

Esther Maud Mary TASSIE, nee JEFFREYS & John TASSIE

Biography as published in 1995

ESTHER MAUD MARY JEFFREYS born 10/4/1858 at Belvidere, S.A.

Parents : Ann Jeffreys (nee McLean) & Jeff Jeffreys

Grandparents : Christina McLean (nee McPhee) & Donald McLean

MARRIED: at the residence of her parents, Belvidere, **John Tassie** (b. at Brighton. S.A.16/7/1855, a son of Robert Stewart Tassie from Glasgow and his wife Janet McLean Gemmel).

Esther was shown as the 2nd daughter in the newspaper announcement. She was aged 18 years.

By 1910 the Tassie residence was at Seawall, Glenelg, S.A.

FROM THE "CYCLOPEDIA OF S.A." PUBLISHED 1907 and CONCERNING JOHN TASSIE:-

"John Tassie. Director of the firm of D. and W. Murray Limited. Adelaide. is a native of South Australia. He was born at Adelaide in the year 1855 and received his early education at the Gouger Street Academy conducted by Mr Hosking, who afterwards became connected with the Education Department of the State. and became widely known as inspector Hosking. At the age of 14 Mr Tassie entered the wholesale warehouse of Messrs. D. and W. Murray, with which he has been associated ever since. He has had the unique experience of passing through all the grades of service in the same establishment until, from the lowest rung of the ladder. by the force of his personal character, he has raised himself to the highest.

His competency had been so clearly demonstrated that, in 1897, he received the appointment of manager of the Western Australian branch of the business. This necessitated his removal to Perth and during his six years of his residence in the Western State he took an active role in public affairs. He became a member of the Perth Chamber of Commerce, and was elected President for one year.

Returning to Adelaide in 1903, Mr Tassie was appointed Australian Director of D. and W. Murray Limited and still retains that position. During his earlier years, and prior to his departure for Western Australia, which necessarily sundered home associations, Mr Tassie manifested considerable interest in the work of Mutual Improvement Associations, Literary Associations, etc. and was an active member of Union Parliament

His firm is largely interested in local manufacturers, and he is personally Chairman of the Adelaide Hat Manufacturing Company. In 1878 he married Esther, a daughter of Mr Jeffrey Jeffreys of Strathalbyn and has a family of two sons and two daughters."

John Tassie's brother Henry. was also the subject of an article in the Cyclopedia with much detail. The Tassies arrived in S.A. in 1854 from Glasgow. there being seven brothers besides a number of sisters in the family, at Glasgow and Dumbartonshire, Scotland.

DEATHS: Esther Maud Mary Tassie (nee Jeffreys) died in her 65th year on 4/2/1923. She was interred at the St. Jude's Cemetery. Brighton, S.A.

John Tassie died at Adelaide aged 79 years on 8/8/1934 and was interred with his wife at St. Judes_ Brighton.

THERE WERE 5 CHILDREN:

1. Janet Jeffreys Tassie b. 10/8/1879 - possibly at Belvidere, S.A. Married: Harold Curlewis (who was blind) and 3rd of the 8 sons of Edgar Curlewis and his wife Louisa Friend of Perth. The Curlewis family was originally from Kent, England. Death: at Perth in 1961 aged 82 years, of Janet J. Curlewis. Six children – 1903, 1905, 1906 (twins), 1917 & 1919.
2. Jeffrey Robert Tassie born 20/10/1880 (possibly) at Glenelg. S.A. Married: Matilda McMoran Marshall at Perth, W.A. (She was b. 24/6/1881, daughter of John and Hannah Marshall). Deaths: He died aged 25 years on 18/6/1906 at Subiaco, Perth, W.A. of T.B. Matilda Tassie died aged 82 years on 17/12/1963 at Perth - leaving an only daughter. Burials at Karrakatta. W.A. One child – 1905
3. Annie Tassie born 22/7/1882 at Glenelg, S.A. Married: Charles Mews Sherwood at Perth. Residence: Subiaco, Perth W.A. Death: of Annie Sherwood on 21/12/1953 at Perth, W.A. Four children – 1906, 1907, 1909 & 1916.
4. John Tassie born 7/4/1885 at Glerielg, S.A. Served in France during W.W.1 with the 43rd Battalion 1st A.I.F. Killed on active Service aged 33 years on 25/4/1918. No record of marriage.
5. Gemmel Tassie born 21/7/1901 at Perth, W.A. O.A.M. Occupation: Doctor of Medicine. degrees from the Adelaide University. Practised at Murrayville. Victoria after being House Surgeon at the Royal Adelaide Hospital; 14 years at Murrayville. At Adelaide 1939. Awaiting call up to the 2nd A.I.F. but the call did not eventuate. Continued practice in S.A. Married: Dorothy Taplin (b. 17/6/1906). Residence: (1994) McLaren Vale, S.A. Two children – 1929 & 1932.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 490 to 493.
- COLONIALISTS : Christina and Donald McLean and their ten children migrated from Argyllshire to South Australia in 1837. This was in the earliest years of the colony. The McLeans initially settled near Adelaide where they grew the first wheat crop in SA. Then in about 1840 they pioneered the Strathalbyn area. There are now well over 20,000 descendants spread across Australia and elsewhere.
- CHANGES : Please contact us with additions, corrections or suggestions about any part of this family tree.
- CONTACT : Visit our website www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.