

A POTTED FAMILY HISTORY

*Stories from the Family Tree of
Mark, Gail, Robyn & Linda Charlesworth*

By Vince Sinagra

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As one gets older the story of our origins becomes more important. By the time we are interested in our family's history often the people we need to speak to have died or are no longer capable of retelling their story. I have written this for my children and their cousins so when the time comes that they want to know their history they will have some background to begin with.

"In all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage - to know who we are and where we came from. Without this enriching knowledge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, an emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness."

Alex Haley, *Roots*

Introduction

This book is written about the family of Mark, Gail, Robyn and Linda Charlesworth. It starts with the Crossing, Zeitz and Risely families who arrived in Australia in the early 1850s and continues with the later arrival of other immigrant families. The stories begin in the country of origin of each family to help understand the motivation for their migration to Australia. It details the lives of some members more than others depending on the information available or able to be gleaned from various sources.

Census information is a primary source through www.findyourpast.co.uk, passenger lists are a primary source from www.shiplist.com, www.ancestry.com, and life story information is a primary source from www.trove.nla.gov.au and a secondary source from other Family Trees or family supplied information, whether that is quoted from a primary source or family folklore.

I acknowledge the valuable assistance given to me by various members of the family in particular Lexie Lord, Ray Risely, Connie Crossing, Edward Crossing and Anita Charlesworth.

Family stories are never complete and this is not intended to be. It is merely a snapshot of the story at this time. I have enjoyed the search and will continue to enjoy the puzzle that is family history.

CONTENTS

SOUTH AUSTRALIA IS ESTABLISHED	P1
THE EARLY FAMILIES	P2
CROSSING FAMILY	P6
RISELY FAMILY	P17
ZEITZ FAMILY	P21
FREDERICK ZEITZ & MARY JANE CROSSING	P25
ROBERT MAILEY	P30
COLIN CHARLESWORTH	P31
APPENDIX	P32

SOUTH AUSTRALIA IS ESTABLISHED

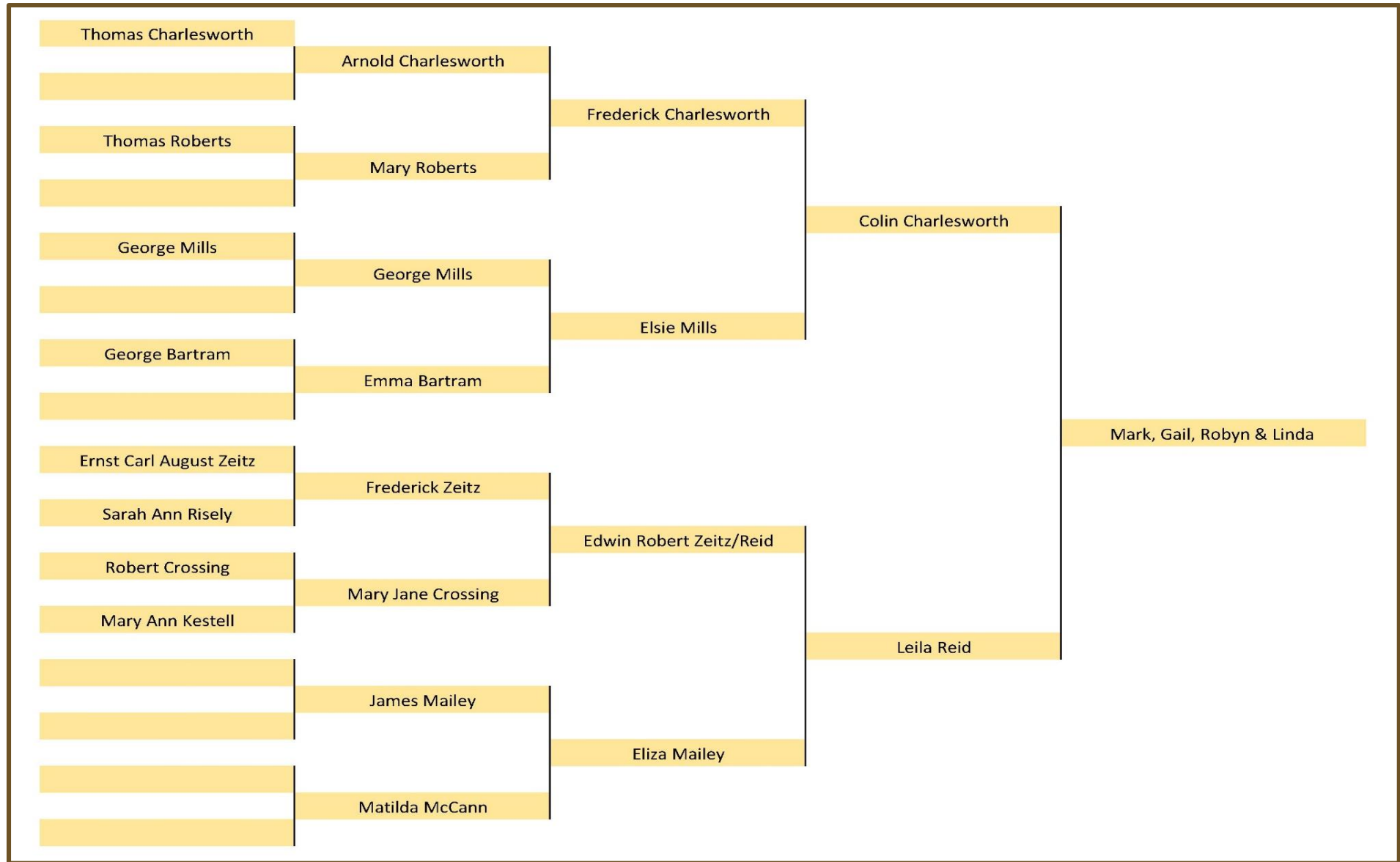
"In 1834 the South Australian Colonization Act was passed, leading to the colonization of land that is now the state of South Australia. The Act strove to establish a colony that was the ideal embodiment of the best qualities of British society. This meant no religious discrimination, unemployment or convicts. South Australia was to be a utopia for free settlers only. To finance this lofty ideal, large areas of land were offered at a fixed, but reasonable price, to the wealthy as an investment or to companies wishing to establish themselves in the new colony. The money paid for the transport of labourers who would work the land. These immigrants from England, Wales and Ireland were chosen for their skills and trades, as well as being "honest, sober, industrious and of general good character".

Immigrants who worked hard could eventually earn enough money to own land or establish their own businesses. This promise of better opportunities, particularly for the working classes, was very attractive and led to a rush of applications for free passage to the new colony. By 1835, enough land had been sold to finance immigration to the colony. Between January 1836 and December 1840, over 9,000 applications had been received and, by December 1840, almost 5,000 immigrant labourers had arrived in South Australia. Not all of South Australia's early immigrants were British or Irish or arrived under the free immigration schemes. Many either paid for or worked their passage to start a new life in South Australia. A large group of early settlers came from the Kingdom of Prussia^[1] fleeing religious persecution.

Source <http://guides.slsa.sa.gov.au/immigration/>

[1] The first mass migration of German nationals occurred in 1838.

THE EARLY FAMILIES



In 1839, only four years after assisted immigration to South Australia commenced, members of the extended Risely clan were the first of the families to arrive in Australia. In that year Stocker Risely junior, the Uncle of Eli Risely (great grandfather of Ted Zeitz (Reid) landed in South Australia from Bedfordshire in England. In 1852 newly married John Crossing with his wife and son George, born on route, from Devonshire, England arrived in Port Adelaide. Early in 1853 Eli Risely, baker and publican, and his family arrived to be followed later in 1853 by Ernst Zeitz a miner from Clausthal, Hannover (now Germany).

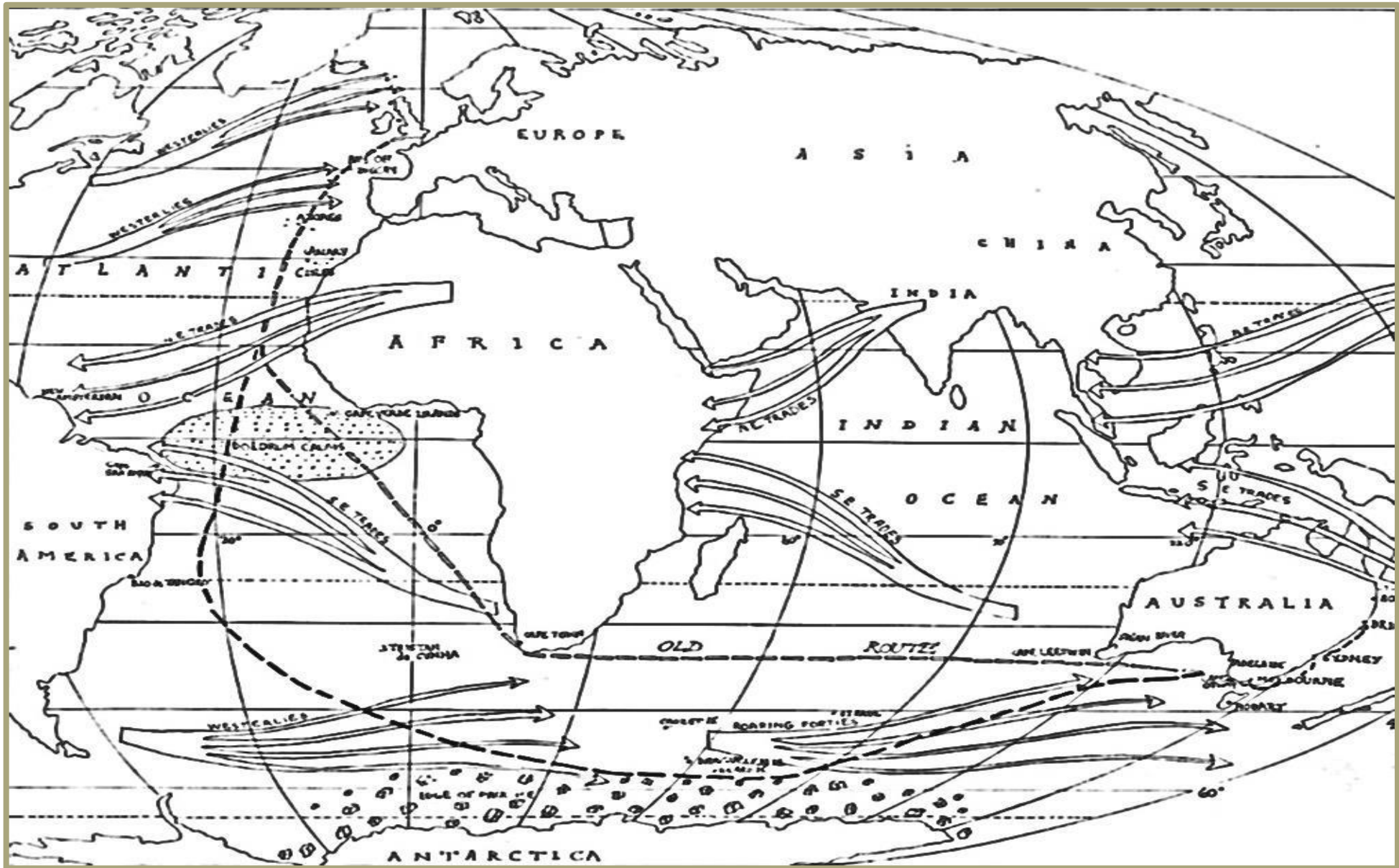
The Risely family were from the lower middle class of rural Bedfordshire, with several members of the extended family working as bakers. This commercial background facilitated their start in business when they eventually migrated to South Australia particularly as more members of the family arrived. It also gave them an elevated position in society when they arrived in the colony. They lived and worked around the city of Adelaide or its environs.

Robert Crossing was also from the lower middle class, a shoemaker in the working, dirty and crowded port city of Devon/Stonehouse and was living in a crowded boarding house before marrying and moving to South Australia. The Crossing family only began to advance its fortunes with the Australian born children of Robert and Mary becoming local identities in the Broken Hill area as butchers and station owners.

Ernst Zeitz was from a mining community in turmoil both politically and industrially as the ore in the Harz Mountains began to get harder to extract. He probably spoke little, if any English when he arrived in South Australia and he, like the Crossings, came unsupported by other family.

The Risely, Crossing and Zeitz families who arrived in Australia, came to what they hoped was a new life of opportunity unavailable to them in their respective homelands. Their backgrounds were varied but their tenacity and eventually love of their new country enabled them to settle and raise families which are spread across Australia today. Generations later the surnames are many and varied but they trace their roots back to the first half of the 19th century when their Risely, Crossing and Zeitz antecedents crossed oceans to settle in South Australia. Their trip entailed an often stormy 3 to 4 month sea trip by sailing boat which passed close to Antarctica and the danger of icebergs and then to Australia

These early migrant families were joined by the Irish, Mailey family who settled in York, Western Australia. They arrived in 1908 from Renfrewshire, Scotland after moving there from Limervaddy Ireland. Then finally by the Charlesworth line in 1950 when Colin Frederick Charlesworth arrived from Sheffield, England. Today migrants still continue to be a part of the modern family as Australia draws people from all parts of the world to its shores.



Route from Europe to Australia in the 1850s

THE CROSSING FAMILY –ARRIVAL PORT ADELAIDE 1852



ROBERT GEORGE CROSSING

In 1801, at the time of the first census of the area, Plymouth was really 3 towns. Plymouth old town had a population of 19,000. Devonport had 23,000 and had outgrown the original town and Stonehouse had a population of 3,407.

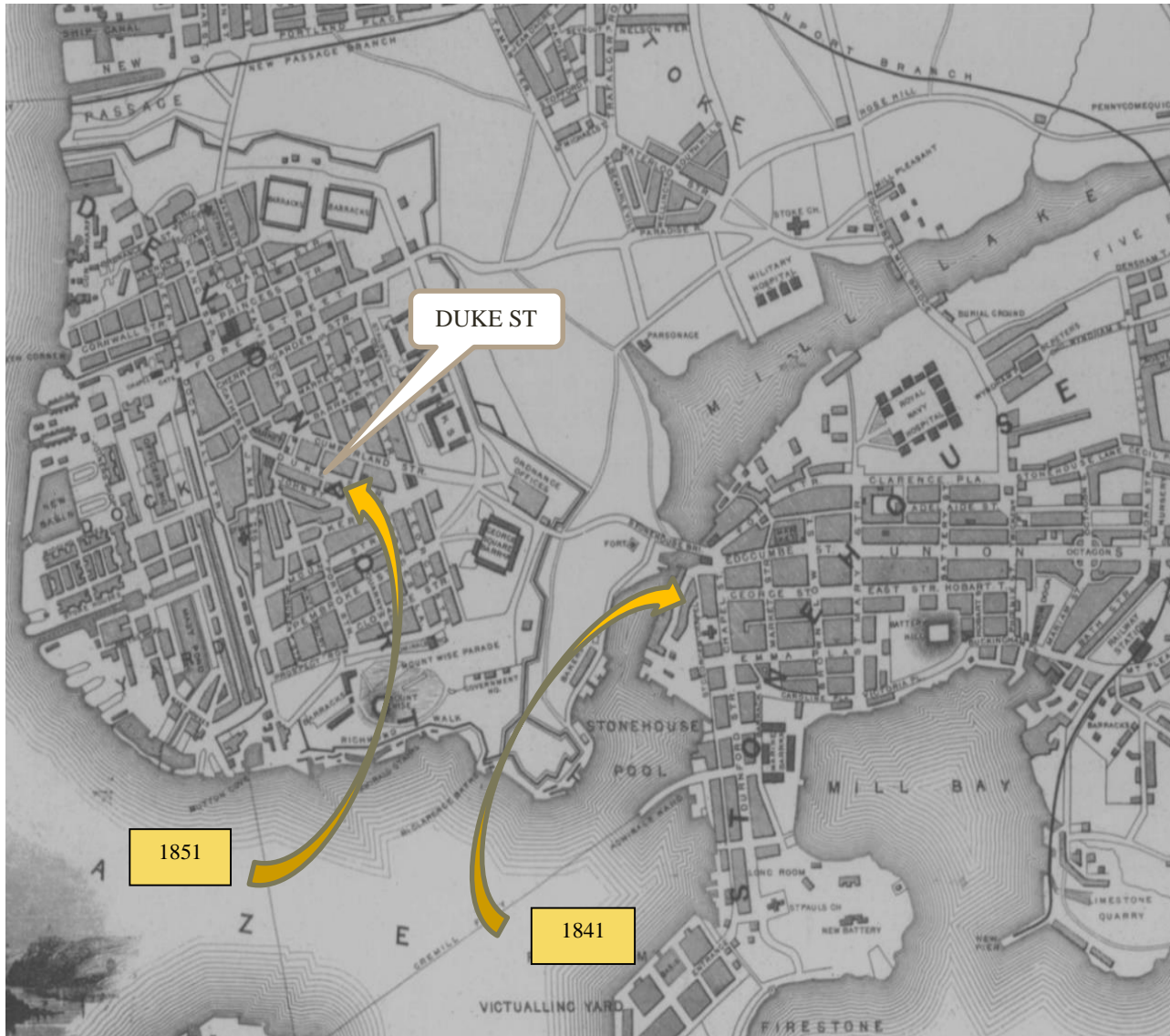
By 1851 Plymouth had almost 53,000 people, Devonport had 38,000 and Stonehouse had nearly 12,000. Plymouth Sound was a major port and the departure point of many historic sea voyages, some affecting Australian history, including the First voyage of James Cook in 1768 aboard HMS Endeavour and that of Admiral William Bligh aboard HMS Bounty in 1789

The first modern British Census taken on the 6th of June 1841, showed the family of John and Mary Crossing living in Newport Street, East Stonehouse, Plymouth. Robert Crossing (7) was listed as the youngest of his children at that time with three older siblings William (15)^[1], Mary (10) and Jane (8). The same census also shows John Crossing's father-in-law and mother-in-law, Joseph and Philadelphia Elliott living further along Newport Street. Staying with Joseph and Philadelphia on the night of the census was 10 year old John Crossing, possibly another sibling or cousin of Robert.

In this census also Jane Kestell and her daughter Mary are listed living with Mark Jewell^[2] and his family in Duke Street, Stoke Damerel. It is assumed that this is a close relative of Jane whose maiden name was Jewell.

[1] In the 1841 census ages were rounded to each 5 year. William could have been any age been between 13 and 17 at the time.

[2] Variouslly spelt Jewill, Jewel and Jewell.



MAP OF PLYMOUTH (1840) SHOWING ROBERT CROSSING'S LOCATIONS AT CENSUS TIME.

There was a severe shortage of housing in Plymouth as it grew and overcrowding was a severe problem. In 1850 the average number of people living in each house in Britain was 5 but in Plymouth it was 10! This overcrowding may have contributed to a cholera epidemic in 1832 which killed 1031 people and another in 1849 which killed 1894 people. The crowded conditions however were to bring two particular young people together.

In the next national census, taken on the 31 March, 1851, 19 years old Robert Crossing was listed as a labourer still living with his parents John and Mary and 4 younger siblings, Mary (17), Joseph (9), Tamzin (7) and Louise (3), but now at 52 Duke Street, Stoke Damerel, Plymouth. In the same boarding house, was dressmaker Jane Kestell and her daughter, 16 years old Mary Ann Kestell, listed as a milliner. Mary and her mother seem to have been living in Duke Street at least since being listed in the 1841 census. No mention is made however in either the 1841 or 1851 census of Jane's husband, George.

Nature wove its spell and Robert and Mary were married on the 24th of November 1851, at the Stoke Damerel parish church. Their marriage entry lists Robert as a shoemaker and his father as a mason. Mary's occupation is not listed but her father is listed as a servant and this may be why he is not mentioned on the census as he may have worked away; or he may have been deceased or estranged.

Then on the 29th May 1852, newlyweds Robert and pregnant Mary left Plymouth on board the ship Omega bound for South Australia as assisted immigrants. Three months later on the 24th of August 1852, the Omega with Robert and his wife Mary arrived in Port Adelaide, South Australia with baby son George Robert, born on route just before landing and registered as 22th August 1852 (just 9 months after the wedding). Five other births and six deaths also occurred during the voyage.



THE OMEGA

Where Robert and Mary first lived after arriving in South Australia is not known for sure but Robert resumed his trade as a shoemaker as the '*Cyclopaedia of South Australia (1907)*', credits Robert with making the first pair of pegged boots^[1] in South Australia.

John Crossing, Robert and Mary's second child was born in just over one year after John and Mary arrived in Australia, and is listed in some records as being born at Kapunda, approximately 70 kms north of Adelaide. The births of the next seven children other than Joseph (Gilbert district) are officially registered as Burra. Registration of birth does not necessarily indicate place of birth however, and it seems the family was actually residing in the area around Black Springs in the Hundred^[2] of Stanley, approximately 130km north of Adelaide for all of that time. This is listed in records from the *Broken Hill Family History Group Inc* as the birth place of William (1856*) (and perhaps Robert Jr in 1855*), Joseph (1858**), Edward (1859*), Henry (1860*), Mark (1861*), Edwin (1865) and Alfred (1868).

* Died in Infancy or childhood ** Unmarried

[1] A high quality crafted method of joining the sole to the boot using small wooden pegs driven in from underneath and then smoothed off inside the boot, still used on some boots today.

[2] A Hundred is an historical name from England for a land administrative division. It may originally have meant an area of land required to provide 100 men-at-arms or perhaps to contain 100 houses.

Robert Crossing is first mentioned in Australian documentation in the 1859 *South Australian Government Gazette* among a group of petitioners who were owners or occupiers of land in the Hundred² of Stanley. They were asking that the area be declared a district and they be allowed to form a district council. This appeal was subsequently dismissed. Robert is mentioned again in the *Government Gazette* in 1868 with other owners in the District of Stanley, opposing a petition from owners and occupiers of land in the Hundred of Waterloo, south of Stanley, who wanted to annex part of Stanley into their district. This seems to confirm the family's location for that period; as the Black Springs settlement was in the Stanley District on the border of the Burra District.

Some time after the birth of Alfred in 1868 the family moved from Black Springs to Willaston/Gawler 35 kms north of Adelaide. The five younger children were all born there although registered in various surrounding districts (Arthur 1871, Charles 1873, unnamed stillborn child 1874, Mary Jane 1876 and Jane 1878*). George appears to have followed in his father's footsteps to start his career, as a George Crossing is listed as a shoemaker at Bertha, Gawler in the *Adelaide Almanack* (sic) from 1865 to 1870. This may seem a bit odd in that George would have been only 13 in 1865 and his parents were still living in Black Springs.

Starting work at an early age was not unusual in that time however, so he may have been an apprentice or tradesman working for one of the many boot makers in Gawler? It could have been that Robert was using his middle name as his common name and it was in fact Robert. A George Crossing is also mentioned in the *South Australian Government Gazette* of February 20th 1868 as an 'inhabitant' and 'landowner' in the district of Black Springs, although no records exist for a land purchase by any Crossing prior to Robert Crossing buying Pt lot 22, Willaston. More detective work required here.

* Died in Infancy or childhood

No 18.



Kitchen. Paines Hotel. Gumwoods. Capt Cadell's Store.

The township consists at present of one hotel,
one store, a kitchen, and two native huts.

Minindie. Oct: 15. ⁶⁰,
bearing E. by. S.

L. Becker.

SKETCH OF MENINDEE

BY L. BECKER 1860

In 1872 when he was 19 years old, John Crossing moved to New South Wales near Silverton. According to his obituary in the *Barrier Miner* of 13th June, 1925 he initially worked as a well sinker on Corona Station north of Silverton where he may have first met his future wife. He then moved to Menindee (spelt Menindie before 1918). This was to begin a long and continuing association with the area around Broken Hill by the Crossing family.

Settlers began to enter the region with news that the Darling was navigable and by 1862 Menindee had a lock-up, a store, a post office, a Pub and a few rough shanties. Its position led Menindee to become the staging point for exploration in to nearby region and the interior beyond, one of which was the ill-fated expedition of Burke and Wills in 1860/61.

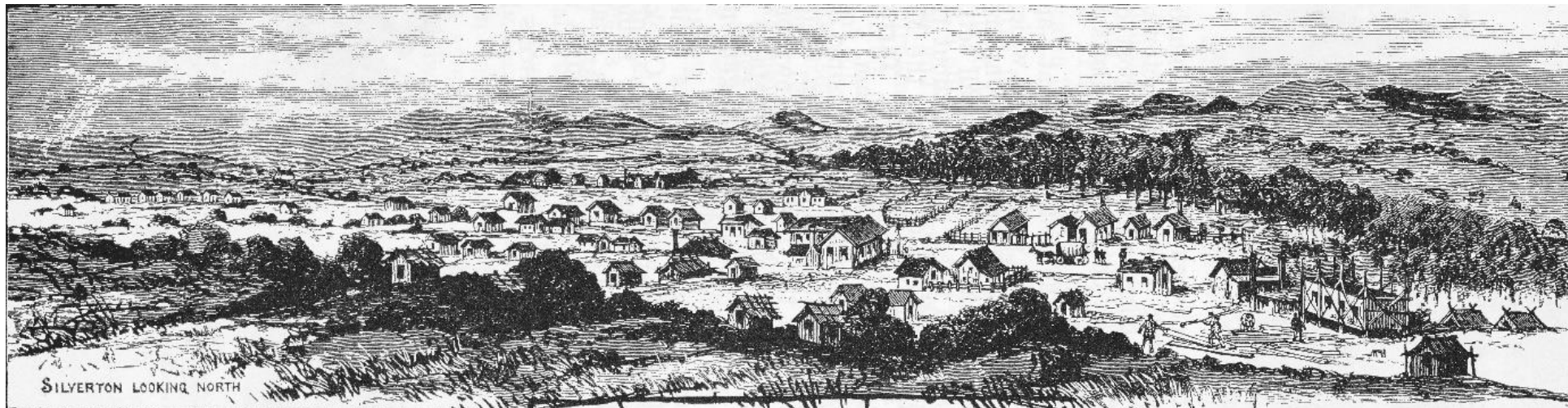
South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail (Adelaide, SA : 1868 - 1881) about | Saturday 17 August 1878

L I M E. L I M E. L I M E.
L After having made repeated alterations to our New Kilns, we have succeeded in being able to supply the **BEST QUALITY LIME** at a **REDUCED RATE.** Contractors and Builders can be supplied with Truck Load or any quantity, to any Station on the North Line, at the shortest possible notice.
 We contemplate making further improvements, to be able to supply at a cheaper rate for Agricultural purposes.
HARVEY & CROSSING,
LIMEBURNERS,
WILLASTON.
 August 15, 1878. x229-43

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF LIME
 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CHRONICLE AND
 WEEKLY, August 17, 1878

In 1873, George followed John and according to his obituary in the *Barrier Miner* of 12th April 1920, took up contract work on Mount Gibson Station before going shearing. He then returned to Gawler some time prior to 1876. In 1876 Robert purchased Pt Lot 22 at Willaston (North Gawler) on which he built a lime kiln which was eventually operated by his son George. Robert's occupation on the Certificate of Title transfer is shown as Limeburner. Design of the Crossing Lime Kiln was unique at the time and warranted a mention in *The Gawler Handbook*, published in 1880. "Mr G. Crossing's lime burning establishment is very unique. The kilns are very substantial buildings of brick, the walls being four feet thick and 90 feet long. The kilns are constructed upon Mr Crossing's own plan, and there is nothing like them in the colony. They are divided into three compartments, and can turn out immense quantities of lime. Being built on the side of a hill they put the wood and limestone in from the back, and the lime is taken out at the bottom or lower side. This saves a great deal of labour, as the kiln discharges itself. The permanent kiln is a huge affair capable of burning 1,000 bushels of lime at a time."

George married Elizabeth Perry in Adelaide in 1877 and they had five children, all registered in the Barossa District (Sidney 1877; Charles 1878; Jane 1880; John 1882; George Jnr 1884). Newspaper advertisements and *South Australian Directory* entries indicate he was engaged in the lime burning industry until at least the early 1880s. His obituary (*Barrier Miner* 12th April 1920) states that he returned to Silverton in 1885 and started business as a butcher which he continued until he retired a year before his death in 1920. He and Elizabeth had a further six children while living in Silverton (Martha 1886; Louisa 1889; William 1891; Alfred 1893; Stella 1895; Elizabeth 1898).



SILVERTON LOOKING NORTH

AUSTRALIAN SKETCHER, May 25, 1884

John Crossing also married in 1877, to Elizabeth Crawford of Corona Station. They married in Kooringa (Burra) in South Australia, but the births of their first two children (Ellen 1880; Mary 1882) are registered in Menindee (110 kms SE of Broken Hill), New South Wales with the next five (Sarah 1886; Ethel 1888; Ada 1890; Frederick 1892; Walter 1894) all registered in Silverton (25kms NW of Broken Hill) so it appears that he went back to live in the Menindee area directly after his marriage.

John displayed an entrepreneurial spirit which was to be evident in his continuing life's story. While in Menindee he and two confederates found themselves in trouble with the law in 1880, when he was arrested and fined 30 pounds for illegally selling spirits. He also applied for a cattle brand in that year and it appears he was running cattle on Corona Station at that time – perhaps with his father-in-law.

John moved from Menindee to Silverton in 1884 and started a butcher's business there. In 1885 his brother George arrived from Gawler to re-join him. This business was eventually to become well known as Crossing Brothers Butchers. After George arrived in Silverton, John returned to an earlier interest and opened The Nectar Brewery^[1] on the north bank of the Umberumberka Creek while continuing with his butchering. In 1888/9 he imported a tin ore crushing plant from Gawler which was used at and around the Albion Town mine (*South Australian Register* 14th Feb 1889). This was sold to a mining company in 1890 before the tin ore began to run out a few years later. The rest of the Crossing family was gradually also making the move to Silverton and Broken Hill.

FOR SALE, cheap, Hairdressing and
Tobacconist's BUSINESS in good
position, Patton-street, South Broken
Hill, doing good business. Apply at
once to A. CROSSING, Fruiterer,
Patton-street.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF ARTHUR
CROSSING'S BUSINESS
BARRIER MINER, February 8, 1892

Different sources seem to indicate slightly different timing for the arrival of the next Crossings, Edwin, Alfred, Arthur and Charles on the Barrier. *The Cyclopedea of South Australia (1907)* cites Alfred arriving in 1884 and Arthur arriving when he was 15 that is in 1886. In "*The Paddocks Beneath*" by Elizabeth Warburton, Arthur's son Ron is quoted saying "They put 'em in an old buggy with an old horse, handed up a bag of biscuits and set them on their way". This would suggest more than one left together. It may be that the two younger boys Arthur and Charles may have gone with Edwin to join John and Alfred. When Edwin arrived is not known for sure but he married Ethel Heath in Silverton in 1888 so was probably there for some time before this and so a move in 1886 is possible. Edward and Ethel returned to South Australia (probably

Black Springs) as their first child's birth in 1889 is registered at Burra.

short New Year's tale.

DEATHS.

CROSSING —On 11th December, at Sil-
verton (N.S.W.), accidentally drowned,
Mary Ann, the beloved wife of Robert
Crossing. Only daughter of G. and J.
Kestell, late of Willaston.

DEATH NOTICE OF MARY ANN CROSSINGS
THE BUNYIP (GALWER), December 20, 1889

The Cyclopedea of South Australia (1907) goes on to state that within a year of arriving, in NSW, Arthur was operating his own business selling fruit and by 1888 he was "hawking clothing, fancy goods, etc., with a van and four horses through the Western District of New South Wales to Queensland." It also states that in 1890 he joined his brother (assumed to be Alfred) in the butchering trade before taking over the Broken Hill store. The Crossing brothers were each involved in more than one business before concentrating on butchering and Arthur sold his Hairdressing and Tobacconist's business in 1891 after he joined Crossing Brothers Butchers. The remainder of the Crossing family had moved to Silverton at some time between 1886 and 1889 except for Edwin. Mary's mother, Jane Kestell, had also come to South Australia to help Mary with the children. Her arrival date is about 1859 while the family was at Black Springs, and she moved to Silverton with them. She died there in

1898. Evidence of her date of arrival and movements however, is still not located. So for the first time since John left Gawler for Menindee in 1872, the family were together again.

[1] Later the Union Barrier Brewing Company in 1888.

Sadly it was not long before tragedy struck, as on the 11th December 1889 Mary Ann was tragically drowned. An article in the *Sydney Evening News* of 14th December reports that Mary's body was found face down in a shallow waterhole at the rear of her house. A bucket was found on the bank and it was assumed that Mary, who is reported as suffering from epilepsy, had a fit while attempting to collect water and drowned.

The character of the five older Crossing brothers was becoming more evident now. George appeared the most conservative and settled of the four older brothers – a typical oldest child. He had followed John to Silverton but returned to Gawler and the family soon after, married and remained there until the family all started to relocate to "The Barrier". John on the other hand, was in to every enterprise he thought could improve his prospects. From his early turn at illegally selling spirits, to butcher, hotelier, brewer, municipal council member, speculator, tin crushing plant owner and back to butcher. When Crossing family members were mentioned in newspaper articles it was more often than not with reference to their relationship to John, so well-known had he become around the area. He was elected to the municipal council in 1893. Edwin, like George is rarely mentioned in newspaper reports or government gazettes of time. He became a butcher like his older brothers and settled in to running a business in Broken Hill. Later Arthur and Alfred were to become synonymous with Crossing Brothers Butchers in Broken Hill and were to take it to its operating peak; before the end of the Great War saw beef prices plummet. They, with George and later Mary, were the Crossing family members who made Broken Hill their home and who were most involved in the community through committees they were on or events they supported.

After their mother died, what happened to the two younger children, Charles and Mary Jane is uncertain. It seems likely that sometime after 1894 Robert went with his daughter to Adelaide. Mary Jane was only 13 at the time of her mother's death but in her wedding notice in the Adelaide papers in 1898 Robert's address is given as Goodwood a suburb of Adelaide adjacent to Unley where she was married. Charles was 16, and unlike his older brothers did not enter the butchering trade but appears to have become a baker. This is listed as his occupation when he eventually moved to Norseman in Western Australia.

In the 1894 Silverton Alphabetical Directory (Householders only), Robert, John and George are listed as speculators with George and John also listed as a butcher and as a miner at the Silverton Flux Quarries respectively. According to an 1894 report in the *Barrier Miner* (23th August 1894) John then left Silverton and went to Coolgardie in Western Australia. He is mentioned in a report on the Menzies and Coolgardie area by a correspondent to the *Barrier Miner* in an article published in January 1895. The article describes a cross country trek John undertook which nearly cost him his life due to his unpreparedness for the outback of Western Australia. It also mentions how hard it was for butchers to make a living on the Coolgardie goldfields and mentions that Jack (John) Crossing is in a syndicate building a brewery at Menzies. So once again John is the trail blazer in family travels.

STILL THEY COME.—Another butcher, Mr. E. Crossing, from Broken Hill, with about 20 head of cattle, delivery cart, &c., has arrived at Norseman.

Crossing arriving in Western Australia in May 1895 and April 1895 respectively and we can assume this is John and Edwin. Early 1895 also saw the expansion of the Crossing Brothers Butchers in Broken Hill as they purchased the butchers firm of L Andrews in March, to give them a shop in both Patten and Mica Streets. In this year they also moved from Mica Street to Argent Street where they took over the premises of Renton and Sons.

A passenger list in The South Australian Register of 20th March 1895 shows a J Crossing leaving from Albany and arriving in Adelaide. It appears that John returned to Silverton and then came back to WA with Edwin. It is difficult to find definite documented proof of this travel date but ship passenger lists have both a J and E

ON and after SATURDAY, Jan. 15 the price of Meat will be as follows:—

	s.	d.
Rump Steak ...	1	0 lb
Beef Steak ...	0	10 lb
Sirloin ...	0	10 lb
Roast Beef ...	0	9 lb
Corn Round ...	0	10 lb
do Beef without bone	0	9 lb
do do with bone	0	7 lb
Sausages ...	0	9 lb
Leg and Loin Mutton	0	8½ lb
Leg Chops ...	0	10 lb
Loin Chops ...	0	9 lb
Fore Quarter Chops ...	0	8 lb
Fore Quarter ...	0	7 lb
Shoulder ...	0	8 lb
Neck and Breast ...	0	6 lb
Sides Mutton ...	0	8 lb

CROSSING & ANDERSON,
BUTCHERS,
Roberts street, Norseman.

John and Edwin stayed in Western Australia for only a short time and by 1896 both had returned from Coolgardie to Broken Hill. John then purchased the Crossing Brothers business in Silverton and Broken Hill from his brothers and Edwin returned to Western Australia with G. B. Anderson as a partner, to open a butcher shop in the new gold town of Norseman. They went to Western Australia together, landing at Esperance on 4th of March 1896 on board the Flinders. Edwin and George had been partners for some time and had purchased land together in 1888 at Yatala, which they sold in 1889 and then purchased lot 52 High Street Waukaringa (now ruins only).

Early in January of 1896 as a precursor of the “bad” luck with fire that was to follow John, his home in Silverton was burnt to the ground luckily 10 days earlier he had left on holiday with his family – probably to Adelaide. The home and contents were insured and he received 300 pounds from the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company.

Norseman Times (WA : 1898 - 1920) about Saturday 8 January 1898

MEAT.
Crossing
AND
Anderson,
Wholesale and Retail Butchers,
ROBERTS ST., NORSEMAN.
Constant supplies of Fresh Mutton and Beef, Sausages, and Small Goods. Miners and Residents waited upon with supplies.

It appears that John and his family then moved to Adelaide after this incident and he and Elizabeth had two more daughters while they were in South Australia, Dorothy, in 1896 and Irene in 1899. In 1897 Crossing Brothers sold their South Broken Hill Store to T. M. Torrington although this was not the end of Crossing Brothers as butchers.

The year 1898 was to be a mixed one for the Crossing family.

In 1896 and 1897 Edwin had been settling in to life and business in Norseman. He was a respected shop keeper and the butcher's shop on Roberts Road, was doing good business. He is mentioned in the local papers attending various functions and events such as the Norseman Masonic Invitational Ball. Edwin's youngest brother Charles arrived from Broken Hill on the ship "Australia" on the 17th April 1898 to join him at Norseman, and commenced work as a baker. Back in Adelaide, Robert and Mary's youngest surviving child, Mary Jane married Frederick James Zeitz an Adelaide butcher from a butchering family.

In September of 1898, Edwin was tragically killed in an accident while delivering meat to the Desirable mine. He was driving his butcher's cart when the horse was startled and bolted. The cart wheel struck a stump and an employee who was on the cart with Edwin was thrown clear. Edwin was holding the reins and was dragged from the cart under one of the wheels which ran over his body. Several of his ribs were broken and his lung was punctured. Initially he seemed to recover but died on the second day after the accident leaving a wife and four children¹. Charles stayed on in Norseman as guardian for the children and represented their cause in a court case to determine what the words in Edwin's Will meant under the law¹. He continued in business in Norseman and raised a son, Noel there.

Sat 6 Jan 1900 / Page 4

**MONDAY, January 8, at 11.
ERSKINE-STREET, GOODWOOD
(Close to Albert-street).**

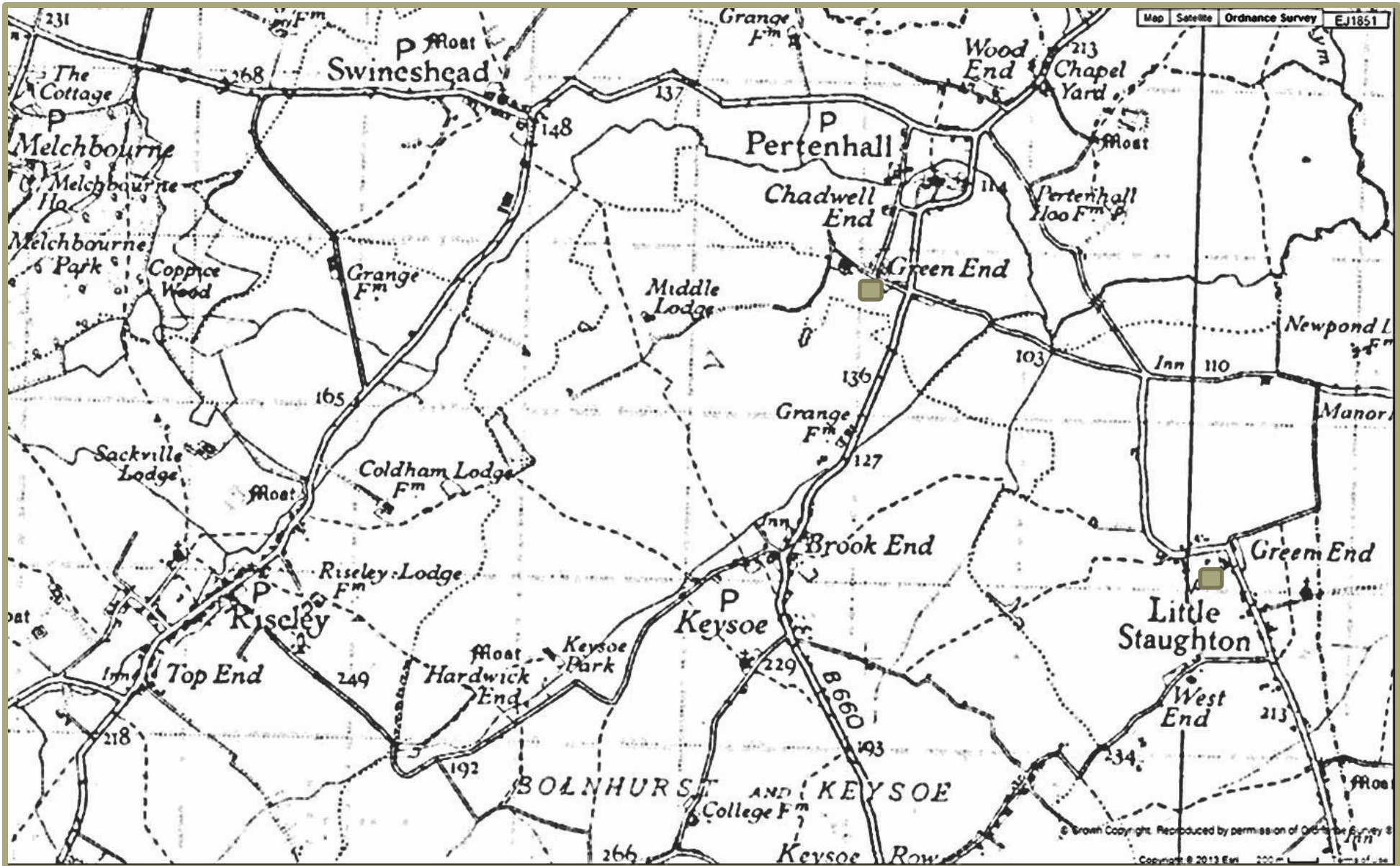
D. W. MELVIN

will sell, for Mrs. John Crossing, who is removing to West Australia—

D.R. SUITE, 9 pieces, Duchess Pair, Harmonium, Chiffonier, Chests of Drawers, Tables, Chairs, Bedsteads, Bedding, Safe, Copper, Wringer, Washing and Cooking Utensils, Crockery, and Household Sundries, &c.

What John did in the years between 1896 and 1900 is uncertain at the moment but we do know that he was residing in Goodwood a suburb of Adelaide and that by 1900 he was back in Coolgardie. In January 1900 his wife sold their household goods in Erskine Street and joined her husband in Western Australia.

¹ see Appendix 1



MAP OF BEDFORDSHIRE SHOWING ELI RISELY'S LOCATIONS AT EACH CENSUS TIME.

<http://www.old-maps.co.uk>

THE RISELY FAMILY – ARRIVAL PORT ADELAIDE 1839

In contrast to the bustling port of Devon, 1800s Bedfordshire was a quieter agrarian community known for its lace making and rush matting. Living in the area was Stocker Risely senior, a rush mat maker and freeman of Northamptonshire, and his wife Elizabeth (Falconer). These were Eli Risely's grandfather and grandmother. It should be noted here that the family surname is at various times spelt Risely, Riseley and Risley.

Stocker senior was born in about 1757 and according to family tradition had been a volunteer in England's volunteer forces in 1803 when a standing army was raised to counter the threat of Napoleon's invasion. Later Stocker's adult children continued to live in the area, where they were all not far from the town of Risely, Bedfordshire from which the surname originates. This Risely family appeared to be some of the early forerunners of the English middle class and were relatively well off. Stocker senior is listed as a freeman on a jury empanelled to hear a case in 1837. He had 12 children (Hannah 1780; Sarah 1782; George 1785; Mary 1787; Ann 1789; William 1791; Ursula 1793; Elizabeth 1796; Stocker 1798; Charlotte 1799; Stocker 1801; and John 1805)¹. The three surviving younger sons William (Eli's father), Stocker (junior) and John were eventually to make their home in Australia.

The State Library of South Australia, passenger list data, shows that on the 25th February 1839, Eli's uncle, 37 year old Stocker Risely junior, his wife Margaret (nee Deane) and their three children Elizabeth, Sarah and Clara, arrived in Port Adelaide on board the three masted, 335 ton *Thomas Harrison*. Elizabeth, a dairymaid is listed separately probably because at 14 she was considered an adult. Stocker quickly found work and entered a partnership with Robert Thornber in a biscuit and bakery business. This was however dissolved in May of the same year. Two years later in the rare, surviving 1841 South Australian Census, Stocker and his family are listed living in Albert Town². In 1843 he is listed in the *South Australian Directory* as a baker still living in Albert Town.

That same year Stocker was running a store and inn called the Half Way House on the Port Road and had been granted a General Publican's Licence. The name of the store and hotel indicates its location on the main road between Port Adelaide, where immigrants landed, and Adelaide City - no doubt a busy and lucrative location. He continued there until he relinquished his licence to Henry Chandler, in 1850. It seems he had continued with his trade as a baker while running the store and is listed in the *South Australian Almanac & Directory 1845* with that occupation.

¹ From family tree information from Ray Risely, Adelaide. South Australia.

² Later Alberton.

Stocker's younger brother, John Risely and his family followed some time later. It was after 1843 as John's youngest son William was born in Pavenham in about 1843. In the 1841 English Census John is listed living in the Parish of St Sepulchre Northamptonshire and his occupation is also shown as baker. A further entry in this Census is for William and Mary (nee Morris) Risely and three children living at Mill Street Pavenham, Bedfordshire. It is likely that this is Stocker and John's older brother and Eli's father.

In this same census, Eli, William's eldest son, and his wife Elizabeth are recorded as living at Green End Pertenhall, Bedfordshire and with Eli's occupation listed as a baker. Something of a family occupation it seems.

Important to Parties looking out for a
SUPERIOR
FARM AND DWELLING.
ONLY THREE AND A HALF MILES FROM TOWN.
E. SOLOMON & CO.,
Are authorised by Mr Risely, who is leaving for Europe, to Let on a Lease for three or five years—
THAT Splendid Section, under cultivation, No. 434, on the Port Road, adjoining Mr F. Lines's, at the rear of the Halfway-House, on which is erected a splendid Six-roomed Cottage, newly-finished Granary, Stabling, Stockyards, Figgery, and a two-roomed Servants' Cottage; the whole substantially fenced and under cultivation.
On this Land is sufficient manure to last all next season, in fact it is, without exception, one of the very best chances ever offered for any gentleman on the look-out for a snug and comfortable home, combining, as it does, the advantages of being very near town and equi-distant from the Port, with 80 acres of the finest alluvial soil, and every convenience to pop into with a family, and commence farming without the outlay of a fraction. Apply to
E. SOLOMON & CO.,
City Auction Mart.

STOCKER RISELY LEASES HIS LAND
THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
FRIDAY 31ST January 1851

Back in South Australia, Stocker's enterprise prospered and he is listed throughout the 1840s in the Adelaide newspapers as receiving imports of various goods. He did so well in fact that in 1847 the store was held up by armed burglars. The crime was widely reported in the South Australian newspapers of the time and although minor details vary the accounts generally tally. The burglars William Dayton and Edward Price were eventually captured, tried, convicted of the crime and sentenced to fifteen years transportation (presumably to Van Diemen's Land).

In 1851 Stocker auctioned all his goods and leased out his substantial property and on 26th February on board the *Sophia Moffat*, returned to England to visit his relatives. When Stocker Risely arrived in England (late May or early June), he supposedly met with his extended family for a celebration which was mentioned in the local newspapers and according to family tradition was given money to help him in Australia. Research is still needed however to confirm these details.

By 1849 Eli had changed his occupation from baker to that of a Beer House keeper. In that year he applied for a spirit licence also but this was refused. The 1851 census shows Eli and Elizabeth Risely and their two young daughters Sarah and Clarah, having moved from Pertenhall and now living at Meeting End, Little Staughton in Bedfordshire. In this census Eli had his occupation listed as a publican. Eli's parents were still living in Pavenham but now at Duke's Lodge where his father, William was farming six acres. Living with William and his wife Mary is their youngest son George and his wife Mary.



THE BURY

PAVENHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE

The cottage had at one time been the lodge at one of the entrance roads to 'The Bury' a large country manor house. Tradition also has it that Duke's Lodge was a sort of 'Half way House' where the Dukes of Kent, on their way between their properties, changed their horses. Presumably it was some sort of Inn or Posting House originally. Only a barn is left standing on the site now.

Details of Stocker's return to Australia or what his brother John in South Australia, was doing while he was away are sketchy. What we do know though is that whatever tales Stocker had to tell of life in the colonies, it was enough to convince his older brother William with his wife Mary (nee Morris) and their three sons Eli, William Stocker junior and George and their families to migrate to South Australia. All that is known about the arrival of William and his family comes from reports in the local South Australian newspapers and assumptions made from published passenger lists and that various reports show they were all in Australia by 1853.



THE ROYAL MAIL SHIP CALCUTTA IN A HURRICANE OFF MAURITIUS
DRAWN BY A PASSENGER

It is only from a mention in the obituary for Sarah Zeitz (nee Risely) that we know that aged eight, she arrived in South Australia with her parents, Eli, and Elizabeth and her younger sister Clarah on board the ship Calcutta on 4th February, 1853. No Risely name appears however on the Calcutta passenger list published on 5th February, 1853 in The Adelaide Register newspaper. There are though, six Rixley passengers and it is possible that this is a transcription error and it is Eli, his wife and two daughters and Eli's parents. Enquiries so far suggest that the Captain's passenger list was probably not handed in when it docked and the English departure list was destroyed c1910.

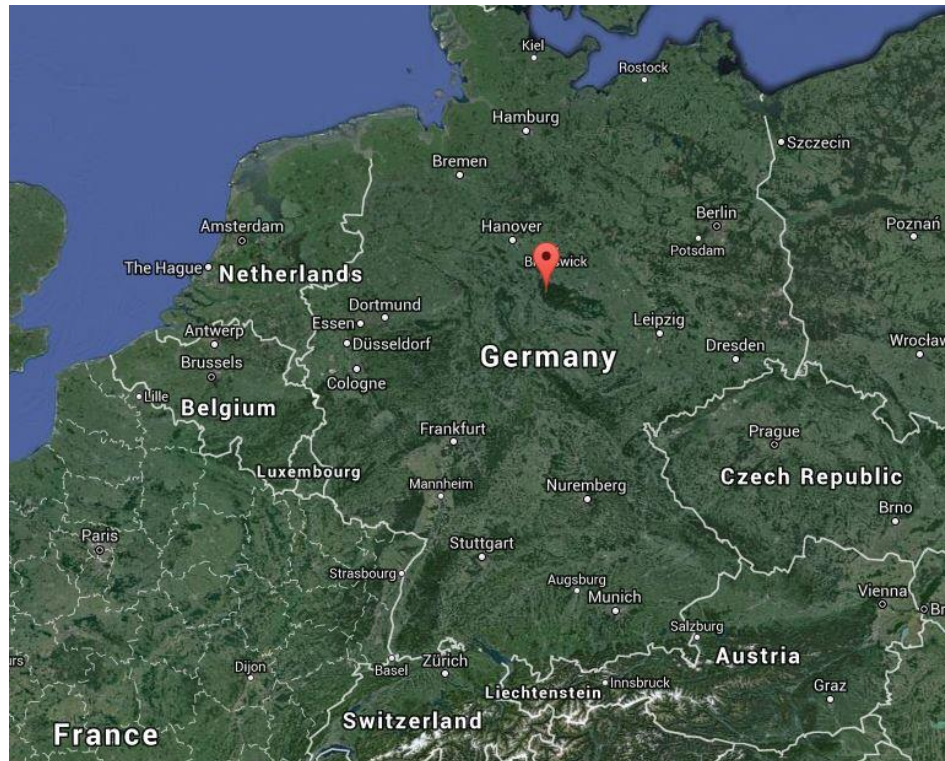
Eli was the oldest of four brothers one deceased as an infant or child. A baptismal record for an Eli Risely shows him being baptised in 1820 at Oakley in Bedfordshire and the parents are shown as William and Mary Risely. This fits with what we know and seems likely to be a record of Eli's Baptism. He married Elizabeth Scrubby in 1843 and is listed in the 1851 English Census with two daughters, Sarah and Clarah (sic). When he came to Australia in 1853 he was followed in the same year, by his two surviving younger brothers, William Stocker Risely and George Risely and also by their parents William and Mary (nee Morris) Risely. His ship's arrival was preceded by a number of newspaper reports in the *South Australian Register 1853* regarding its passengers, for as well as the assisted immigrants, the Calcutta had on board a contingent of 54 Pauper Immigrants including 11 children. Pauper Immigrants were sponsored by parishes in England and this was used as a way to clear poorhouses of occupants and therefore the parish's obligation to care for them. They were not welcomed in South Australia as it was felt that they were not quality immigrants.

Eli's brother George is listed with his wife and infant son arriving at Port Adelaide on board the *Caucasian* on 25th April 1853. When his other brother William Stocker arrived is unknown at the moment other than it was some time in 1853. George Risely is shown as having signed a petition to deepen Port Adelaide Harbour (signed twice) in April 1853, which was recorded in the *South Australian Government Gazette* as presented to the Lieutenant Governor on 21st April 1853. Eli and his uncle John Risely are also listed as having signed the petition.

It looks likely that Eli begun business in his new home as a baker, his primary occupation in Bedfordshire before he emigrated. An article in the *Adelaide Times* in October 1856, reported Eli being fined "...5s and the cost of information" after he removed his horse without permission, from being impounded. This article also lists his occupation as baker so he may have performed that role, at least early in his life in South Australia. The offence occurred at The Reed Beds where his uncle Stocker was engaged in farming and Eli may have resided there after settling in to his new home. Another article in the *Adelaide Times* on November 1856 reported that Eli and his wife, along with a William Cole were each fined 10 shillings for allowing goats to stray. The offence like the one above is listed in the Port Adelaide Police Court so it can be assumed he was still residing at The Reed Beds and was starting to run livestock.

An article, this time in the *South Australian Chronicle* in August 1862 reports that he and Ernst Zeitz were granted 5 pounds to construct a bridge over the Bremer River near Nairne and it appears that he had settled in this area as a man on the land. Four years later Ernst would marry Sarah Risely, Eli's oldest daughter.

ZEITZ FAMILY – PORT ADELAIDE 1853



“In 1848, the Ministry of Finance in Hanover and the local authorities in the Harz had decided that in order to improve the economic situation of the region, emigrations should be encouraged... The predominant industry in the Harz had always been mining. By the late 18th century, the government owned mines experienced economic difficulties... (and) by the middle of the 19th century everybody expected the mines to close within the next decade or two. Not only had the actual mining process become difficult and costly, some special working conditions had developed in the region over the centuries. For example, miners were generally not discharged, even if less work was available. Free medical attention, unemployment benefits and pensions for retired miners, their widows and for orphans made mining in the Harz costly, even though the sum paid each individual was very small. Furthermore, the population rose from 25,008 in 1825 to 30,173 in 1846 - an increase of more than 20% - leading to higher expenses in poor relief etc.

In order to finance the emigrations, the government decided to grant financial aid as an interest-free loan. Therefore, the authorities were looking for a place where emigrants could earn good wages, since this would enable them to pay back the loan quickly. South Australia, with its recently discovered Burra Mine, seemed to fit the bill, especially since letters from emigrants already in South Australia were favourable. Finally, the consul of the Kingdom of Hanover to South Australia, Mr C. L. Meyer, was in Bremen at the time the decision was made. His offer to help the emigrants, his description of South Australia, as well as his willingness to collect the interest-free loans for a small provision, helped sway the local authorities. On 8 August 1848, public notices were put up. In them it was explained that anybody interested in migrating to South Australia could apply for financial aid. Information on the climate, average wages and cost of living was also provided. Within a few weeks, more than 700 people indicated their willingness to leave – eventually reduced to 300.

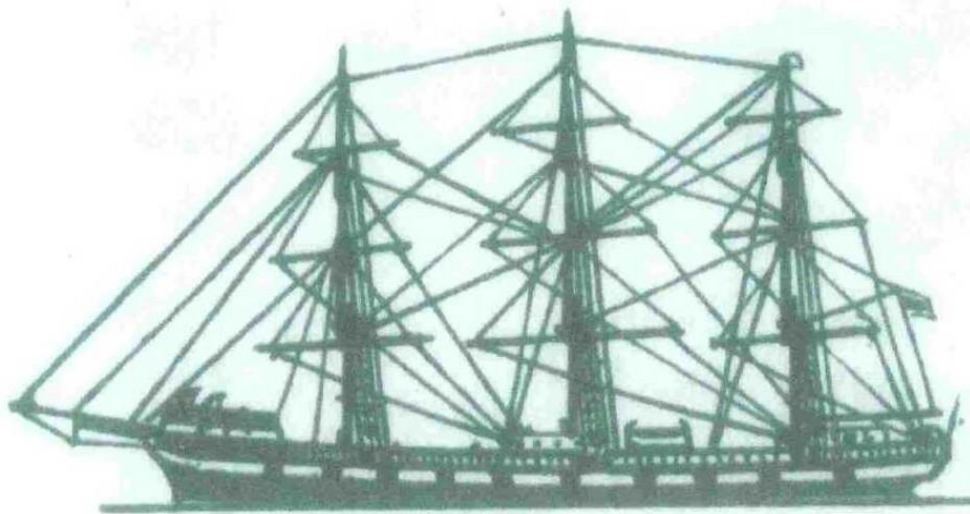
Fourteen groups left the Harz between 1848 and 1854, the largest consisting of 246 emigrants and the smallest of 8. All emigrations followed the same pattern. After the emigrant had received a positive answer to his application, often only four to six weeks prior to departure, he started preparing for emigration. This usually included making or buying new clothing... as well as getting the necessary papers, i.e. passport, certificate of birth etc., ready. On the day of departure, everybody would assemble at a pre-arranged spot and then walk or drive to Vienenburg, a distance of roughly 20 kilometres. There they would spend the night, and early the next morning board the train for the day-long trip to either Bremerhaven or Hamburg. At the train-station they would be met by the shipping agent, who had already arranged their accommodation. The next morning they would go to see the British Ambassador, and there sign a statement to the effect that they had received a certain amount of money as an interest-free loan, which they would pay back within three or four years of their arrival in Australia. After that they boarded the ship and sailed in the next few days.

The voyage itself was generally uneventful, taking 100 to 120 days. In Port Adelaide, the Harz emigrants would be met by Consul Meyer or his partner Bernard Noltenius. They would help sort out any problems, at times handing out money to truly needy emigrants, remind them that they would have to pay back their loans, and, most importantly, would try to provide them with jobs. Usually, all were employed within a week of their arrival.

The Harz emigrants quickly migrated all over South Australia and Victoria. Initially, most seem to have moved to and worked at the Burra mine, but within a few years the majority had taken up farming or had returned to their old trades... The discovery of gold lured many to Victoria, and a number of families settled there permanently... Only two people left Australia again - one going to California, the other returning to the Harz. Most families might not have become rich instantly, but they were better off than in Germany.

The reasons why the government stopped supporting emigrations are fairly simple. By 1855, more than 2000 inhabitants had left the Harz for overseas countries, several hundred for German towns. The local authorities feared a lack of workers, and by 1855 girls and women were offered employment in the mines, something usually not done in the Harz. The second reason is the fact that only a very few of the migrants paid back the money they had received. Altogether, the Ministry of Finance spend 72,000 Thaler during the six years and received 2,500 Thaler back. Considering the time and trouble expended in trying to get the loans repaid, the authorities decided that the money so far being given to emigrants would be better spent in trying to improve the situation in the Harz." *South Australian Genealogist* 20:2 (April 1993)

German miners and political and religious refugees were quick to take advantage of developments in the early Australian colonies. Miners went first to South Australia to the copper mines there and then in the 1850s many went on to the Victorian goldfields to try their luck. Many Germans were involved in the Eureka Stockade uprising and of the 30 men who were killed in the uprising, three were German miners.



A LINE DRAWING OF THE "STEINWARDER" A 3 MASTED BARQUE OF 320 TONS. THE DEUTSCHLAND CLASS BARQUE BUILT BY G.C. GODEFFREY AND SON. REIHERSTIEG, HAMBURG IN 1848.

On Saturday the 17th of September 1853, the 258 ton barque Steinwarder arrived in Port Adelaide, South Australia. On board were 130 passengers mostly from the twin mining towns of Clausthal and Zellerfeldt, in the Harz Mountains in Hanover, now central northern Germany. One of the miners on board was 18 year old, ore sorter, Ernst Carl August Zeitz (later anglicised to Ernest Charles August Zeitz). He was accompanied on the voyage by many other young men from the area bringing their mining skills to copper mines in the new colony of South Australia.

Little is currently known for sure about where Ernest Zeitz lived or what work he carried on, when he first arrived or for the following nine years. It can be assumed with his background that it was at least for a start, in the copper mines around Adelaide. What little can be gleaned comes from newspaper reports of the time.

An interesting side note is the arrival of an August Friedrich Wilhelm Zeitz at Port Adelaide on 1st January 1855, aboard the Johann Caesar, the same name as Ernst's oldest brother. This would seem to indicate that Ernst found had enough to recommend South Australia to his family. No further information can be found on an August Zeitz, but several accounts in newspapers over a number of years, and the Government Gazette in Victoria mention a Fritz, Fretz and Frederick Zeitz about this time. He appears to have been in court a number of times over that period, where he has been involved in fights, on the Victorian goldfields and generally they were involving a knife. Various newspaper reports also mention him working claims on the goldfields. This Zeitz died in 1878 in Victoria with an estate valued at 14 pounds and sixteen shillings. It appears he had no family as, in sad footnote to his death, his personal effects were sold at public auction (The Age July 29th, 1879).

Whether this was Ernest's oldest brother or not is unknown for sure but it is probable that it was. If he was Ernst's brother he may have stopped at Port Adelaide to see his brother before moving to the Victorian Goldfields as many other German miners were doing and where there was also a large German immigrant population.

The first mention of Ernest is in 1862 when he and Eli Risely, his future father-in-law petitioned for money to build a footbridge in Bremer across to Ingles' Pound and they are granted five pounds to carry out the work. The article indicates that he was probably a neighbour of, or working with Eli. From this information it appears that Ernest already knew the Risely family for several years before he and Eli's daughter Sarah were married and that he had left mining (if indeed he ever was involved in mining) for farming.

It is also reported that in 1865, Ernest was a founding and active member and office bearer of the Ebenezer Tent of the South Australian District of Rechabites at Harrogate, a Temperance Society. From this information it appears he was residing and working or farming around the copper mines in the Harrogate, Nairne and Callington triangle.

Ernest was certainly living at Bremer, when he and Sarah Ann Risely were married in the Primitive Methodist Congregation Rite, on the 12th of September 1866. The wedding took place at Eli Risely's residence, noted as at '*Bremer near Nairne*' (now known as Callington) a small town adjacent to the Bremer Copper Mine ¹.

Ernest and Sarah stayed in the Nairne District for some time after their marriage as their first two children were born there (Clara Elizabeth 1867 and Herbert William 1869). The rest however were registered at Port Adelaide (Hermann Ernest 1871, Adolf Arthur 1873, Frederick James 1874, Bertha Lillian 1876*, Edwin John 1879*, Albert Edward 1880* and Sara Ann 1883*). This seems to indicate that Ernest and Sarah moved to the Reed Beds after 1869.

¹ See Appendix 7



ERNST CARL AUGUST ZEITZ

*Died at less than 1 year old.

By 1874 Ernest was wealthy enough to afford his own property and he purchased a parcel of land comprising part Lots 333, 334, 335, 336, and lot 337 (see Appendix 6). The land title shows the property on the corner of Young (later Weber) and Spring Streets, and his occupation on the title is shown as 'farmer' with his address at the time of purchase as The Reed Beds. He managed to purchase the land with help from the extended Risely family as it was mortgaged first to Stoker Risely and then to William Stoker Risely both in 1874, Sarah's great-uncle and uncle respectively. This ability to supply a mortgage to Ernest is indicative of the wealth that some of the Risely family possessed at this time.

MARRIAGES.
FREARSON – FREARSON. – On the 29th August, at the Hindmarsh Chapel, by the Rev. H. S. Earl, B.A., John Black, the eldest son of Mr. A. Frearson, of Kent Town, to Mary Ann, adopted daughter of A. and F. Frearson. No cards.
ZEITZ – RISELY. – On the 12th September, at the residence of the bride's father, Bremer Reserve, near Harrogate, by special licence, by the Rev. W. J. Dean, Mr. E. Zeitz, late of Germany, to Sarah Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Eli Risely, late of Bedfordshire, England. No cards.

Ernest had been involved in the Primitive Methodist Church from early in his life in South Australia and remained active up until his death. He was a respected member and filled many positions on various church committees as well as representing the church in legal and

ERNEST AND SARAH'S MARRIAGE
ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE ALL ADELAIDE PAPERS
1866

financial dealings. Ernest was also becoming interested in municipal life again after his first attempt to be elected to Nairne District Council had failed in 1868. Now that he owned land he applied to the district council to be appointed as a pound keeper and at a meeting of the council on the 8th of February 1875, was appointed as a Pound keeper for the Queenstown and Alberton area. In 1879 Eli called for tenders to build a shop and house in Queenstown and his address on the advertisement is Spring Street, Queenstown, so Sarah and he may have run a small business at the same time as his pound keeping duties. He continued acting as a pound keeper until 1882 when he resigned the post. At that time he also leased out 80 acres of land in the Reed Beds. The advertisement for the lease in The Express & Telegraph gives his contact address this time as Weber Street, Queenstown.

In 1883 Ernest placed another tender request in the newspaper for a shop and dwelling to be built in Queenstown. His address for this advertisement is given once again as Spring Street. Whether this was a replacement for an outdated building or his first call for tenders had been unsuccessful is unknown for now. His occupation from then onwards is generally listed as butcher. In that year he also nominated for the Alberton – Queenstown District Council and was duly elected for the North Ward. Within a year he was chairman and continued in that position until 1886 when for a short time another councillor held the position. He returned to the chairmanship later that year until he retired the chair in 1887 after a period of dissension between some councillors and himself. He remained as a councillor until the June 1894 elections when he was defeated in the West Ward elections. He was re-elected in 1896 but this time to the

South Ward and remained a Queenstown and Alberton Council member until 1898. In 1898 Queenstown and Alberton Council amalgamated with the Town of Port Adelaide and Ernest became a Councillor for the Queenstown and Alberton Ward of the Town of Port Adelaide from 1898-1899.

He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1895 and is listed in Adelaide newspapers as an officiating or assistant Justice on many cases. Ernest died on the 14th of January 1905, during a heatwave in South Australia. His obituary gives the reason for his sudden death as heat apoplexy.

Ernest and Sarah's five children surviving to adulthood all stayed in South Australia apart from the youngest son, Frederick James, who moved to the Goldfields in Western Australia. The oldest son, Herbert William became a carpenter and eventually a builder. The three younger sons, Hermann Ernest, Adolph Arthur and Frederick James all became butchers like their father. Herbert married Sarah Ann Bowden in 1892. They had eight children, Florence Alberta 1893, Olive Clara 1894, Bertha Alma 1897, Albert Edwin 1899, Gladys Annie 1902, Ella Clarice 1905, Elva Risely 1910 and Cyril William 1914. Hermann married Alice Haddy in 1894. They had three children Eliza Alice 1894, Edith May 1897 and Kathleen Eugenie 1902. Adolph married Amelia LeRay in 1896. They had five children May 1897, Ernest Carl 1898, Doris Clara 1900, Clara West 1903 and Ronda Edna 1913.



Frederick James Zeitz

On 6th of April 1898, Frederick married Mary Jane Crossing, the youngest surviving child and only daughter of Robert George and Mary Ann Crossing. On the 1st of June 1899 Frederick and Mary's first child, Edwin Robert was born. Edwin was named after Mary's brother Edwin Robert Crossing who had died in Norseman, Western Australia the year before her son's birth. A daughter Evelyn Gertrude followed in 1900 but unfortunately died at seven weeks of age and then Elsie Jane 1901, Clem Arthur 1904, and Alan Reisly 1905.



Mary Jane Zeitz (Crossing)

FREDERICK JAMES ZEITZ AND MARY JANE CROSSING

In 1902, just 19 months after Australia came in to existence as a nation and three years after getting married, Frederick, Mary and their two children at the time moved to Coolgardie, Western Australia and lived with Mary's brother, John Crossing on the corner of McDonald St and Lefroy St.

FOR absolute Sale, small Butchering Business, killing 2 bodies, 20 small, good shop trade; satisfactory reasons for selling. Apply F. J. Zeitz, Portland Estate, Port Adelaide. 110-2

ALL ACCOUNTS owing to F. J. ZEITZ, late butcher, of Port Adelaide, MUST be PAID to Mr. E. ZEITZ, Queenstown, on or before 1st day of OCTOBER, 1902. F. J. ZEITZ. 212-4

Why Frederick left Adelaide is unknown for certain. He joined his wife's, family in their butchering businesses, and maybe tales of the gold rush in the west had persuaded him to try his luck. Whatever the motivation for the move, Frederick sold his butcher shop in Adelaide and placed a notice in the local newspaper, The Advertiser on 1st of August, 1902, directing anyone who owed him money to pay the same to his father, Ernest. It is assumed Frederick left Adelaide around this time. His wife Mary Jane is listed as arriving in Albany on board the SS. Paroo, on the 8th of August 1902 with their two oldest children Edwin and Elsie. A passenger C. Crossing is also listed as travelling on the ship and it

can be assumed that this was her older brother Charles returning to WA. No mention is made of Frederick and it is probable he came either earlier or later also by ship. A mention of F. Zeitz playing football appears in the Coolgardie Miner of 2nd July 1902 so it seems he was there by that time. Interestingly there is also a George Crossing listed in the team. The game was between the north side of Bayley St and the south side of Bayley St. John Crossing's butcher shop was located on the north side of Bayley St.

Frederick worked for a time for his brother-in-law John Crossing at his butcher's shop in Bayley Street next to the Tattersall's Hotel. He also appeared as a witness for John in 1903 when he sued for unpaid accounts for meat supplied to the Royal Hotel. About this time John Crossing ceased operating as a butcher and sold his business to butchers, Butcher and Uhr. Frederick then joined with J. Craigie to open their own butcher's shop "two doors from the Globe Hotel, Bayley Street" in May 1903. This unfortunately was not as successful as they hoped and the business was sold in November of the same year.

ZEITZ & CRAIGIE

BUTCHERS

(LATE WITH JOHN CROSSING).

ON ACCOUNT OF MR JOHN CROSSING DISPOSING of his Butchering Business to BUTCHER AND UHR, Ltd, we have started business two doors from the Globe Hotel, Bayley street.

PRIME MEAT and SMALL-GOODS

ALWAYS ON HAND.

CLEANLINESS AND CIVILITY A SPECIALITY.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

Western Australia was, at times, home to three of Mary's seven brothers and her father as well as herself and Frederick. A George Crossing is also mentioned in various publications and given the information in the reports may have been a son of John and Mary's eldest brother, George who was still residing in Broken Hill. Elsie Zeitz (Reid), Mary's older daughter mentions in a letter to Anita Charlesworth (wife of Frederick Zeitz's great grandson Mark Charlesworth), that her grandfather Robert George Crossing lived with them there until he moved to Norseman to live with his other son, Charles.

Mary's brother, John Crossing was a resident and did business in the Coolgardie area. He appears to have been an entrepreneur as local WA newspaper reports show in 1902 he was a butcher and later he was called before a royal commission in to butchers and slaughtering relating to price fixing in the Goldfields in 1908. He had a letter published relating to de-pasturing tick infested cattle from the Kimberley. He was also part owner of The Rock of Ages gold mine and the owner of The Carbine Hotel in Menzies, which burnt down in 1904 under suspicious circumstances.

Reading the newspaper reports of the coroner's inquest in to the fire, insurance fraud appears to be hinted at but the three man jury eventually found that the cause of the fire could not be determined. He is noted in another newspaper report as a well-known local Menzies identity while reporting on his lawsuit against another Menzies local over an outstanding debt. When John Crossing was in Menzies the railway came through in 1899 and by 1900 the town had two breweries, thirteen hotels and a population of over 10,000 people. By 1905 however, the gold had run out and the town was in serious decline. His obituary in the Barrier Miner (Broken Hill) states that John left WA in 1913 for Adelaide and remained there until his death in 1925, leaving a wife and nine children.

Frederick and Mary added to their family with Clem Arthur (1904) and Alan Reisly (1905) while in Coolgardie. Frederick is mentioned as working in his brother-in-law John Crossing's butchers shop in Coolgardie in 1902. In 1903 John Crossing sold the shop and the next known location of Frederick is when he is working for the local Norseman butchering firm originally established by his brother-in-law Edwin Robert Crossing and since Edwin's death operated by Edwin's brother, Charles Crossing and George Anderson. It appears he had a camp at Princess Royal, a town which had sprung up around a gold strike about 8 Kms north of Norseman. Crossing and Anderson had established a butcher's shop there in addition to the shop in Norseman. Meanwhile Mary continued living with her brother in Coolgardie while Frederick was away.

On the morning of the 26th of February, 1906 Frederick died suddenly.

Newspaper reports are that he had hit his head while diving in Mildura Dam, Norseman the previous day, and after returning from his usual morning swim the next morning he felt too ill to eat breakfast and went to bed in his camp. When someone went to rouse him for work he was discovered dead. A post mortem was carried out to determine the cause of his sudden death and the coroner reported that Frederick was suffering with meningitis severe enough to cause sudden death, as well as having extensive pleurisy and inflammation of the left lung, which was listed on his death certificate as his cause of death. No inquest was deemed necessary by the coroner and Frederick was buried in the Norseman cemetery (See Norseman Times Appendix 3 for slightly different version). Later that year Mary's father also died and was also buried in the Norseman cemetery in the same grave as his son Edwin. He had been ill for about two months suffering from influenza and passed away in hospital from the affliction.

Western Australia had not been kind to Mary who now had three family members buried in the Norseman cemetery, her brother, Edwin Robert Crossing in 1898 and her husband, Frederick James Zeitz and her father, Robert George Crossing in 1906. Edwin's wife, Ethel had returned to Adelaide after his death where she remained until her death in 1954. Elsie writes in her letters to Anita, that her mother and the four children left WA by sea as they couldn't afford train fares and returned to Frederick's family in Adelaide. The ocean crossing did not agree with Mary who was violently sea-sick. Elsie's letters mention that she and her siblings were cared for by other passengers until they reached Adelaide. Mary had been upset that she had no money to put headstones on any of her family's graves when she left and they had been buried in unmarked graves. This situation was rectified in later years by Frederick's grandson, Alan Reid.

Mary was in Adelaide for a short time during which Edwin (Ted) attended school and received a certificate for work he completed. The teacher signing his certificate was George Charlesworth. George was a Locum Head teacher at Alberton School from April to October 1906 and as this is where the Zeitz family resided it can be assumed that it was here that Ted received his certificate.

Mary Zeitz then left Adelaide and went to live in Silverton in New South Wales where all of her brothers other than John (still at Coolgardie or Menzies) and Charles (still in Norseman), now resided. The first positive mention of the Zeitz family again is when Edwin Zeitz is second in a race on a Picnic Day in Silverton in 1907 a year after the death of his father Frederick. While both Edwin and Elsie are mentioned in newspaper reports of Picnic Day races, it is assumed that both the younger children would also have been with their mother and two older siblings. Mary is also mentioned in the Barrier Miner as a member of the woman's cricket team, the Mignonettes as both a bowler and for runs scored.

An article in the Barrier Miner on the 16th of December 1908 describes a meeting to organise the Mignonettes and lists Mary as inaugural captain and member of the match committee with her niece, L. Crossing. Her brother, Robert and interestingly, Alex Reid (eventually her second husband) are listed as inaugural vice presidents. Mary then remained in Silverton living with one of her brothers, until she returned to Adelaide in 1910 to marry Robert Alexander (Alex) Reid. The local woman's cricket team of which she was captain noted at the time that her presence would be missed.

The Zeitz children returned with Mary and Robert to Adelaide and continued to live with them. Mary and Robert Reid also had two children, Arthur Alexander in 1914 and Grace Ethel in 1918 who grew up with the other children as brothers and sisters. Records show that Arthur was born in Norwood, a suburb of Adelaide. Grace however was born in Broken Hill in 1918, after the family had returned there. Mary and Alex settled in to life in Broken Hill remained there until their deaths. Elsie came to Western Australia on the Transcontinental Railway, when she was 16, in 1918 with her uncle Charles after he had visited his brothers and sister, Mary in Silverton. This was only one year after the line had been completed in 1917. Elsie stayed with his family in Norseman until Charles returned to Silverton for another visit in 1921 when she returned home now aged nineteen. Elsie remained in Broken Hill and married Edward Lord in 1927. After delivering Elsie back home Charles went to a specialist in Adelaide concerning a heart problem before returning to Western Australia. His illness proved life shortening and he died in Subiaco, Western Australia only two years later in 1923.

Family lore has it that Edwin also went to stay with one of his uncles before coming to Western Australia. It may have been at this time as well and possibly to one of the cattle stations. Mary had just had or was carrying Grace, and two less people in the house would have eased her workload immensely. Elsie's letters indicate she enjoyed her time in Norseman where she was given piano lessons and learnt to ride and play tennis but she hints that Edwin did not have as good a time of it. She also writes of trips to her uncle's "*farm, 9 miles out on the Esperance track*" where they went to cut chaff. She slept on the back of a dray with the girl who helped her Aunt in the house, while her cousin Noel and another boy that her uncle and aunt were caring for, while his father was overseas in the army, slept on back of another dray. Elsie's letters do hint that her brother did not have as good a time of his stay with the other Crossings.

The final move back to Western Australia came when Edwin Robert Zeitz, now using Ted Reid as his common name, came to Perth. When Ted actually left his family to move west and how he got here is not known. The first real mention found so far is in 1923 when Ted is listed in the newspaper as attending the funeral of his uncle, Charles Crossing, Noel's father. This does seem to fit with information on Ted's Death Certificate which states that he spent 24 years in New South Wales and 57 years in Western Australian. This would have made him 24 years old and the year would have been 1923. Noel went to Scotch College and studied Dentistry at university before moving to Albany and becoming a leading member of the community there. An interesting article on a trip Noel did after finishing university (West Australian, 16th August 1930) reads like a "Boy's Own" tale.

Ted Reid appears on the electoral role for two addresses in 1925, both in Perth. One address is in the Perth district and Perth sub-district at 243 Adelaide Terrace and the other address is listed as 158 Railway Parade in the Fremantle District and Balkatta (sic) sub-district. In 1927, four years after attending his uncle's funeral and two years after being listed as living in Perth, he and partner Malcolm John (Mass) Inglis, established Reid and Inglis in Dalwallinu after buying the business from Graves and Bateman. Ted worked for Wigmore's as a mechanic and Malcolm was a machinery salesman. They must have struck up a friendship and decided to go into business together. What decided Ted and 'Mass' to go to the country town of Dalwallinu isn't known, but it was a thriving farming area and it was to be a defining moment in his life. The business next door to Reid and Inglis was The Shamrock Tea Rooms and Eliza Ann Mailey whose family was farming in Pithara, was working there.

JAMES MAILEY

Eliza's parents, James Mailey and Matilda McCann were married on 23/12/1901 in Limavady Catholic Church, in the County of Londonderry. Due to economic conditions in Ireland, James and Matilda (Tilda) moved to Bishopton, Scotland to obtain work in the shipyards on the Clyde River. While living in Scotland James and Tilda added five children to their family, Joseph, John, Eliza, James Jr and Matilda (Tilly). In 1912 the Mailey family migrated to Australia.

Matilda Mailey and her children arrived in Australia from Scotland, on the 23rd of November, 1912, on board the SS Belgic. Matilda's husband, James' name does not appear on the list and it is assumed that he came earlier as many husbands did, to make a place for his family. A Passenger List for the [Kaipara](#), sailing from London to Fremantle on 1st December 1911, lists a J Mailey in amongst a list of Scotch (sic) passengers. This could be Matilda's husband and would fit with him leaving just after Matilda fell pregnant with their fifth child, Matilda (Tilly).

James senior and Matilda (Tilda) appear on the electoral roll for 1916, as residing at Burges Crossing, Tipperary Farm at York. They are again listed at that address on the 1925 electoral roll but by the time of the 1931 roll they are listed as farmers at Pithara, and Eliza is listed as living at the Shamrock Tea Rooms in Dalwallinu.

Working side by side each day Ted and Eliza were attracted to each other and they were married by Father Mereno, on the 21st of November 1931, at the home of Eliza's father in Pithara. James Mailey senior died on the 31st of March 1936.

THE CHARLESWORTH FAMILY

Sheffield has been famous for the making of steel since the fourteenth century when one of Chaucer's pilgrims is described as carrying a "*Sheffield Thwital*" (a small knife used when eating) in his hose. The proximity of iron ore, steam, for power and suitable grinding stones made Sheffield an ideal centre for making steel. In the sixteenth century Sheffield began to increasingly specialise in making cutlery with the arrival of expertise in the form of Flemish immigrants and in the following century in 1624 a Company of Cutlers was established.

When Arnold Ashton Charlesworth married Mary Roberts in 1884, he was part of a large Charlesworth clan which had settled around Sheffield to take advantage of the work available in the thriving town. The original move would have come from the village of Charlesworth (about 15 kms east of the centre of Manchester) and from where the family gets its name, to Sheffield many years prior.

Death of Mr. Edward Crossing.

Quite a gloom spread over the town on Wednesday morning when it became generally known that Mr. E. Crossing had succumbed to the serious injuries he received while driving to the Desirable mine on Monday last. Although the injuries were pronounced by Dr. Harvey to be of a most serious nature, there was yet a ray of hope that the sufferer who had youth on his side and a remarkably robust constitution would survive. It, however, became apparent on Tuesday evening that, notwithstanding the assiduous care and attention the patient received at the hands of his attendant and his devoted wife, all efforts to effect a recovery would be futile. A decided change for the worse set in early on Wednesday morning and about 9 o'clock the sufferer passed peacefully away remaining conscious until almost the last.

The death of Mr. Crossing removes from the community one of the most enterprising and reputable business men and one who was generally regarded to be a worthy and estimable townsman. The late Mr. Crossing did not actively identify himself with public matters. His extensive business operations which he worked indefatigably to bring to a successful issue afforded him little leisure in this respect. Mr. Crossing's genial and

joyful manner was such as to render him popular to all sections of the community, and his untimely demise will be greatly deplored throughout the district. It is hardly necessary to add that the utmost sympathy is expressed for his widow and young family of four children, the oldest being barely 10 years of age. Mr. Anderson who has been in partnership with the deceased in the butchering business almost since the inception of this field is greatly shocked at the sad occurrence. Two of the late Mr. Crossing's brothers are in the town, one (Mr. C. Crossing) having arrived from Kalgoorlie on Saturday last. Mr. Crossing was 34 years of age and was born at Black Springs, S.A. His father is alive and resides in Adelaide. He formerly carried on business as a butcher at Teetulpa in conjunction with Mr. Anderson, and subsequently at Silverton and South Broken Hill on his own account. It is safe to assert that the memory of poor Ned Crossing will long remain green in the memory of the early prospectors and residents of this field. The late Mr. Crossing was a member of the local Masonic Lodge.

On Thursday afternoon the remains of Mr. Crossing were removed from his late residence for interment in the general cemetery. The attendance was large and representative, and it is roughly estimated that upwards of 250 persons were present when the cemetery was reached. The sad occurrence was the theme of general regret, and deep sympathy was expressed for the widow and sorrowing relatives. After a brief

service of prayer at the residence of the deceased, conducted by the Rev. J. E. Stone, of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the procession moved away, preceded by the brethren of the Norseman Masonic Lodge, of which order the late Mr. Crossing had recently been initiated as a member; then followed the hearse and coffin which was covered with many beautiful floral tributes composed of wild flowers which had been forwarded by sympathetic friends from all parts of the district. The widow accompanied by Messrs. Crossing (two) brothers of the deceased, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were the chief mourners, then followed a long line of vehicles, 30 in all, a number of horsemen, and about 50 pedestrians. The Mayor (Mr. S. Frearson), the Town Clerk (Mr. P. G. D. Lavater), and all the members of the Municipal Council were present. The Dundas Roads Board was also represented. On arrival at the cemetery a number of ladies were noticed. The pall bearers were composed of the following gentlemen, members of the Masonic Lodge—Bros. Warden Hicks, Barnes, Quatt, Duplock, Patterson, Rossiter, and W. P. McKenny. The following mining managers were also present:—Messrs. Carne (Cumberland), Tregoweth (Royal Dane), and Tulloh. Several of the workers on the principal mines left their employment for the half day for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to the deceased. The service was short but very impressive. Prior to the benediction being pronounced the well-known hymn "Jesus, Lover of my Soul" was sung, after which the mortal

remains were lowered to their last resting place, and the melancholy proceedings terminated. The funeral arrangements were under the direction of Mr. J. Rossiter and were admirably carried out.

that accounts were being taken.

The court approved.

A Will and its Interpretation.

Anderson v. Crossing was an action brought to obtain the opinion of the court upon the construction of the will of the late **Edwin Robert Crossing**, of South Australia, who died in **March, 1895**.

Mr. Northmore appeared for the plaintiff, **George Batchelor Anderson**, executor; **Mr. Barker** for the widow, **Ethel Crossing**; and **Mr. Barlee** for **Charles Crossing**, the guardian ad litem.

The testator bequeathed to his widow all his goods and effects "absolutely" until she remained his widow. If she married again, the whole was to be equally divided between his children for their maintenance and education. The question the court was asked to decide was, what estate or interest did the widow take under the will? Would she take a life estate or an absolute estate, subject to her marrying?

Mr. Barker desired to point out that the important words in the will were "the whole to be left absolutely to my wife as long as she remains my widow." It was an ac-

APPENDIX 3

Norseman Times (WA : 1898 - 1920) [about](#) [Tuesday 27 February 1906](#)

Terribly Sudden Death.

POST MORTEM FINDINGS.

Early yesterday morning, at Princess Royal, a young man named Frederick Zeitz, employed at the Princess Royal part of Messrs. Crossing & Anderson's butchering business, was found dead on his bed. It appears that at a very early hour Zeitz loaded his cart with meat at the Norseman establishment, and drove it out to the firm's Princess Royal premises. Mr. Anderson, who went out shortly afterwards, found the cart backed up to the shop front in readiness for unloading. On going through the building to ascertain the cause of delay he discovered Zeitz on his bed in a room at the rear, but quite dead.

Dr. Harvey was sent for, and information was forwarded to the police and to Mr. L. L. Crockett, the district coroner.

Under instructions from the coroner Dr. Harvey made a post mortem examination, and found that Zeitz had been suffering from a complication of diseases, the gravest of which was extensive pleurisy and inflammation of the left lung, which was probably the immediate cause of death. There were also patches of congestion on the stomach and bowels. Deceased had also long-standing meningitis, which left the brain in such a condition that sudden death might have occurred at any time. The examination also disclosed slight extravasation of recent occurrence, such as might have resulted from the fall deceased was reported to have suffered whilst bathing on Sunday afternoon, but which, in the doctor's opinion, was not the immediate cause of death.

In the light of the doctor's report the coroner decided that further inquiry was unnecessary.

APPENDIX 4

APPENDIX 5

The within mortgage No 97106 was transmitted to Ernest Zetly of Queensland Butcher, George Rivet, of Alforden, Cairns and Mcgrathies John Walth of Port Adelaide Timber Merchant as the executor named in the will dated the 27 day March 1894 of the within named William Shicker Reith who died on the 27th April 1894 as appears by Probate dated the 27th April 1894. Proceeded for registration the 7th August 1894 at 11 am. (No 205100)

E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.

Discharge of the within mortgage No 97106 by receipt endorsed thereon produced for registration the 14 day October 1894 at 11 am.

E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.
Transfer No 207955 from

Wm. Earl, Auctioneer to Zetly to Sarah Ellen Zetly, the wife of an estate in fee simple in the within land for her separate use Produced for registration the 21 day December 1894 at 11 am. E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.

Transfer No 209018 from Sarah Ann Zetly to Amy Eliza Elliott of the within lot 557 for her separate use. Produced for registration the 13 day October 1896 at 11 am. E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.

Cancelled as regards lot 557
E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.
A new Certificate of title issued for lot 557
Vol. 614 folio 107

E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.
Cancelled and a Balance Certificate of title issued the 6th Feb. 1898.
E. P. Heath Esq. Reg. Secy. Ent.

APPENDIX 7

No.		of 18 66		District <i>Nairne</i>		
When Married.	Names and Surnames of both Parties.	Age.	Trade or Calling.	Residences at time of Marriage.	Names and Surnames of Fathers of both Parties.	Church, Chapel, or other place in which solemnized.
<i>September 17th 1866</i>	<i>Const. Charles August Yeity</i> <i>Sarah Ann Risely</i>	<i>31</i> <i>22</i>	<i>Farmer</i> <i>No Calling</i>	<i>Bremers near Nairne</i> <i>Bremers near Nairne</i>	<i>William Yeity</i> <i>Ch. Risely</i>	<i>Private Residence of Mr Ch. Risely Bremers near Nairne</i>

This Marriage was solemnized between us

Const Charles August Yeity
Sarah Ann Risely

In the presence of us

Name.	Trade or Calling.	Residence.
<i>Arthur Graham</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Warrigata</i>
<i>Chas Risely</i>	<i>No Calling</i>	<i>Bremers near Nairne</i>

} Witnesses.

The above-named *Const Charles August Yeity* and *Sarah Ann Risely* were duly Married by or before me, at the time and place above named, and in the presence of the witnesses whose signatures are above written.

Witness my hand this *Thelvet* day of *September* 18 *66*

William John Han Primitive Methodist Minister
Mount Barker.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION OFFICE, ADELAIDE

I hereby certify that the above particulars are contained in an entry in the Register kept in this Office in the State of South Australia

Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of August, 2012

A Gale

REGISTRAR



This is a work in progress

Any information on anything that needs correcting or is missing will be gratefully received.