

## FLAKES FAMILY

*NB: The following is prepared from Falkland Islands Registers and files – there may be other family born outside the Falklands. Unless stated otherwise, all dated births, deaths and marriages occurred in the Falklands and all numbered graves are in Stanley Cemetery. Any variations which may occur in the spellings of names are recorded as written in the records at the time.*

**John FLAKES** was born circa 1820 at St Benedicts, Norwich, Norfolk, England.

John, a weaver, enrolled in the 47<sup>th</sup> Foot Regiment.

John was married to **Mary COX** (*not in the Falkland Islands*).

John, a private, Catherine and their children John, Mary Ann and Elisebeth arrived in the Falkland Islands on board the British Barque *Ealing Grove* 12 January 1858 as part of the Falkland Islands Company detachment of Pensioners. Apart from the Commanding Officer, Captain Moloney, the Company consisted of three sergeants, two corporals, a drummer and thirty privates. [H14, pg 316]

John's total military service was 25 years and 4 months. On the 25 May 1864 he was recorded as being 44, of very good character and received 1 mark. His overseas service consisted of 1 year and 6 months in Malta, 2 years and 9 months in the West Indies, 1 year and 3 months in Crimea and 6 years and 6 months in the Falkland Islands. He was discharged due to disbandment of the regiment. William was 5 foot 7 inches tall with brown hair and brown eyes and a fresh complexion. [PRO: WO 117/12]

On 14 October 1862 the Colonial Chaplain wrote to Governor Moore making an appeal on behalf of **Mary FLAKES**, under sentence of 14 days imprisonment, of which the first and last 3 days were in solitary confinement. He stated that there were circumstances which may perhaps induce the Governor to commute her punishment. He said *'I feel sure that no one could have witnesses the outburst of the unhappy woman's grief, in the church yard this afternoon at the funeral of her young child, without wishing if it could be done with propriety, to mitigate her misery & unhappiness. The other little ones are left in charge of a very helpless husband, and an almost idiotic boy. Your Excellency is well aware of my views respecting the sin of drunkenness, especially in a woman that I do not now appeal to Your Excellency, unless upon some good ground. I have never found the imprisonment of women produce any good effects whatever & it would afford satisfaction to many if Your Excellency would commute the woman Flakes' punishment to being bound over to keep the Peace, I think I understood from her husband, a civilian was ready to be a co-security for her...'* [H18; 64]

On 22 January 1864 the Stipendiary Magistrate wrote to Governor Mackenzie stating that Mary was a prisoner in the gaol having been convicted of larceny 8 December 1863 and imprisoned for six months. Her husband was a soldier about to embark for England and has a family of young children. He requested that the rest of her sentence be remitted so as to enable her to accompany her husband and at the same time rid the Colony of a troublesome and disorderly person. [H19; 507] Permission was given for her to accompany her husband and children to England and she was transferred from the gaol to the *Velocidade*.

The family left with Captain Molony and his men on board the transport ship *Velocidade* 23 January 1864.

## FIRST GENERATION:

### Children of John and Mary FLAKES:

1. **John or James FLAKES** born ? (*not in the Falkland Islands*).
2. **Mary Ann FLAKES** born ? (*not in the Falkland Islands*).
3. **Elisebeth FLAKES** born ? (*not in the Falkland Islands*).
4. **Catherine FLAKES** born 19 October 1859 in Stanley and baptised 21 December 1859 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as a private in the Falkland Islands Company and he signed with a X. Catherine, age 15 months, died January 1861 and was buried 13 January 1861 (*no death or grave record*).
5. **Richard FLAKES** born 4 January 1861 and baptised 21 May 1861 by Holy Trinity Church. His father's occupation was recorded as a soldier in the Garrison Company.
6. **Catherine FLAKES** born 14 July 1862 in Stanley and baptised 10 August 1862 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as a private in the Falkland Islands Garrison Corps. Her sponsors were John Drayton, Bridget Hoare and her mother. Catherine, age 3 months, died 12 October 1862, supposedly from being accidentally overlaid in bed, and was buried the afternoon of 14 October 1862 (*no grave record*).