

James CLARK (1814-1895)

James was aged 43, a farm bailiff from Suffolk, when he migrated to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. James was accompanied on the voyage by his son, Francis (Frank – 1842-1923) and his daughter, Susan (1838-1898).

James was born about 1814 at Elden, Elvedon in Suffolk, the son of Sarah Clark (1779-1861). His father was not named on the birth registration. Although James said he was 'single' on the ship's records he was a widower. He married Sarah nee Winwood (1817-1852) on 27 January 1839 in the Thingoe Registration District, Suffolk. Sarah died on 15 June 1852 at Elvedon, aged 34. James and Sarah had at least four children: Susannah (1839-1898), Mary Ann (1841-?), Francis (1842-1923) and Hannah (1848-1849). Sarah had a daughter, Jane, prior to marrying James. Jane was born about 1837 in Lackford, Suffolk and passed away as Jane Clark in 1852 in Mildenhall, Suffolk, England. It is not known what happened to Mary Ann and it is possible she was deceased before her father and siblings embarked on the 'Trade Wind'.

James and his son, Francis, were sponsored by Francis Cotton of Swanport and they were discharged from the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay to him on 15 May 1858 per 'Tommy'. Francis Cotton was a grazier (sheep), local government official, protectionist politician, Quaker leader and sheep breeder. He owned several properties and he and his family settled down at 'Kelvedon' at Swanport. James, as a farm bailiff, would have been engaged as a manager or head worker under the direct supervision of Cotton. He was most likely engaged in supervision and allocation of duties of farm labourers and possibly responsible for collecting rents from tenant farmers.

James died on 5 October 1883 at Bacchus Marsh in Victoria at the age of 72.