



## Richard NOURSE [1818-1902]

Married

Mary Ann BICKFORD [1824-1902]

Departed 11 October 1838 from Gravesend

Arrived 21 March 1839 at Port Adelaide on the

## Katherine Stewart Forbes

Children of Richard & Mary Ann:

Emma (1842-1913) m Leonard l'ANSON

John (1844-1909) m [1] Sarah HAYMAN

[2] Christina ROSS

Richard (1846-1910) m Selina MINERS

Hannah (1847-1897) m George RAWLINS

Mary Ann (1848-1888) m William BRINKWORTH

William (1850-1936) m Letitia (Lettie) STOCKS

Fanny (1852-1942) m Daniel COCKSHELL

Ellen (1854-1903) m Henry HANCOCK

Elizabeth (1855-1939) m Alfred RAWLINS

Sarah (1857-1859)

George (1859-1927) m Hannah HOWE

Sarah (1861-1947) m James BELL

Leonard (1863-1926) m Emily BLEECHMORE

Matilda (1865-1945) m George BLENCOWE

Amy (1868-1938) m Josiah BLENCOWE

## The Carpenter With A Wooden Leg

Richard Nourse travelled to South Australia on a free passage with his wife, Anne, aboard the *Katherine Stewart Forbes* in 1839. After their arrival they settled at Goodwood, and Richard found employment as a carpenter. Anne died childless two years later.

A year after her death, Richard remarried to Mary Ann Bickford, a servant living in Hindley Street who had been in the colony for two and a half years. She had sailed alone on a free passage aboard the *Caroline*, and although she gave her age as eighteen, she was fifteen, lying about her age to gain a berth.

Richard and Mary Ann lived at Goodwood, but moved to the Little Para area and, in November 1847, were living in Gawler. Richard continued to work as a carpenter until early in 1855, when he took on the job of the publican at the 'One Tree Hill Inn'. He returned to live in Gawler after two years as a licensed victualler, and took up carpentry again, but a year later he declared himself insolvent and his property at Gawler was offered for sale by auction by the mortgagee.

Richard moved to Finniss Point and by 1866, owned a farm in the Hundred of Gilbert and a block in the town of Hamilton. His sons worked the farm, while he worked as a carpenter and builder. In 1868 when Richard was roofing a house near Steelton, the scaffolding gave way and he fell about eight or nine feet. He fractured his ankle, and his leg was amputated below the knee. When he recovered Richard made his own wooden leg, which was strapped on over his trouser leg.

In 1875 Richard, Mary Ann and some of their fifteen children moved to 'Perseverance Farm' just east of Petersburg (Peterborough) where he lived for the rest of his life. He died there in 1902, aged 84.

Mary Ann, who had a 'kindly disposition' and was a devout Christian, died soon after and they were both buried at the Petersburg Ceme



From information provided by Stephen Batten,  
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