

BRUNEL 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.

Francisco BRUNEL, age 20, Argentine and single, arrived 6 June 1847 from Montevideo on board the *Napoleon* to work for Lafone. [H8] On 19 May 1855 the Governor requested that passage was provided to Montevideo for Pancho BRUNAL by the first opportunity as he was unable to give a satisfactory account of his means of livelihood. [D7, pg 44] Francisco was still in the Falkland Islands 22 May 1855 and was working for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd. [H12, pg 430]

Francisco BRUNEL, age 29 and Oriental Banda, arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria*. He brought with him as his wife **Soyla FRANCO**, two of their children, **Hypolita BRUNEL**, age 7, and **Regustiano BRUNEL**, age 3, and two of her children, **Panchita YLLESCUS**, age 4, and **Soa ZAPATA**, age 3 months. Francisco was brought down by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd. [H14, pg 128, 131; H8] In the 1851 census they are listed as Panchu Brunal, age 37, gaucho & Spaniard, Soila Brunal, age 28, wife & Spaniard, 2 children Spaniards. In July 1855 Francisco was given notice that he must avail himself of the right to a free passage to Montevideo or forfeit that right. [H13, pg 30] Francisko Pancho BRUNEL, native of Montevideo, wife & 4 children were recorded on the List of Registered Aliens returned 14 Sep 1855. [H8]

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 Zoyla 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, pg 106, 108, 128 [D7, pg 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]

Children of Soyla FRANCO:

1. **Hypolita BRUNEL** was born circa 1848 (*not in the Falkland Islands*) to Soyla Franco and Francisco Brunel and arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria*, age 7. [H14, pg 131] **Ypolita BRUNEL** was baptised 10 March 1854 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as labourer and her parents were recorded as Pancho &

Zoila Franca Brunel, living at Hope Place. Hypolita was fostered for a time by Inocencio Yllescas before being ordered to be returned to her mother by the Stipendiary Magistrate. [H14, pg 129] Hypolita was given notice by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd to return to Montevideo on board the Victoria 19 January 1857. [H14, pg 137]

2. **Panchita YLLESCUS** was born circa 1851 (*not in the Falkland Islands*) to Soyla Franco and Raimundo Yllescus and arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria*, age 4. [H14, pg 131] **Pancha BRUNEL** was baptised 10 March 1854 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as labourer and her parents were recorded as Pancho & Zoila Franca Brunel, living at Hope Place. Panchita was fostered for a time by Inocencio Yllescas before being ordered to be returned to her mother by the Stipendiary Magistrate. [H14, pg 129] Pancha was given notice by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd to return to Montevideo on board the Victoria 19 January 1857. [H14, pg 137]
3. **Regustiano** was born circa 1852 (*not in the Falkland Islands*) to Soyla Franco and Francisco Brunel and arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria*, age 3. [H14, pg 131] **Robustiano BRUNEL** was baptised 10 March 1854 by Holy Trinity Church. His father's occupation was recorded as labourer and his parents were recorded as Pancho & Zoila Franca Brunel, living at Hope Place. Regustiano was given notice by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd to return to Montevideo on board the Victoria 19 January 1857. Regustiano was left behind in the Falkland Islands by his mother with his godfather Jose Maria Arguello who, with his wife Pancha, was fostering the child. [H14, pg 129, 137, 150]
4. **Soa ZAPATA** was born circa June 1855 (*not in the Falkland Islands*) to Soyla Franco and said to the son of Celestino Zapata and arrived 31 August 1855 from Montevideo on board the *Victoria*, age 3 months. [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]

Francisco BRUNELL, a bachelor, was married to **Georgia BARGES**, under 21, 28 January 1856 by Henry Martyn Faulkner, Colonial Chaplain in Holy Trinity Church by Banns with consent of mother of bride. Neither Francisco's occupation nor their fathers were recorded. The witnesses were X Chamosa and Daniel McGarrall and both Francisco and Georgia signed with a X.

In November 1858 Pancho Brunel, peon, was given notice from Hope Place by the Manager of the FIC and returned to Montevideo on board the *Victoria* November 1858. He was earning a monthly wage of £4-3-4 and received a cash order for the balance of his account of £1-10-0. [FIC/IW1, pg 59; FIC/E1, pg 14, 18] The family appear to have returned sometime before the birth of their son in October 1868.

In 1877 Pancho was working for the Falkland Islands Company Ltd in the Camp and earned £49-11-4, took stores of £35-3-8 and a cash balance of £14-7-8. [FIC/D5; 60]

FIRST GENERATION

Children of Francisco and Gregoria BRUNEL:

1. **Carmelo de los Santos BRUNEL** baptised in Lafonia 20 October 1858 by Holy Trinity Church. His father's occupation was recorded as labourer and the family were living at the Boca. Camillo, age 17, was a witness to the murder of James MILLETT by Roberto GONZALES 30 April 1874. He was also stabbed while trying to save James. [B12; 257] Santos, age 40 and born in the Falklands, was married to **Margarita AVE**, born in Punta Arenas, 4 March 1898 in Nuestra Señora de Luján, Roman Catholic Church, Rio Gallegos. The witness was Daniel Patterson. Santos' parents were recorded as Francisco Brunel and Maria Gregoria Sejeda, and Margarita's parents were recorded as Juan Ave and Manuela Sánchez.
2. **Aunchil BRUNELL** born 2 October 1868 in Stanley and baptised 21 December 1875 by St Mary's Roman Catholic Church. His parents were recorded as Francisco and Maria Brunell (formerly Bargas), godmother Sophia Laws.
3. **Assencio BRUNELL** born 15 August 1870 in Stanley and baptised 21 December 1875 by St Mary's Roman Catholic Church. His parents were recorded as Francisco and Maria Brunell (formerly Bargas), godmother Sophia Laws.

The 22 of November of 1904
The devil of Patagonia enters the prison of Rawson
This day, the famous delinquent Ascencio Brunel, dubbed The Demon of Patagonia, is transferred to the prison of Rawson. It had been arranged that he be referred to Santa Cruz to make it available to the justice that required it for various crimes. In the same situation were their henchmen Joaquin Catrilaf and Domingo Santos.
The story of the bandit began, according to the popular stories, like others of his colleagues, being "unjustly accused of a crime that had not committed, had become fugitive and interned in the Patagonian mountains" (Marcelo Gavirati. No. 477).
His place of birth gave rise to conjectures, some versions indicated that "he was born in the Malvinas and that he was the son of an Italian father and an English mother." Others maintained that he was Uruguayan, "native of Florida". His entry to Punta Arenas was recorded in 1888. There, "out of jealousy, he committed a death", he stole two horses "and six hours of galloping put him out of the clutches of the police.
Various criminal acts, accompanied by "dozens of heroic acts," were added "within the memory of the people until they became an almost mythical character." Also his ability to escape the several detentions that had undergone, enlarged the legend.
Its main source of subsistence was the guanacos and ñandúes, that provided him food and shelter. He had a special ability to steal horses, it was estimated in several tens of animals that they had stolen both settlers and Tehuelches. The natives also suffered the kidnapping of girls, which Brunel selected as circumstantial lovers.
The illicit occurred one day in Río Gallegos, "tomorrow in Santa Cruz, in five days in the Chubut, he completely ignored his persecutors ... Indians and Christian coaligados galloped in their pursuit, but they always arrived in delay. Some tired or slain horse indicated where the bandit had passed; But inevitably, when they believed they were already upon him, Asencio had devoured fifty or sixty leagues ...".
After carrying out escapes of the prisons of Gaiman, Trelew, Rawson and Rio Gallegos, his appearances appeared to have finished in 1900, when announcing its death by a cacique. But, he reappeared in 1904 and went to jail in Las Heras in Buenos Aires, to go to the Chaco after serving his sentence
<http://www.eldiariodelfindelmundo.com/noticias/2016/11/22/69555-el-demonio-de-la-patagonia-ingresa-a-la-carcel-de-rawson>
4. **Segunda BRUNELL** born 1 March 1872 in Darwin and baptised 21 December 1875 by St Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Her parents were recorded as Francisco and Maria Brunell (formerly Bargas), godmother Sophia Laws.

5. **Cassemira BRUNEL** born 4 March 1874 in Stanley. Her father's occupation was recorded as gaucho and her birth was registered by her mother Gregoria Brunel. Casimira was baptised 21 December 1875 by St Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Her parents were recorded as Francisco and Maria Brunell (formerly Bargas), godmother Sophia Laws. Cassemira emigrated to Punta Arenas 1880-1885. Casimira was married to **Simón BORIC**, born in Croatia. They had no children.
6. **Cecilia Ignatia BRUNEL** born 2 February 1876 in Stanley and baptised 23 February 1876 by Holy Trinity Church. Her father's occupation was recorded as gaucho and her birth was registered by her mother Gregoria Brunel. Her godparents were recorded as Carmelo Brunel, Francis Henry Parry and Mrs Pinazo. Cecilia was baptised by St Mary's Roman Catholic Church 23 February 1877.
7. **Leanora Gregoria BRUNELL** born 13 March 1878 in Stanley. Her father's occupation was recorded as gaucho and her birth was registered by her mother Gregoria Brunell. Leanora emigrated to Punta Arenas 1880-1885. Elena was married to **José DE LA CRUZ**, born Chile.

NEXT GENERATION

Children of Santos and Margarita BRUNEL:

1. **Santo BRUNEL** born 15 October 1895 in Santa Cruz and baptised 19 July 1896 by Nuestra Señora de Luján, Roman Catholic Church, Rio Gallegos.
2. **Juan Cruz BRUNEL** born 24 June 1897 at Otelkaike and baptised 4 March 1898 by Nuestra Señora de Luján, Roman Catholic Church, Rio Gallegos.
3. **José Vicente BRUNEL** born 9 September 1899 and baptised 13 February 1900 by Nuestra Señora de Luján, Roman Catholic Church, Rio Gallegos.