

# Descendant Chart for

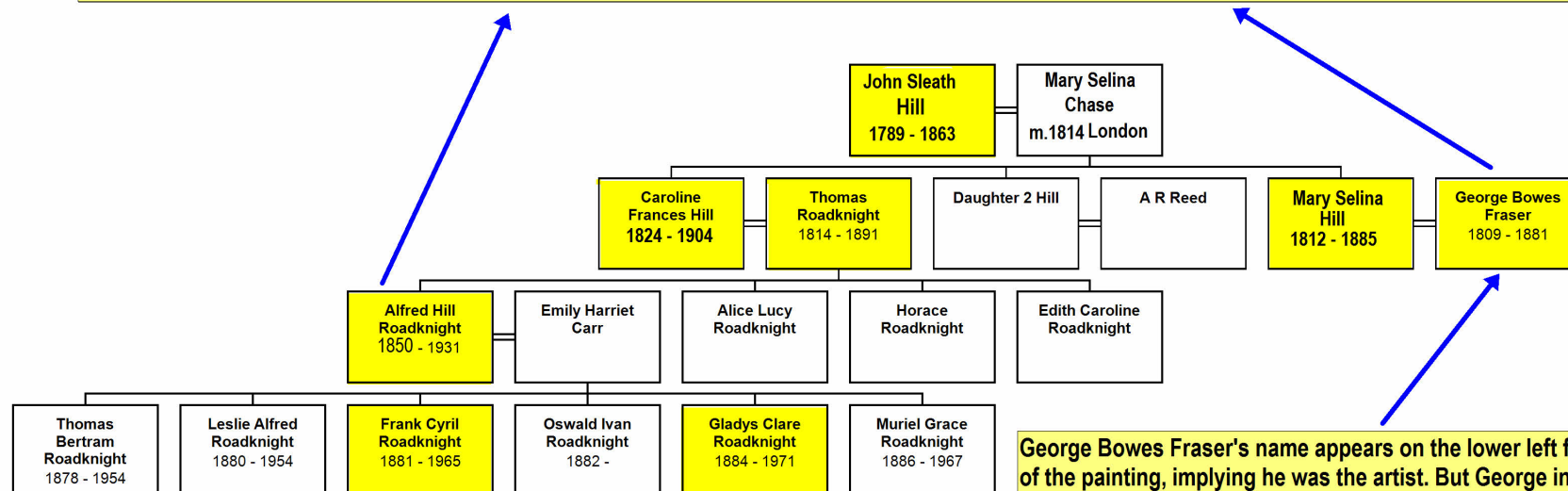
## John Sleath Hill

### The Skelton Players - the painting: is it Skelton, and if so, whodunnit ?

Alfred Hill Roadknight acquired the painting in 1881 from the Estate of George Bowes Fraser, his mother's b-in-l. AHR later pencilled on the painting's back 'this picture is for Gladys' (his daughter) - presumably an instruction for his own eventual Estate distribution. Also pencilled was 'Water Color by Captain Hill. His ship at Peak of Tenneriffe' (sic).

Might we reasonably assume that Captain Hill was a member of the John Sleath Hill family, perhaps even JSH himself ? Might we speculate that Captain Hill was Captain of the Skelton ? And, that he Captained Skelton during a post 1823/4 voyage to Tenerife where either he, or an artist he commissioned produced the painting, whether at Tenerife or subsequently. If so, how then did the painting come back to Australia ?

If we can identify Captain Hill as having captained the Skelton in one of its later voyages, this element of the problem would seem to have been resolved [but see footnote] \* New research - JSH's brother was an RN Lieutenant, and, Lloyds has a Capt. J S Hill commanding a Brig Katharine - is he our JSH



Dr Philip Brown acquired the painting in 1971 from the Estate of Gladys Clare Roadknight. Gladys was unmarried and no issue. Philip's son Ian now owns the painting.

George Bowes Fraser's name appears on the lower left front corner of the painting, implying he was the artist. But George in fact had a successful Public Accountant business in Geelong. Do accountants usually make good landscape artists ?

Is it more likely George assumed ownership via his wife, a Hill, who we might reasonably speculate, gained ownership from her father, or even from her sister Caroline. More BDM info required.

Skelton made two voyages to Australia (VDL) captained by James Dixon Jr, son of the family firm James Dixon & Co of Whitby, England. Skelton arrived Hobart via Portsmouth, the Cape, 27/11/1820, dept. June 10, 1821 for England via the Horn and Rio to arrive Grimsby November 1821, the second via Portsmouth and Rio (and presumably the Cape) arr. Hobart, 24/12/1822, dept. 5/9/1823 to arrive Grimsby (Hull), 14/2/1824 via (presumably the Horn) and Rio. Between each arrival and departure in/from Hobart, Skelton also made trading voyages with cargo and passengers between Hobart and Sydney (Port Jackson). She was lost near Anguila Island near Trinidad July 30, 1828, striking a submerged rock - Captain Percy in command. Thus she had other captains for other voyages, and was in the Trinidad region. Where was she between February 1824 and July 1828 and who was her Captain. Lloyds Register of Ships records - 1824 & 1825 E Todd, 1826 Carlill, Mathews & Tait, 1827 Tait, 1828 Tait then Percy

Research to February 2018