

## STEPHENS FAMILY

Several members of this family migrated from Cornwall Australia over a period of years.

They were descendants of

RICHARD STEPHENS b 1805 (altarnun)

CHARITY COOMBE b 1802 (Lewannick) d. 1851

Richard is described at different times as "herd", land steward & later farmer (1850)

Date of Arrival Of their large family at least 5 migrated  
1846 (1) Joseph Stephens b 1830

(2) Mary b 1828 or 9 d. 1904

1850 m. Jonathan Mullis } b 1828  
Mullece } Travelled on their honeymoon "Lord Stanley"

1860 3. Ann b 1837 d 1920 Bathurst  
m. 1876 William Trezise (widower)

1860 4 Susannah b 1842  
Edwin Cook m. 1863

5. Elizabeth (Liza) b.  
1893 (?)

While thumbing through the Dictionary of National Biography I noticed that Anna Josepha wife of Governor King was Anna Josepha Coombe of Devon. I wonder if there were any family connection but as yet have no evidence. She died in 1844 at the age of 7. Could she have been an Aunt perhaps?

St Keverne is a large Parish embracing some of the wildest parts of the Cornish coast. An old proverb says that "No metal will run within sound of Keverne's bell" possibly a curse by St Keverne acting in a less than saintly ~~anger~~ ~~at the lack of hospitality of the villagers.~~

Although they had moved briefly to the north of Cornwall, following the 1848 harvest, Robert Cock's family really considered St Keverne was their home. The name <sup>Cock</sup> first appeared in the tithe books in 1768 when the widow of a Robert Cock (1716-1753) with the helpfully distinctive name of Radigund, Rhadegond moved from Constantine with her son Peter, then just a lad. They farmed "Lesneague or Lesnege" & other farms, part of a larger estate "Lanarth" originally owned by the Sandys family whose fortune came from mining. St Keverne is a delightful parish and the old church picturesque and redolent with history. The site has been a place of Christian worship since 600 A.D & it is thought the pink & green granite of the pillars was probably ferried over from Brittany, as it isn't local stone. It was the scene of many shipwrecks being so close to the treacherous Manacle Rocks where the currents are strong and difficult. In 1770 the tower was struck by lightning during morning service and a vivid description exists.

On the outside of the lych gate is a tablet to two Cornish martyrs, Michael Joseph the Smith and Thomas Flamank who led a march to London in protest to taxes imposed <sup>by Henry VIII for a war against Scotland</sup> June 1497, they were sadly defeated and <sup>the leaders</sup> hung, drawn and quartered at Tyburn. My husband and I spent an enchanted fortnight in the spring of 1977. There we met a descendant of the family who had <sup>at St Keverne</sup>