

KISSLING - 2

Benner Family Tree

Sunday, April 15, 2012

Note:

The information herein is "work in progress" and may contain incorrect details. As historical data and events are often passed on by word of mouth, and anecdotally, there may be aspects that need alteration. Please contact the author if you see anything that is incorrect. Gary Benner – gary@benner.co.nz – 021 966 992



St Stephens School, Parnell ~ 1852



St Barnabas Church, Parnell ~ 1852



St Barnabas Church, Parnell ~ 1852



St Barnabas Church, Parnell ~ 1852



St Barnabas Church, Parnell

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DEATH OF ARCHDEACON KISSLING.

Daily Southern Cross, Volume XXI, Issue 2594, 10 November 1865, Page 4

THE hand of death has removed from amongst us one of our oldest colonists, and one who has been intimately connected with the missionary cause in New Zealand, namely, Archdeacon Kissling. The friends of this estimable gentleman have no doubt been aware that for some years past he has been suffering from a painful illness, which he bore with much fortitude; and we now deeply regret to have to record that he died at his residence, St. Stephen's Road, Parnell, about two o'clock yesterday afternoon. As a gentleman of rare endowments in his sacred profession, and one of the acknowledged leaders of the missionary cause in New Zealand, we propose to give a short sketch of his life. George Adam Kissling was born in Murr, in Wurtemberg, on the 2nd of April, 1805, and entered school at a very early age, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Fisher. He left school in 1819, and spent the three following years with an uncle in Ludwigsburg and Kornthal, a settlement founded on Moravian principles. There he combined with industry a moderate preparation for further studies; and in October, 1823, he was admitted in the Missionary College at Basel, passed an examination before Professors Buxdorf and Merian, and matriculated at the University of Basel, as a theological student, in June, 1826. After officiating occasionally in the village churches in the Canton of Basel, and for which he received a license,

the deceased passed his final examination before the Theological Faculty, and was ordained in the Church of the Reformed and Lutheran United Confessions, in October, 1827. He then embarked for West Africa, with instructions from the Basle Missionary Society to translate the Scriptures into the Dasu language. He was there associated with several missionary brethren, all of whom were soon removed either by death, or were compelled by ill health to return to Europe; and the subject of our memoir was left alone on the station, occupying his time in teaching the black and half-caste children in the young colony of Liberia. The deceased was then only about twenty-five years of age, and, young as he was, had evidently entered with great earnestness into the missionary work. The German mission being finally abandoned by the Basle Missionary Society, the services of Mr. Kissling were in 1833 transferred by mutual arrangement to Sierra Leone in connection with the Church Missionary Society, holding the charge of the two parishes of St. Peter's and St. James's at Bathurst and Charlotte. He was there appointed to superintend the Christian Institution at Fourah Bay, for training native school-masters and catechists, which he attended to, in addition to the performance of his ministerial duties, and for some time he held the colonial chaplaincy there. In 1840, Mr. Kissling was compelled, by ill health, to return to England, and on recovery applied to the Bishop of London for episcopal ordination, and was admitted to the holy order of deacon in St. James's Church, Westminster. In 1841 he was admitted to holy priesthood in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's, London, and his medical advisers having dissuaded him from returning to Sierra Leone he determined to continue his missionary labours in New Zealand, and arrived in Auckland on the 20th May, 1842. In January of the following year he was appointed by the Bishop of New Zealand to the Hicks's Bay station, and in consequence of ill health returned to Auckland in 1846. In 1847 and 1848 he was appointed by the Bishop to the charge of the native chapels in the vicinity of Auckland; and in January, 1849, was licensed to officiate in the Church of St. Barnabas. In 1851 he took charge of St. Stephen's School, Tararua. On returning to Auckland, about 1852, he was appointed Archdeacon of Waitemata, and subsequently took charge of the parish of St. Mary's, where his ministrations were characterised by great earnestness and ability. It was during the performance of divine service at St. Mary's that the Ven. Archdeacon was prostrated by his first serious attack of illness, and which, we regret to say, after protracted suffering has terminated fatally. Archdeacon Kissling was a gentleman universally beloved and respected for his Christian benevolence, and the earnest and able manner in which he discharged the duties of his sacred calling. He possessed many eminent qualities both as a Christian minister and a good citizen, and besides his sacred office he held amongst other public appointments that of Chairman of the Board of Vaccination, and Chairman of the Board of Education. We may mention that the African Bishop Crowther was a student of the deceased. Archdeacon Kissling leaves a wife, and several sons much respected in their several callings, to deplore their loss; and we are sure there are very many who will deeply sympathise with them.

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OBITUARY.

Auckland Star, Volume XXII, Issue 239, 8 October 1891, P.

The late Mrs Margaret Kissling (relict of Archdeacon G. A. Kissling), who died at her son's residence in Parnell on Sept. 20, was a very old Auckland resident. She was 83 years of age at the time of her death, and had resided in New Zealand for quite half a century. About the year 1840, the date of Auckland's founding, she arrived here from England with her husband, then the Rev. Kissling, to take up the Anglican mission work amongst the Maoris. In the early days Mrs Kissling had some curious experiences as she accompanied her husband in his missionary journeys, and had gone through many of the vicissitudes of the old colonial times. Two of her sons are well-known Auckland residents, one being Mr Schwartz Kissling and Mr Theo. Kissling, Registrar of Juries. The interment of the deceased lady took place on the 22nd at St. Stephen's Cemetery, Parnell, where the remains of her late husband lie.