

ZAPATA 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.

Celestino ZAPATA, age 29, peon from Entre Rios, arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria* to work for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd who had brought him down. Accompanying him as his wife was **Feliciana PEREGRINA** with two of her children and one of his. [H14; 131]

Celestino ZAPATA, native of Montevideo resident at Hope Place, wife and three children were recorded on the List of Registered Aliens returned 14 Sep 1855. [H8]

On 6 December 1856 Celestino was recorded as being in the service of the Falkland Islands Company Ltd and recognised as the husband of **Loyla FRANCO**. [H14, 106, 128]

In December 1856 **Loyla FRANCO** applied to the Stipendiary Magistrate for help as the Falkland Islands Company had removed **Celestino ZAPATA**, recognised as her husband for some time, from her house and she was destitute. On 5 December 1856 she stated that her and her 3 children were in a state of destitution. The Governor ordered that Soyla be provided with 4 shillings a day relief. The Manager of the FIC described Soyla as being a person of notoriously dissolute character and unfit to have charge of children. He further stated that as Soyla neglected the children morally and physically an arrangement had been previously made, with the wish of Francisco Brunel and the consent of all parties that the godparents take charge of the children. Accordingly Hypolita and Panchita were placed with Inocencia Yllescas and his wife; Regustiano was placed with Jose Arguello whose wife Pancha took good care of him and Soyla retained Soa. This arrangement was ended shortly before December 1856 by an order of the Stipendiary Magistrate who ordered the two elder children returned to Soyla. The FIC manager stated that Celestino Zapata was an esteemed servant of the Company and that he had found him in a room that contained no furniture lying on the wet floor on a mattress covered by his poncho and wholly neglected by Soyla. He also stated that Soyla had not asked for more than who would pay the rent on the house she was in. [H14, 106, 108, 128: D7; 208,216]

Celestino, age 30, died in Stanley and was buried 15 December 1856 by Holy Trinity Church (*no grave number recorded*).

On 2 January 1857 the Manager of the FIC gave Soyla and her 4 children notice to return to Montevideo by the schooner *Victoria* which was due to sail 19 January 1857. On 16 January 1857 he informed the Governor that Soyla would only be taking three of her children as she had agreed that Regustiano would remain behind with Jose Maria Arguello. [H14, pg 137, 150]

A receipt was issued to Thomas Havers, Colonial Manager of the Falkland Islands Company Limited, 23 March 1857 by Governor Rennie for £3-9-10 being the amount expended in the relief and maintenance of Celestino Zapata, Soyla Franco and family. [E3]

Children of Feliciano PEREGRINA:

1. **Rosita PEREGRINA** was born circa 1847 (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Rosita, age 8, arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria* with her mother and **Celestino ZAPATA**. [H14, pg 131]
2. **Juanita PEREGRINA** was born circa 1849 (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Juanita, age 6, arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria* with her mother and **Celestino ZAPATA**. [H14, pg 131]

Children of Celestino ZAPATA and Feliciano PEREGRINA:

1. **Juan ZAPATA** was born circa 1854 (*not in the Falkland Islands*). Juan, age 6, arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria* with his parents. [H14, pg 131]

Children of Celestino ZAPATA and Soyla FRANCO:

1. **Soa ZAPATA** was born circa June 1855 (*not in the Falkland Islands*) to Soyla Franco and was said to be the son of Celestino Zapata. Soa, age 3 months, arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria* with his mother and **Francisco BRUNEL**. [H14, pg 129, 131] Soa was given notice by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd to return to Montevideo on board the *Victoria* 19 January 1857. [H14, pg 137]