



Henry and Sophia Field, 1886 [SLSA B16389]

Henry FIELD [c1818-1909]

Married

[1] Sophia NEWLAND on 23 May 1849

&

[2] Mary Louise SERVANTE on 3 October 1876

Departed October 1836 from Gravesend

Arrived 10 February 1837 at Port Adelaide on the

John Renwick

Children of Henry & Sophia:

Jane (1850-1862)

William [aka George] (1851-1903) m Mina ROE

John [aka Stuart] (1853-1925) m

Georgiana LAURIE

Catherine [aka Katie] (1856-1940) m

[1] Langloh PARKER

[2] Percival STOW

Henrietta (1858-1862)

Rosina (1860-1914)

Henry (1864-1950) m Angelina CROSS

Edward (1872-1942) m Florence WIGLEY

A Pastoralist of Changing Fortunes

Henry Field's older brother William was first mate on Colonel Light's ship *Rapid*. When Henry was diagnosed with tuberculosis, it was decided that he should follow his brother to South Australia.

Henry joined William on the *Rapid* to Sydney to get horses and cattle for the new colony. In 1841 while overlanding 4,500 sheep, they were attacked by aborigines who stole the sheep and the contents of their drays. Several parties tried to retrieve the stock and finally a group led by the Protector of Aborigines went to the area near River Rufus where he tried unsuccessfully to reason with them. A fight ensued and officially thirty-five aborigines were killed in what became known as the Rufus River Massacre.

In 1845 Henry decided that his home would be at his Waitpinga run. He often rode with meat to the whale fishery at Encounter Bay where he met and married Sophia Newland in 1849. Henry and William also had runs near Yankalilla that they sold in 1850. When gold was found in Victoria in 1852 there was not the market for his cattle, so Henry also sold the Waitpinga run.

Eventually Henry and Sophia moved to Marra Station on the River Darling, which he owned with his brother-in-law Simpson Newland. After two of their daughters were drowned, the family returned to live in High St, Kensington where Sophia died after the birth of their eighth child.



Henry moved to Glenelg and in 1876 married Mary Servante of 'Fern Hill,' Dashwood Gully. Several years later he bought Sandringham Station in Queensland but in three years of drought from 1900, two thirds of the cattle died and the station was forfeited. Henry returned to 'Fern Hill' in a financially poor state. He died there aged 90 and having outlived his wife Mary and her siblings, 'Fern Hill' remained in the Field family.

From information provided by Libby Ottaway
Henry's great great grand-daughter
March 2015

