

# **KATHERINE (KITTY) TAPLEY**

**1813 – 1903**



## CHILD OF THOMAS AND MARY TAPLEY

### 15512 KATHERINE(Kitty) TAPLEY (1813-1903)

Katherine (or Kitty as she was more generally known), was born at Folkestone, in the County of Kent, England in 1813. She was baptized there on 13 August 1813. Her father was Thomas TAPLEY (1789-1856), and her mother was Mary TAPLEY, nee MORFORD (1791-1867). (1)

Kitty was brought up initially in England at the sea-side town of Folkestone, in Kent, and later at Vlissingen in Holland, when her parents and the family moved there about 1820. (2)

The family later moved from Vlissingen to Rotterdam in Holland where they remained until about 1837, moving back to England prior to their emigration to South Australia. Kitty was listed as aged 23 years, at Old Gravel Lane, Ratcliff Highway, on 3 July 1838, just prior to emigration.(3)

The TAPLEY family left London on the ship RAJASTHAN, arriving at Adelaide, South Australia on 16 November 1838. They then settled early in 1839 to the area that became known as Tapley's Hill. (4)

In the Census of 1841 in South Australia, Kitty was listed as-

Catherine.....under 35, living in District B(south of the Onkaparinga) (5)

Actually at the time, Kitty was 28 years of age, and the family was at Tapley's Hill, which is North of the Onkaparinga River, but could have still been in the area known as District B.

Kitty was never to marry, and appears to have spent her life at home, with her parents, no doubt helping to look after the younger children, at first, and later, her ageing parents.

On 8 November 1843, Kitty was a witness at the marriage of her younger brother, Thomas, to Jane BOWMAN. This marriage was held at the Congregational Chapel, Adelaide. (6)

In 1854, Kitty was once more a witness to the marriage of two of her brothers James and John when they married sister Mary and Hannah SHARPE, on 28 September 1854, at Christ Church (Anglican), at O'Halloran Hill, S.Aust. (7)

Her father had by this time bought a house on South Terrace, Adelaide and was living there and James took over the family farm at Tapley's Hill. Kitty went with her parents to South terrace, Adelaide, where her father died on 14 June 1856, of a stroke. (8)

On 20 January 1867, her mother, Mary TAPLEY(nee MORFORD), died at Adelaide, and Kitty continued to live at the family home (9)

It appears that Kitty may have been caring for her brother Thomas' child Mary Ann TAPLEY at this time, her brother having died in 1862, and his wife had predeceased him in 1855, dying of consumption. On 12 March 1867, this child, Mary Ann, died of Consumption also. She was aged only 22 years, and on the death certificate it was noted that she was living at South Terrace Adelaide. (10)

Kitty continued to occupy the family home on South Terrace over the following years ,and was still living there at 34 South Terrace, Adelaide in 1897. (11)

In her declining years, it appears that she may have moved to live with her younger sister Hannah SAUERBIER. Kitty died on 10 May 1903, at the age of 89 years at Wattle Street, Parkside, where her sister lived. She was described as a spinster, and the cause of death was Cardiac Insufficiency, Enlarged Liver, Glycosuria, and Albuminuria Syncpe. The death was notified by S.H. BARNARD, a salesman of East Adelaide. (12)

Kitty was buried in the family grave at the West Terrace Cemetery.(13)

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**REFERENCES:-**

1. Information from S.E.TAPLEY and J.A. SHARPE.
2. See Thomas TAPLEY.(1789-1856)
3. Information from J. SHARPE
4. See Thomas TAPLEY
5. S.A. Archives CENSUS RECORDS 1841
6. Marriage Certificate of Thomas TAPLEY to Jane BOWMAN
7. Marriage Certificates of James and John TAPLEY
8. Death Certificate of Thomas TAPLEY
9. Death Certificate of Mary TAPLEY
10. Death Certificate of Mary Ann TAPLEY
11. S.A. Post Office Directory 1897/98
12. Death Certificate of Kitty TAPLEY
13. West Terrace Cemetery Microfiche Records.

**REFERENCES FOR KITTY TAPLEY****DEATH CERTIFICATE**-----  
**1903 District of ADELAIDE**

When Died.....	10 May 1903
Name.....	Kitty TAPLEY
Sex and Age.....	Female 89 years
Rank or profession.....	Spinster
Usual Residence.....	Wattle Street, Parkside.
Cause of Death.....	Cardiac Insufficiency, Enlarged Liver Glycosuria, Albuminuria Syncope.
Place of death.....	Wattle Street, Parkside.
Informant.....	S.H. BARNARD, Salesman, East Adelaide
Registrar.....	M. H. WILSON
District Registrar.....	Adrian J. KORFF 11 May 1903

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