with Wait at a meeting at the Greyhound Inn, Marlow, attended by the officers of the parish. In terms of their agreement, the men were to serve Wait for six years for a daily wage equivalent to the value of half a bushel of wheat. Wait undertook to provide 'a suitable habitation' and half an acre of garden ground for each family in his service.

In December 1819 the Buckinghamshire settlers were assembled and marched with the baggage wagons to London under the supervision of Adam Gilfillan (see another article in this Newsletter), a nephew of Thornhill's. Thirty-eight men were accommodated overnight at an inn at Hounslow, and the next evening boarded the *Zoroaster* transport, lying at Deptford. Wait made an unsuccessful attempt to prevent Barker's contingent of settlers from going on board with the rest of the party, on the grounds that he had not yet paid his share of the deposit money.

This was not the only financial problem with which Wait had to contend; on Christmas Eve the Colonial Department was informed that he had been arrested for debt on the application of a former business partner, and a writ had been issued to prevent his leaving the country. The whole saga appears in correspondence between Wait and the Colonial Office. This and other correspondence between the 1820 Settlers leaders and the Colonial Office makes very interesting reading. Sue Mackay and others transcribed them from the National Archive files at Kew. If you have an 1820 Settler ancestor it is worthwhile checking out these letters on the eGSSA site.

(Continued from page 8)

Because of this problem, the Colonial Office put Thornhill in charge of the party in Wait's place, and he duly received Barker's payment of deposit money. Within a month, however, Wait had managed to satisfy his creditor, and prepared to resume the leadership of the party. This too was controversial as Thornhill was unwilling to place himself and his share of the party's finances under Wait's authority again, and an open quarrel developed to which the Colonial Department was called upon to arbitrate. It was agreed that the party should separate into two independent units under Wait and Thornhill, and the settlers on board the *Zoroaster* were given the choice of which master they would serve. Deposits had been paid for 54 men altogether; Thornhill's party numbered 16 and Wait's 27, plus Barker's contingent of 11 which remained under Wait's leadership. Separate service agreements were drawn up and signed by Wait's and Thornhill's settlers.

The *Zoroaster* sailed from the Downs on 12 February 1820 with both parties on board, and reached Simon's Bay on 30 April. Here her charter terminated and her settlers were trans-shipped to the *Albury* for the voyage to Algoa Bay, where they arrived on 15 May. Arthur Barker at this stage applied to separate his party from Wait's, and with his steward Henry Ulyate (a former managing clerk in an attorney's office) and seven labourers he was located on the Kariega River. He named his location Waterford.

Wait's party was located at the source of the Ghio stream, near the Bushman's River. The location was first named Raven Hill and later Belton. There is still a farm called Belton in the area and close to the road from Grahamstown to Bushman River Mouth. However, Raven Hill appears now to be part of the Kariega Game Reserve.

Yet more controversy was to haunt Wait and his party at Belton. Dissatisfaction with the contract which the famous chronicler, Jeremiah Goldswain called "virtual slave labour for six years" led to rebellion and Wait laid charges against them for breaking their contracts and had them taken to Grahamstown Goal. There it was decided that the matter fell under the Uitenhage magistrate so the sixteen rebellious settlers including John Wilkinson as well as the chronicler, Jeremiah Goldswain were marched to Uitenhage. It took them three days through inclement weather. At Uitenhage the local magistrate released Wait's servants from their engagement on grounds of ill-treatment. This was in October 1820.

Also in the Wait's Party was Stephen WILKINSON. As I was researching this article I discovered that Stephen WILKINSON was also from Deptford and on checking his baptism had the same parents as

John – thus I discovered that they were brothers!

John – on discharge made his way to the town of Graaff Reinet, where he later married Hester Elizabeth VORSTER and their youngest child was a daughter, Francis Catherine, my great grandmother.

Stephen Wilkinson with his wife, Amelia and two children (see below) stayed on under Wait's suffering hardships until he petitioned the Governor to be released from his contract in March 1821. The family moved to Uitenhage where Stephen set up a "Drinking Line" (suggestions welcome on what this may be!) but was soon insolvent and by 1825 he and Amelia were divorced and she moved to Cape Town where she married a William Turner. Rumour has it that Stephen "went to sea and was never heard of again" Bernie Cramer – who might be known to many of you is a descendent of this family and he gave this information in a 2006 email – hopefully he is researching further. I do know however that one of Joseph's descendants was William Bertram WILKINSON who became school master at the School at St Paul's Church where I now serve as the minister. Nice to know I had connections with St Paul's even if fairly distant.

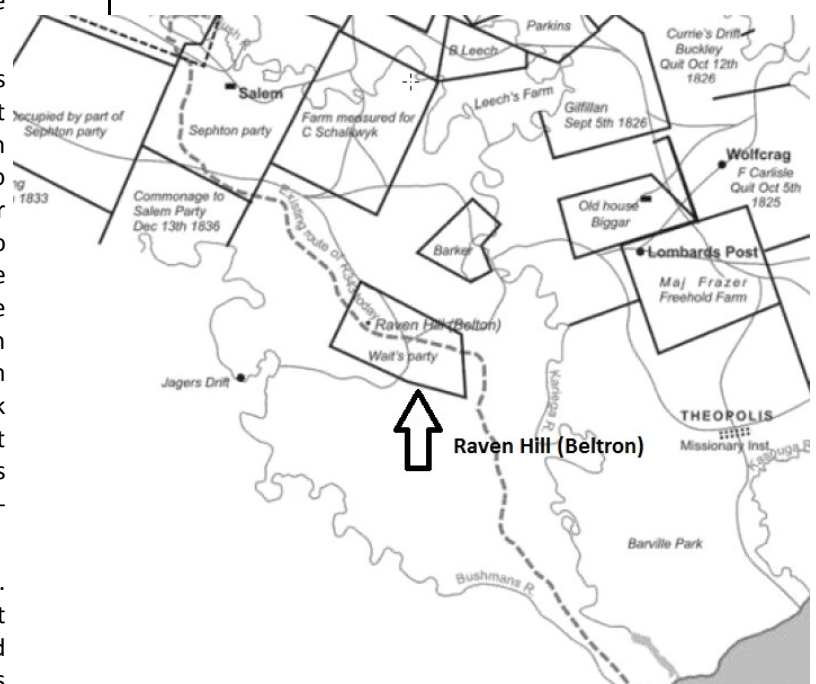
Main source for party list

Agent of Transports' Return of settlers proceeding under the direction of Messrs Wait, Thornhill and Dyason (Cape Archives CO 6138/2,98); Memorandum of agreement made by Wait and members of his party (Cape Archives co 6138/2,20) as found on the EGGSA site.

Further reading

The Chronicle of Jeremiah Goldswain, ed Una Long (Cape Town, van Riebeeck Society, 1946).

The Chronicle of Jeremiah Goldswain – 1820 Settler by Ralph Goldswain (Pinetown: 30DegreeSouth. 2014)



A PRE-1820 SETTLER of Paul Schlaphoff

Although Paul Schlaphoff's family doesn't have an 1820 Settler connection, on his maternal side the BENDALL arrived at the Cape from St Helena before the 1820 Settlers and make quite interesting reading.

Paul father (George Schlaphoff b. 02/04/1908 – d. 12/07/1968 and youngest of 7 children) married on 21/12/1935 to his mother (Stella Clelland b 24/12/1912 – d 16/06/1987 and also the youngest of 11 children)

His paternal grandfather (Georg Heinrich Wilhelm Schlaphoff b 1867 d 1928 originally from Hermannsburg, Germany) together with his wife (Christina Carolina Frieda Von Wrede b 1873 d 1930 from Hanover) settled in East London in 1890 and was one of the founders of the New Apostolic Church.

However, it is on Paul's maternal grandmother side that has some interesting history.

Stella CLELLAND's father (Fullerton Marr Clelland (b 1861 d 1953 from Queen Street, Glasgow in Scotland) is of the Clelland / Cleland / Kneeland clan (the spelling changes over time and dates back to 1225 to Alexander Kneeland who married Margaret Wallace who was the aunt of William Wallace ("Braveheart").

Fullerton CLELLAND arrived in Cape Town aboard the "Grantully Castle" in 1892 and married Johanna Jemima BENDALL.

Children:

Johanna Jemima BENDALL was born 15 March 1863 and baptized at St John's the Evangelist in Cape Town (now demolished) on 20 April 1863. Her father was a baker and his address was given as Prestwich Street. Johanna CLELLAND died on 16 May 1935 in Claremont. The family burial plot is Grave 27 A/B in Plumstead Cemetery marked only as "Clelland".

The family story that she was from St Helena Island is obviously incorrect with the baptism found in the St John's Register. The family also says that she was a cousin to Saul Solomon (founder of the Argus.)

Paul has a very old birthday book containing family names and birthdays but without any years. Amongst the names is "W. H. Bendall" who would likely be William Henry Bendall, her father, although I have also found a brother with same name. When Johanna married she was older than her husband (said to be 5 to 10 years) and would have been around 49 when Paul's mother was born in 1912, and the father about 40 to 45 years old.

Paul had not found any records of Johanna but I found her baptism in the St John's records. Paul does have a professional portrait photos of her and Fullerton taken around when they probably met.

The BENDALL ancestors are listed on the South African Settlers site (www.southafricansettlers.com) as Bendall, John Maximilian. It lists his date of birth as about 1780 but place of birth simply as England, and Paul has been unable to trace this from the available information. His wife is listed as Eleanor. What Paul has found is that there are Bendalls of Jewish connections but have not found any reference to a Solomon.

John Maximilian Bendall is listed with the "**British Residents at the Cape 1785 – 1819**"

BENDALL, John Maximilian.

28 Dec 1813 - Mr B, English merchant from St Helena arrived in Table Bay onboard the 'Maria' with his child (which one I wonder)

8 May 1814 - Mrs B arrived in Table Bay on board 'Bonetta' from St Helena

29 Jan 1814 Mr B and Schonegeval offer lessons in Mathematics

1814-1820 John Maximilian BENDALL runs an English School 1815 living at 13 Grave Street

20 Jul 1816 moves to Leeuwen Street

1818 at 41 Loop Street

1818-1820 at 36 Long Street

10 Apr 1818 at 36 Long Street selling furniture and household effects

11 Apr 1818 John M BENDALL and Andrew BAIRD fined 25 Rixdollars for violence against Robert Pace

18 Sep 1818 John M Bendall's Mathematic school moves to 36 Long street

His children were:

John Maximilian Bendall (jnr) b 29 December 1810 & baptised 17/02/1811 on St Helena [See opposite]

Richard Bendall baptised 14/03/1813 on St Helena

Sarah Ann Bendall b 19/01/1816 & baptised 18/02/1816 in Cape Town

Eleanor Sophia Penelope Bendall b 08/08/1818 & baptised 12/04/1818 in Cape Town

William Henry Bendall baptised 05/03/1820 in Cape Town

William Henry married on 31/01/1845 to Martha Agnes Ward in the Paarl NG Kerk and Paul found a record of only one child – Sarah Elizabeth who was born and died in 1846. [The others were baptized at St John's Church included:

Charlotte Jemima BENDALL 22 April 1851 bapt 1 Jun 1851

William Henry BENDALL jnr., 8 April 1860 bapt 13 May 1860

Johanna Jemima BENDALL 15 March 1863 bapt 20 April 1863 [See Baptismal Register opposite]

Paul has not been able to find any records of birth of Martha WARD, or of the birth or marriage of Johanna, in any of the local Western Cape registers, and he is at a loss for further direction.

(Continued from page 10)

Brief outline of family

John Maximilian BENDALL married Eleanor Unknown

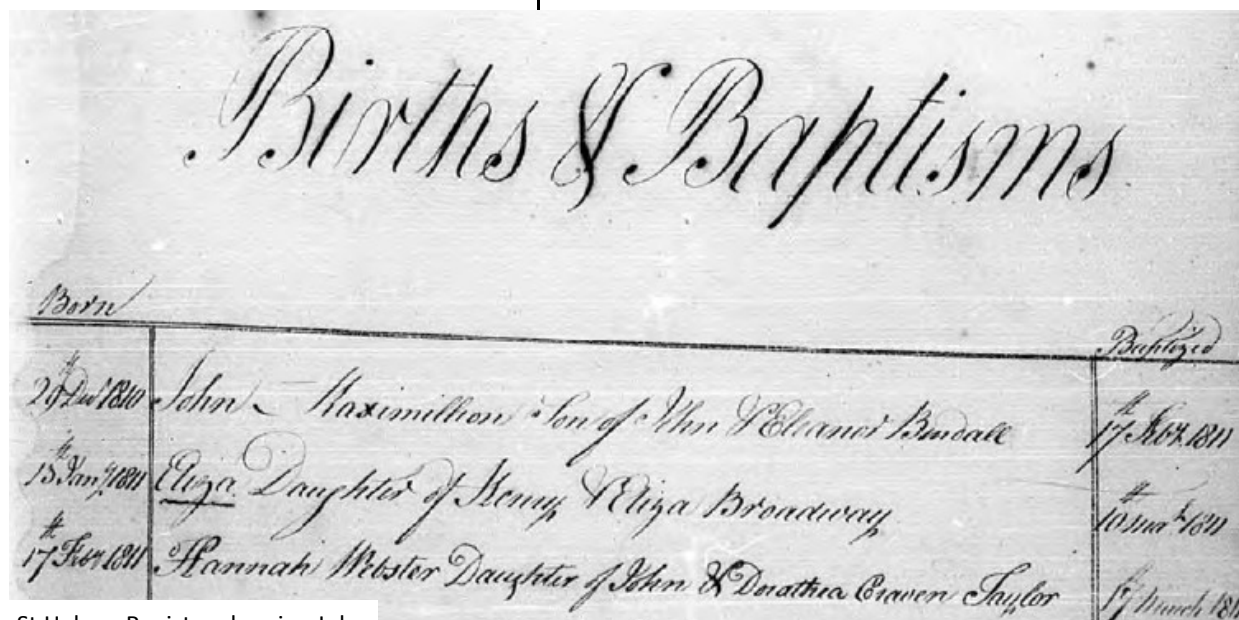
William Henry BENDALL married Martha Agnes WARD

Johanna Jemima BENDALL married Fullerton CLELLAND

Stella CLELLAND married George Schlaphoff

Paul Schlaphoff

Can you help Paul?

Paul Schlaphoff
pensionerpaul@gmail.comDerek Pratt
dpratt@mweb.co.za

St Helena Register showing John Maximilian BENDALL, 1810

Johanna Jemima BENDALL, from St John the Evangelist Register of 1863. The father is a baker living in Prestwich Street

Page 103

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of St John the Evangelist Cape Town in the Division of the Cape in the Year 1863.

When Baptized.	Christian Name.	Declared Day of Birth.	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	Sponsors, or (in the case of Adults) Witnesses.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
			Christian.	Surname.				
18 <u>63</u> April 12 No. 544	Richard John	Feb ? 1863	Charles & Martha Cameron	Peterson	Host B.	Blacksmith	Oliver Cameron Charles Peterson Martha B. P.	L. B. B.
April 25 No. 545	Johanna Jemima	March 15 th 1863	William Henry & Martha Agnes	Bendall	Prestwich St.	Baker	Isaac Mills, John Cameron Johanna & Eliza Martha Ward Bendall	W. B. B.

CAPE TOWN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

WEBSITE:

<http://www.family-history.co.za/>

Contains lots of interesting and useful information

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Third Saturday of each month at St John's Church Hall, Wynberg

COMMITTEE 2013-14

CHAIRPERSON:

David Slingsby

SECRETARY:

Ann Smythe

TREASURER:

Vacant

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Derek Pratt

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:

Sandra Cruywagen

GREETING SECRETARY:

Margaret Robinson

LIBRARIAN

Cynthia Winstanly

ORGANISING SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS

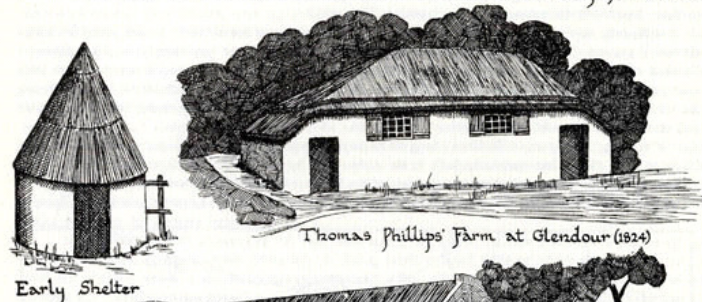
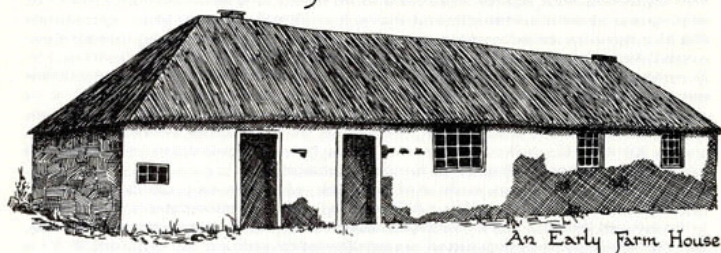
Cheri Wright

Kevin Turner

WEBMASTER

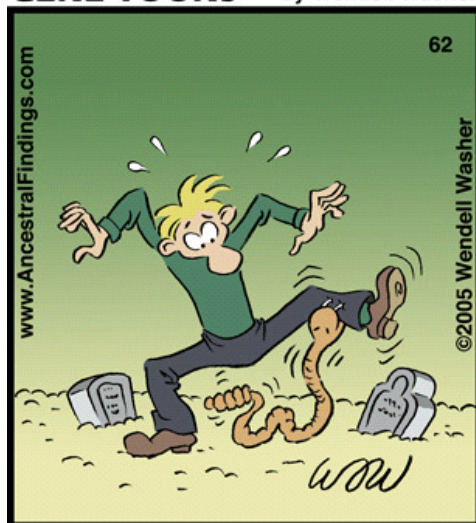
Eric Settle

HOMES of the 1820 SETTLERS

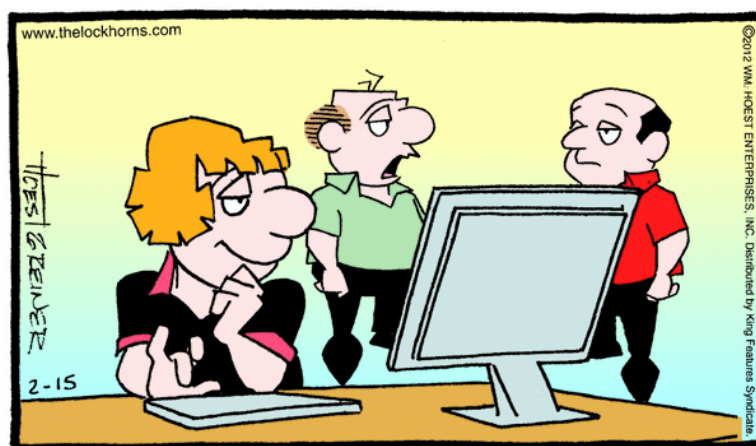


BACK PAGE HUMOUR

GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



Added bonus of genealogical cemetery research.



"OUR ANCESTORS WERE HUNTER-GATHERERS, BUT WE'VE EVOLVED INTO BROWSER-PURCHASERS."