

CRIDDLE 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.

James CRIDDLE was a private in the 95th Company of Royal Marines and married (*not in the Falkland Islands*) to **Mary CRIDDLE** formerly **TREVENING**.

As the Falkland Islands required a small detachment the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty first sent a Royal Marines detachment to the Falkland Islands in 1863. The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury agreed to make provision in the Parliamentary Estimate on account of the Falkland Islands for the extra pay of a lieutenant of marines and 20 non-commissioned officers and privates, together with their rations, on the understanding that the Force was to be limited to this number. The detachment received pay equal to their ordinary pay, rations, quarters and 5/- a day whenever the men were employed as labourers. [F12, desp 35, 15 Aug 1863]

The *Velocidade* was chartered in October to convey the detachment and left the Thames, London, England 29 October 1863 for the Falkland Islands. The detachment consisted of 1 lieutenant, G H ELLIOT, and his wife; 1 sergeant; 1 corporal; and 18 privates, 6 wives and 8 children; 1 Royal Navy surgeon, wife, child and female servant; and 1 staff assistant surgeon (army). [H19]

On arrival the unmarried non-commissioned officers and privates were temporarily housed in the Boys School until the departure of the previous garrison under Captain MOLONY freed up the Barracks on Lower Row (*now Drury Street*). [D11] Some of the marines returned early but as James was still in the Islands at the burial of his son in December 1866 he probably stayed for the full 5 year term, leaving in 1868/9. James is not in a list of marines from 1869.

FIRST GENERATION

Children of James and Mary CRIDDLE:

1. **Elizabeth Ann CRIDDLE** born 11 July 1864 in Stanley and baptised 8 September 1864 by Holy Trinity Church. Her godparents were recorded as William French, Mary Doolan and Gregoria Parry and her father's occupation was recorded as Private in the 95th Company of Royal Marines Light Infantry and he signed with a X.
2. **Alfred John CRIDDLE** born 20 March 1866 in Stanley and baptised **Edward John CRIDDLE** in a private baptism 24 October 1866 by Holy Trinity Church. No godparents were recorded and his father's occupation was recorded as blacksmith and private in 9th Company Royal Marines Light Infantry. Alfred, age 8 months, died in Stanley from hooping cough late November 1866 and was buried 2 December 1866 (*no grave record*).