

# Notes on Scottish Freemasonry in South Australia

compiled by RN  
updated 17 April 2006

## Scottish Constitution Lodges

### **Adelaide 341 SC**

Lodge formed and first met 31 Jan 1844 in Adelaide  
Warrant signed 5 Aug 1844  
Moved to Port Adelaide when George Coppin was Master, 1851  
Lodge records damaged or lost on fire 1857  
Now No. 2 GL South Australia. Continues to meet at Port Adelaide.

### **St Andrew's 555 SC**

Met in Adelaide  
Consecrated 26 Dec 1873, HCE Muecke as Foundation Master.  
Now No. 19 GL South Australia

### **St Vincent's 621 SC**

Met in Port Wakefield (at the head of Gulf St Vincent)  
Warrant dated 6 May 1878  
EVC(?O) Muecke was foundation Master (brother of HCE Muecke)  
Became No 20 GL South Australia, closed sometime after 1984

### **St James' 629 SC**

Met in Saddleworth (in the Mid North region)  
Founded 4 Nov 1878, JJ Rhead first Master  
Became No. 23 GL South Australia  
Warrant surrendered 1897

### **Concordia L. 672 SC**

Met in Adelaide  
Foundation Master JWT Ehmcke. ?? *EWT Pustkuchen*  
Warrant 4 May 1882  
Used a ritual translated into German by HCE Muecke (ritual lost)  
Became No. 28 in GL Sth Australia. Warrant surrendered June 1901

*The present Concordia Lodge No. 226 SAC was consecrated 21 Feb 1981 and works the Schroeder Ritual in English and German.*

### **Holdfast 686 SC**

First met 12 Feb 1883, Alexander Kemp foundation Master.  
First met in Glenelg. Later moved to Unley, purchased property in Arthur Street Unley 1890.  
Now No. 30, GL South Australia.

**Note:** All the above Lodges joined the Grand Lodge of South Australia when it was formed in mid April 1884. RW Bro. HCE Muecke who had been Provincial Grand Master for Scotland installed the new Grand Master of South Australia.

### **Additional Note: Palmerston Lodge 698 SC**

The online version of Draffen's "Scottish Masonic Records" <sup>1</sup> indicates that a Warrant was issued by the Grand Lodge of Scotland on 7 August 1884 (four months after the formation of the Grand Lodge of South Australia in April 1884), to meet at Port Darwin in North Australia. The new Palmerston Lodge was to be No. 698 in the Register of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Draffen stated "it is doubtful is this Lodge was ever erected. If it was, it lapsed soon after."

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<sup>1</sup> Draffen's online records may be accessed at  
[http://freemasonry.dept.shef.ac.uk/?q=resources\\_draffen](http://freemasonry.dept.shef.ac.uk/?q=resources_draffen)

## Scottish Constitution, Provincial Grand Lodge of South Australia

26 Nov 1847 - Notification received of appointment of Allan McFarlane (Sr) (1792-1864) as Provincial Grand Master. He was a pioneer pastoralist in the Wellington area and member of the South Australian Parliament.<sup>2</sup> There is a brief biography in Vol.2 of Rodney Cockburn's "*Pastoral Pioneers of South Australia*" (Vol.2 published in 1927)

8 Apr 1848 - Allan McFarlane (Sr) installed as Provincial Grand Master at Gloag's Hotel, Mt Barker. He never took possession of his Commission of Office.

8 Jul 1864 - Capt. John Hart (1809-1873)<sup>3</sup> installed as Prov GM. A noted pioneer, he was three times Premier of South Australia<sup>4</sup>

John Hart was born in Devonshire in 1809 and at an early age went to sea; in 1835 he established a whaling station at Encounter Bay. After the colony was founded in 1836 he engaged in coastal and inter-colonial trade, retiring from the sea in 1845 following his marriage to Margaret Todd in Dublin, Ireland. Returning to South Australia in 1856 he built a home on land he owned on Lefevre Peninsula which he called 'Glanville Hall', after his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Glanville.<sup>5</sup>

Left a legacy of £250 to 'Cottage Homes'. Acre 1035 in Stanley Street, North Adelaide, enabling two single homes to be named 'The John Hart Homes' (1882).<sup>6</sup>

? 1873 -- Charles Hawkes Todd Connor<sup>7</sup> installed as Prov GM

20 Oct 1880 – Hugo Carl Emil Muecke<sup>8</sup> installed as Prov GM

Apr 1884 - HCE Muecke resigns Office pending formation of Grand Lodge of South Australia

17 Apr 1884 - HCE Muecke installs Samuel James Way as Grand Master of South Australia and is given rank of a Past Grand Master

NB - the Minute Books of the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Australia, Scottish Constitution, were lost sometime after the events of April 1884

## George Selth Coppin<sup>9</sup>

In August 1846 Coppin arrived in Adelaide from Tasmania. He converted the billiard room of the Temple tavern in Gilles Arcade into the 700 seat New Queen's Theatre. He became a joining member of the South Australian Lodge of Friendship No. 613 E.C. and also of **Adelaide Lodge No. 341 S.C.** It is said that he again took the three degrees in Adelaide as his certificate had not caught up with him. By 1848 Coppin was licensee of the Auction

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<sup>2</sup> He receives several mentions in the book "A Diverse Land – a history of the Lower Murray, Lakes and Coorong" by Rob Linn (1988). Also see photo at <http://143.216.21.253/mpcimg/07940/B7883.htm> A farewell dinner to Mr Allan MacFarlane (sic) is reported in the Register newspaper, 8 June 1858, page 3c.

<sup>3</sup> <http://gutenberg.net.au/dictbiog/0-dict-biogHa-He.html#hart1>

<sup>4</sup> See <http://www.southaustralianhistory.com.au/hart.htm> Also see

[http://www.scoutnet.net.au/glanvillehall/our\\_story.htm#history](http://www.scoutnet.net.au/glanvillehall/our_story.htm#history) Photo at

<http://images.slsa.sa.gov.au/mpcimg/07070/B6995.htm> Also see "A sketch of the early life and pioneer work ... of Captain John Hart" by Hart, M.H. (Adelaide, 1936)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/manning/pn/g/g4.htm>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/manning/adelaide/housing/cottage.htm>

<sup>7</sup> Miller in Adelaide, arrived 1853. See Cyclopaedia of South Australia (1907), Vol. 1, p.600. Obituary in the Register newspaper, 22 and 25 May 1926, pages 14f and 11d, and in the Observer newspaper 29 May 1926, page 19a. Photo at <http://images.slsa.sa.gov.au/mpcimg/06320/B6130.jpg>

<sup>8</sup> see biography at <http://www.freemasonrysaust.org.au/muecke.html>

<sup>9</sup> see biography at <http://www.freemasonrysaust.org.au/coppin.html>

Mart Tavern, and involved in horse-racing. It is said that his hotel patrons reflected his multifarious interests in business, mining, racing and Freemasonry. He also imported various luxury items, including Adelaide's first shipment of ice.

In late 1850, in partnership with John Lazar, Coppin reopened the old Queen's Theatre as the renovated Royal Victoria. In March 1851 Coppin opened the White Horse Cellar at Port Adelaide, with an adjoining theatre. By this time he was Master of Adelaide Lodge, and secured its removal from the town of Adelaide to Port Adelaide.

[Coppin was later known as "Father of the Australian Theatre". He was first Grand Master of the unrecognised Grand Lodge of Victoria, a philanthropist, impresario and parliamentarian.]

ADB entry: <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A030430b.htm>

COPPIN, GEORGE SELTH (1819-1906), comic actor and entrepreneur, was born on 8 April 1819 at Steyning, Sussex, England, son of George Selth Coppin and Elizabeth Jane, née Jackson. His grandfather was a clergyman of Norwich claiming long descent in Norfolk; his father was disowned by his family for abandoning his medical studies at 19 to join a group of strolling players, and marrying one of its members who was twice his age. George grew up in the uncertain world of the itinerant theatre, first appearing on the stage as an infant. He attended village day schools between demands of the theatre and early learned to play the violin. By 1826 he and his sister were performing their own act together. George, solemn-faced and tubby, was found to have a flair for comic acting. At 16 he became his own master, and for the next seven years had a variety of jobs connected with the theatre, mainly in the provinces. In Dublin, acting for the Abbey Street theatre, he met Maria Watkins Burroughs, an actress nine years older than himself. They lived together in 1842-48.

In 1842 Coppin decided to leave England for lands of greater promise and, since a toss of a coin decreed Australia and not America, they left England in the Templar and on 10 March 1843 arrived in Sydney. There negotiations with Joseph Wyatt gave Coppin a season at the Royal Victoria Theatre despite competition from other new arrivals. He used his quick-earned theatre profits to buy a hotel, lost money and left Sydney for Hobart Town. He arrived there in January 1845 and joined Mrs Clarke of the Royal Victoria, who gave him some managerial control of her theatre. When he moved to Launceston in March he took most of her players with him as members of his own company. In June the company, bound to work for Coppin alone, went to Melbourne with him. He opened that month as a rival to the Melbourne Co. led by Nesbitt (McCrone) at the Queen's Theatre Royal. Melbourne saw The School for Scandal for the first time; some conservatives deprecated Coppin's innovations in stage scenery as 'evidence that upholstery was going to triumph over acting'. By mid-August he had taken over the Melbourne Co. and leased the theatre 'for a short season'. In August 1846 he left for Adelaide, where on 10 September he arranged to convert the billiard room of the Temple Tavern, Gilles Arcade, into the New Queen's Theatre capable of holding 700 people. The theatre opened on 2 November and Coppin's company included recruits from Melbourne and for a few months the proprietor of the rival Royal Adelaide Theatre. In 1848 John Lazar returned to Adelaide and Coppin, now licensee of the Auction Mart Tavern and a race-horse owner and breeder, transferred the management of the theatre to him. As an hospitable young hotelier, Coppin provided for banquets, political assemblies and other functions where patrons reflected his multifarious interests in business, mining, racing and Freemasonry. He imported luxuries, the first shipment of ice, live turtles, deer for venison. Personal tragedy struck him when on 10 August Maria died after a brief illness, aged 38.

In 1850 he returned to manage the theatre in partnership with Lazar and in December they reopened the old Queen's Theatre as the renovated Royal Victoria, which remained Adelaide's principal playhouse until 1868. Three months later Coppin opened the White Horse Cellar at Port Adelaide. His adjoining theatre was opposed

on moral grounds by William Giles who threatened to withhold use of the South Australia Co.'s fire engine should it catch fire.

In the second half of 1851 the unforeseen exodus to the Victorian goldfields and the collapse of his copper mining speculations left Coppin unable to meet his commitments. Insolvent, he left for the goldfields himself in December but lasted only two days on the diggings; he had already gauged a means of certain fortune in entertaining miners on the spree in Geelong. In 1853 he returned to Adelaide to give his creditors a banquet and cheques for 20s. in the £. He left immediately for England. In London he hired the Haymarket for a night as a gesture of self-advertisement and won lucrative recognition as a comedian. In Birmingham he met the tragedian, G. V. Brooke, and engaged him for an Australian tour, guaranteeing £25 for each performance and half the net receipts. He had a prefabricated iron theatre built for him in Manchester and prepared to equip it with special scenery and a lavish wardrobe. Back in Melbourne on 6 December 1854 he opened at the Queen's Theatre on the 18th with his old favourites: Paul Pry, as Villikins in *The Wandering Minstrel*, Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Demosthenes Dodge in *The Artful Dodger* and the topical and often vulgar *Billy Barlow*. Brooke joined him on 23 February 1855 and three nights later opened at the Queen's with his triumphantly acclaimed *Othello*. The opening in July of the prefabricated Olympic Theatre, nicknamed the Iron Pot, increased competition between Coppin and John Black, the lessee of the Theatre Royal newly built for £95,000. Black became insolvent and by June 1856 Coppin had taken over the theatre. In September he and Brooke went into partnership and at the same time Coppin bought Cremorne Gardens, Richmond. The two now held jointly the Olympic, the Theatre Royal, where they presented alternate seasons of drama and opera, the Cremorne Gardens Amusement Park, Astley's Amphitheatre (later Princess Theatre) and four hotels. Coppin's marriage in August 1855 to Brooke's sister-in-law, Harriet Hilsden, née Bray, was a further bond. A hurried trip to England in search of new talent, and Coppin was back by February 1858 to stage the first balloon ascent to be held in Australia.

In 1858 Coppin entered politics. In April he was elected to the Richmond Municipal Council. In June he retired from the stage and in October was elected by a narrow margin to represent South-western Province in the Legislative Council. His public duties led to the break-up of his partnership in February 1859, Brooke taking over the Royal Hotel and Theatre Royal and Coppin the Olympic and Cremorne Gardens. This arrangement proved costly for Coppin as the Theatre Royal had carried the other ventures. He converted the Olympic into Melbourne's first Turkish baths but Cremorne Gardens continued to drain his resources. As a councillor he could afford to appear as a comedian only for charity and then at the risk of public censure. Brooke was mismanaging the Theatre Royal and steadily going into debt. In December 1860 he and Coppin were publicly reconciled and Coppin took over the theatre management. Brooke's departure in May 1861 ended the partnership, 'that fortunate combination of histrionic ability and worldly sagacity, professional effort and managerial tact'. Harriet had died on 2 September 1859 after her third child was born, and her 18-year-old daughter Lucy Hilsden had taken charge of the household. On 4 June 1861 Coppin married Lucy at the Melbourne Registry Office; their first child was born on 5 January 1862.

Early in 1862 Coppin lost control of the Theatre Royal. Using old tactics he decided to build a larger and more luxurious theatre, the Haymarket, with the adjoining Apollo music hall. It was completed in September and Joseph Jefferson was engaged for the opening performance. Five months later Coppin sold Cremorne Gardens, which the buyer later converted into a private lunatic asylum. Too late to save his fortune but with plans to recover it, Coppin resigned from the Legislative Council on 18 February 1863. In his first term in parliament he had carried through the measure which gave him much pride, the Real Property Act 1862, based on his friend R. R. Torrens's Real Property Act of South Australia. He returned to the stage in earnest, touring the Victorian goldfields, Sydney and then Dunedin, New Zealand. In October 1862 he had engaged Charles and Ellen Kean for an Australian tour. They arrived in

September 1863 and played in Melbourne, Sydney and Ballarat; just before they left for California Coppin paid his creditors in full. At a farewell dinner the citizens of Richmond presented him with 300 sovereigns as a token of appreciation and as a gift for his wife. Coppin accompanied the Keans as their agent from San Francisco in October 1864 to New York a year later; they parted with little sorrow but much more wealth. 'Mr Coppin', wrote Charles Kean to his daughter Mary in May 1864, 'is a good businessman and I believe a truly honourable and upright man but he is a common man and possesses a certain rudeness of manner which is very unpleasant when things do not run smoothly and at the present time he dives both hands deep into his side pockets and looks both blank and black and gives short and curt answers ... a well bred man of the world has the art to hide such feelings'.

Coppin went to England where he saw Brooke, and engaged him for another tour. News of Brooke's ship, the London, foundering in the Bay of Biscay reached Coppin a few weeks after his own safe return to Melbourne in January 1866. Soon afterwards he was persuaded to contest the Richmond seat for the Legislative Assembly; he was defeated but succeeded five years later. In 1874-77 and 1883-88 he was the 'rather silent' member for East Melbourne in the assembly, and in 1889-95 he represented Melbourne in the Legislative Council.

Coppin's defeat in 1866 left him free to carry on his theatrical activities. He appeared in the Haymarket in January and then made intercolonial tours. Troubled by gout in 1868 he announced his impending retirement but no one was to believe him for another decade. Meanwhile he gained control at last of the Theatre Royal only to see it burned to the ground in March 1872, uninsured. He promptly acquired a ninety-nine-year lease of the land and formed the Theatre Royal Pty Association Ltd which raised capital for a theatre costing £24,000, insured for £10,000 and built by Christmas. Coppin was not active in its management and retired in June 1882. In 1874 he engaged J. C. Williamson and his wife Maggie Moore. In 1881 Williamson became sole lessee of the theatre in a transaction from which evolved J. C. Williamson Ltd. Coppin's retirement performances at 62 took him to other Australian colonies and lasted for nearly a year. He retained a stake in the Theatre Royal and its profits saved him in the 1890s when he was badly hit in the bank crashes, for he had become a director of the Commercial Bank of Australia at the instigation of his friend, H. G. Turner. Another source of income to stand him in good stead was his copyright agency which operated on behalf of the Dramatic Authors' Association. He acquired the nucleus of what later amounted to the performing rights covering some eight thousand works in November 1865; the first of many lawsuits to test the validity of these rights for 'Australasia' was won in the Supreme Court of New South Wales in February 1866.

Coppin showed a marked talent for applying his energies to the promotion of specific reforms or institutions which had caught his attention. In the Victorian Legislative Council in 1863 he campaigned for the introduction of Post Office savings banks based on the English Act of 1861. More often his philanthropy worked independently or in the municipal sphere. He was prominent in establishing the Victorian Humane Society and the St John Ambulance in Melbourne, and founded free dispensaries at Richmond. He formed the Old Colonists Association in 1869 and was instrumental in the building of the Old Colonists' Homes at North Fitzroy. An energetic Freemason he became the first grand master of Victoria. He organized the Dramatic and Musical Society in 1871. Another project was the promotion of Sorrento, where he had a house, as a holiday resort, although he lost a lot of money in building a private tramway there in the late 1880s. After an illness at Sorrento in March 1906 he returned to Pine Grove, Richmond, where he died on the 14th, survived by his wife and their two sons and five daughters, and by two of the three daughters of his first marriage. He left an estate valued at £9709.

Coppin has been credited with both fathering the Australian theatre and inaugurating its second phase of development by introducing the 'pernicious "starring tours" of visiting celebrities'. The first claim can well be disputed. Undoubtedly his enterprise

was irrepressible; the business of entertainment suited his talents but, more important, he had an ingrained love of the theatre. He acted to make money but he found a stage in many other spheres. His progressive approach to the theatre was evident in his methods of advertising, his insistence on correct costuming and his recognition in 1871 of the need for a school of acting to develop Australian talent, but he was not always scrupulous in dealing with rivals.

#### Select Bibliography:

Men of the Time in Australia. Victorian series, 1st ed (Melb, 1878); A Century of Journalism: The Sydney Morning Herald, 1831-1931 (Syd, 1931); P. McGuire et al, The Australian Theatre (Melb, 1948); P. Hartnoll (ed), The Oxford Companion to the Theatre (Lond, 1951); C. J. Kean, Emigrant in Motley, J. M. D. Hardwicke ed (Lond, 1954); J. Kardoss, A Brief History of the Australian Theatre (Syd, 1955); J. F. Field, These Joyous Sands (Sorrento, 1959); G. Serle, The Golden Age (Melb, 1963); A. Bagot, Coppin the Great: Father of the Australian Theatre (Melb, 1965); M. Cannon, The Land Boomers (Melb, 1966); G. Fischer, 'The professional theatre in Adelaide 1838-1922', Australian Letters, 2 (1959-60); H. Oppenheim, 'Coppin — How Great?', Australian Literary Studies, Oct 1967; Coppin collection (State Library of Victoria). More on the resources

Author: Sally O'Neill

Print Publication Details: Sally O'Neill, 'Coppin, George Selth (1819 - 1906)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 3, Melbourne University Press, 1969, pp 459-462.

## Allan McFarlane (senior)

SLSA photo B7883 (c.1860)

Allan McFarlane (1792-1864) took an occupation licence 'West of Lake Victoria' (now Alexandrina) on 26 February 1844.

Glenfoy [sic], (near Nairne?) the residence of Allan Mcfarlane Esq.

A farewell dinner to Mr Allan MacFarlane (sic) is reported in the Register, 8 June 1858, page 3c.

An obituary of A. McFarlane is in the Register, 16 March 1864, page 2g

An obituary [of his son of the same name] appears in Register on 12 March 1908, page 4h. and Observer, 14 March 1908, page 40a.

Letters from him relating to his northern exploration are in the Advertiser, 10 and 20 August 1858, pages 3c and 2g.

Information on "Wellington Lodge" is in the Observer, 22 October 1898,

24 October 1903, pages 13c-23.

Shamrock Pool - Samuel Parry's journal is reproduced in the Register, 27 August 1858, page 2e where he says, inter alia, "[It was] discovered by Mr MacFarlane who visited this part some time ago..."; also see Parliamentary Paper 24/1858.

The following is from a brief biography in Vol.2 of Rodney Cockburn's "*Pastoral Pioneers of South Australia*" (Vol.2 published 1927):

Allan McFarlane, Senr., and his wife and family left Caithness, Scotland, in 1839, arriving in South Australia on November 9, in the ship Superb. Robert Lawson, of Padthaway, and the father of William Richardson, of Dalveen, were fellow passengers. The McFarlane family was evidently intent upon primary production, and they got to work, considering the primitive conditions of those days, with commendable celerity. A fortnight after arrival land had been selected in the Mount Barker district, where five sections were occupied before the year 1839 had slipped off the calendar. In the light of the dignity and proportion of the McFarlanes' sheep farming enterprise in later years, it is interesting to turn back to the day of small things, which no true pioneer despised. Their place at Mount Barker was called "Glensloy," and in a report on rural development, furnished by Governor Grey to the Imperial authorities in 1840, it is recorded that this energetic family had already

erected a large pise dwelling, stockyards and sheep pens, and that 25 acres had been enclosed with posts and rails. "Water in abundance" was yielded by a teatree swamp, and the report continued: "Wheat sown about the middle of May upon ground only once broken up; a very fine crop, very slightly smutted. Barley, oats and potatoes planted in the beginning of November looking well." In 1841 the sheep at Glensloy, about two miles from Mount Barker, numbered 71 males and 130 females.

Considering his great worth as a citizen, singularly little has been written about Allan McFarlane, Senr. Loyau's "Notable South Australians," gave him only four lines, but he lived in the hearts of the people of his day, and when he died in 1864 the Governor's carriage, with Private Secretary R. D. Ross in it, was included in the funeral cortege. His fine, manly presence impressed everybody, and what promised to be a useful Parliamentary career was cut short by his very sudden death. For three years he had sat in the House of Assembly, first as a representative of the Murray electorate, and then for the Mount Barker district. He was one of the trustees appointed to "make, amend and keep in repair" the Adelaide-Mount Barker road at the time when the toll-house at Glen Osmond was in operation, and he was foreman of a grand jury which tried some cattle stealers in the Courthouse, Whitmore Square, in November, 1842. The committee of the Mount Barker Agricultural and Horticultural Society placed on the minute book and published a resolution of regret at his death, and acknowledged the valuable assistance he had always rendered that body. At the meeting when such resolution was carried, a letter was read from Mr. McFarlane, dated the very day of his death, agreeing to act as one of the judges in the horse section at the next show.

The Mount Barker district did not afford sufficient scope for the great enterprise that the McFarlane family exhibited from the start of their South Australian history, and the year 1845 saw them trekking across the Murray to the confines of Lake Alexandrina, where 34 square miles of country was leased at a cost of 15/- a mile. Among the sons who took part in this operation, was Donald Horne McFarlane (afterwards Sir), who subsequently returned to Scotland, and represented Argyllshire in the House of Commons. George French Angas, describing a trip to the lakes that he made with representatives of the South Australian Company soon after his arrival from London, says: "On reaching the upper crossing place of the Murray on our return a busy scene presented itself. Three thousand sheep belonging to Messrs. McFarlane were being conveyed on rafts across the river, in order to take them to the new pastures near the lake, and as but few sheep could be placed in the pen upon the raft at one journey, the conveyance of so great a number becomes necessarily a tedious process." The McFarlanes carried a full share of the burdens that confronted all the early squatters. They were in a region whence it took several days travel by bullock dray to reach even the outskirts of civilisation, and their sheep strayed in the unfenced country.

Allan McFarlane, Senr., died on March 11, 1864, at the age of 72 years, and his grave is in the Clayton Churchyard, Kensington. In 1908 - on March 11, by a strange coincidence - Allan McFarlane, Junr., died at North Adelaide in his 80th year.

## John Hart –

“Captain Hart: a sketch” by Hart, M.H. (Adelaide: 1936)

ADB entry - <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A040403b.htm>

Photo of John Hart (1809 - 1873), by unknown photographer, courtesy of State Library of South Australia. SLSA: B11134 .

HART, JOHN (1809-1873), mariner, merchant and parliamentarian, was born on 25 February 1809 in England. He went to sea at 12 and visited Hobart Town in September 1828 as a seaman in the *Magnet*. In November 1829 as second mate in the *Britannia* he went to Western Australia and then became well acquainted with the southern coast from Perth to Sydney. In 1832 he was master of the *Elizabeth*, owned and built by John Griffiths at Launceston, and often visited Kangaroo Island to land and pick up sealers and collect seal and wallaby skins and salt. In 1833 he took Edward Henty from Launceston to Portland and returned with whale oil. He then went to New Zealand for pine and potatoes, visited Kangaroo Island, sailed up Gulf St Vincent and stood on the future site of Adelaide. In 1835 he went to England to buy a ship for Griffiths and supplied the South Australian Colonization Commission with information and Colonel Light with sailing directions. Hart sailed in the *Isabella* with J. B. Hack and family as passengers and arrived at Launceston on 1 January 1837. He soon left for Adelaide with livestock for Hack but on a second voyage the *Isabella* was wrecked off Cape Nelson. When Hack heard of the disaster he gave Hart two acres (.8 ha) in Adelaide and invested £1500 in a schooner which Hart used as a coastal trader. In 1839 he joined Hack and other partners in a whaling venture at Encounter Bay and managed it for £500 a year; Hack was bankrupted in 1841 and Hart later engaged him as an accountant. With Hagen and John Baker Hart ran the whaling station in 1842-46 and as his fortunes recovered he bought larger ships. He twice visited Britain and in 1845 married Margaret Gillmor Todd of Dublin.

Hart retired from the sea in 1846 and settled in Adelaide. He bought and leased land in various parts of the colony, ran cattle and acted as agent for absentees. He also invested in copper mines at the Burra, Paringa and Montacute in 1845, *Princess Royal* and *Mount Remarkable* in 1846 and *Yorke's Peninsula* in 1848. He was also a director of the *Forest Iron Smelting and Steam Sawing Co.* at Cox's Creek and a copper-smelting venture at Port Adelaide, but lost heavily on mineral land at North Kapunda. In 1860 he was deeply involved in the Great Northern Copper Mining scandal but was exonerated after inquiry. In 1849 he had helped to form the short-lived *Adelaide Marine Association Co.* and the company intending to build a railway from Adelaide to the port; later he bought shares in the *National* and the *Union Banks*. Perhaps his best-known achievement was at Port Adelaide where in 1855 he built a flourmill with twice the grinding capacity of any other in the province, believing that South Australia was to be the granary of the continent.

Hart was elected in 1851 to the Legislative Council for the district of Victoria, resigned in 1853 to visit England and was re-elected in 1854. In the House of Assembly he represented Port Adelaide in 1857-59 and 1862-66, Light in 1868-70 and the Burra in 1870-73. He was treasurer under Baker in 1857, Hanson in 1857-58, Ayers in 1863 and in 1864, and Blyth in 1864-65. He was chief secretary under Dutton in July 1863 and led his own ministries in 1865-66, 1868 and 1870-71 when he introduced the title of premier. As a councillor he had been a moderate conservative but in the assembly he developed into a tough politician, pleasant enough but something of a schemer. His greatest interests were port and shipping charges. He violently opposed government railways and later advocated their sale, declaring that the only duties of parliament were to protect the country from foreign aggression or internal disorders and provide for the administration of justice and the protection of property. He opposed government borrowing and provision of water and drainage. By 1862 he was in favour of direct taxation of property on condition that free trade displaced customs duties. He maintained that education should not be free as knowledge was not appreciated unless paid for, and advocated a direct tax for secular education. He claimed that public service was a privilege and an honour, and that members should be paid for time lost in private pursuits rather than the value of services rendered. He had brought in a shipload of coolies in 1853 and continued to advocate migration from India and China as well as from Britain, especially after 1863 when South Australia took over the Northern Territory.

While Hart was in office he planned Goyder's survey expedition and carried the bill for the overland telegraph to Darwin although he criticized its route through Port

Augusta. He was appointed C.M.G. in 1870 and died suddenly on 28 January 1873 at his home, Glanville, near Port Adelaide. He was survived by his wife and a large family, to whom he left an estate valued at more than £50,000. A son, John, represented Port Adelaide in the House of Assembly in 1880-81.

Select Bibliography: G. D. Combe, *Responsible Government in South Australia* (Adel, 1957); D. Pike, *Paradise of Dissent* (Melb, 1967); *Observer* (Adelaide), 24 Mar 1853; W. H. Baynes, *John Hart: The Public Record, 1831 to 1872* (B.A. Hons thesis, University of Adelaide 1961). More on the resources

Author: Sally O'Neill, 'Hart, John (1809 - 1873)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 4, Melbourne University Press, 1972, pp 355-356.

## CHT Connor

Charles Hawkes Todd Connor arrived in South Australia in 1853. Manager of the Adelaide Milling Company (photo Acre 11, c.1890 SLSA B34566  
Vol 1 p.600 *Cyclopedia of South Australia*  
Walkerville Sketchbook p.54  
Pascoe JJ *History of Adelaide and Vicinity* (1901) p.413  
Photograph by Durea (c.1890) SLSA B6130  
Hart's Mill, Mundy Street, west side, Port Adelaide - operated by the Adelaide Milling Company photo c.1880 SLSA B6674 (1970 - B 43679 )

## HCE Muecke

Biographical details of H.C.E. Muecke - Register 30 March 1891, pages 4h, 1 April 1891, page 5b ; *Observer*, 20 November 1897, page 16d., 26 September 1903, page 24a  
"Honouring a [German] Consul [H.C.E. Muecke]" is in the Register, 28 November 1907, page 8g.

On 11 April 1905 at the parish church of St Marylebone, singer Ada Jemima Crossley married Dr Francis Frederick Muecke (1879-1945), son of H.C.E. Muecke of Adelaide.

ADB entry: <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A100590b.htm>

MUECKE, HUGO CARL EMIL (1842-1929), customs and shipping agent, was born on 8 July 1842 at Rathenow, near Berlin, eldest son of Dr Carl Wilhelm Ludwig Muecke and his first wife Emilie. The family arrived in Adelaide in 1849. Educated at Tanunda High School, at 16 Hugo joined John Newman's commercial and shipping agency, which required a German-speaking clerk. In 1866 he became a partner, and also a naturalized British subject. On 2 April 1863 at Tanunda he had married Margaret Elisabeth Julia Le Page from Guernsey, Channel Islands; they had four daughters and four sons.

After Newman's death in 1873, Muecke took over the business, renamed H. Muecke & Co. It owned large bond stores at Port Adelaide, handled consignment and customs business, acted as agent for Norddeutscher-Lloyd and other steamship lines, and owned and operated small coastal vessels. In 1877 Muecke became vice-consul for Germany, and was consul in 1882-1914, an honorary position (apart from occasional fees). He was also a justice of the peace. First elected to the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce committee in 1880, he served almost continuously until 1915, including terms as deputy chairman (1884) and president (1885-86). A successful and highly respected member of the business community, Muecke became a director of the Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd in 1892. He joined the boards of the Bank of Adelaide, Adelaide Steamship Co. Ltd and Executor Trustee & Agency Co. of South Australia Ltd and the local boards of South British Fire & Marine Insurance Co. and

National Mutual Life Association of Australasia (1878-1915). He served as warden of the Marine Board and on the Port Adelaide, Rosewater and Walkerville municipal councils. In 1900 he became a member of the Adelaide Club; he was active in the German Club and a prominent Freemason. In 1903 he entered the Legislative Council for the Central District as a conservative; he was defeated in 1910.

In April 1914 Muecke became chairman of B.H.P. When war came, this key role in the steel industry nourished suspicion generated by his German birth and trade activities, despite his long residence in South Australia, his naturalization, and his assurance to the governor of 'good and loyal citizenship in this State'. In November B.H.P. offices were raided by 'defence authorities'; no evidence of any offence was found. After asking the board in January 1915 to release him from the chairmanship and to grant six months leave of absence as director, Muecke resigned his directorship in October. Already in May he had relinquished involvement in the Chamber of Commerce.

In November he nevertheless sought re-election as director of the Executor Trustee & Agency Co. He published advertisements repudiating Germany's war conduct and countering 'disparaging remarks' about his loyalty. He protested that his family was 'enthusiastically British' and did not speak German; his youngest son, a surgeon wounded at Gallipoli, was then serving with the British in France. Muecke's re-election campaign succeeded, but Defence authorities were not persuaded. He was interned in April 1916 at Fort Largs and, following appeals on his behalf by local businessmen, from May at his own home in Medindie, 'in charge of one man stationed in the house'. This military custody ended in October. Two sons carried on the business, which is still conducted by descendants.

Muecke died at Thorngate on 6 June 1929, and was buried privately with Anglican rites. His estate was valued at about £100,000.

#### Select Bibliography

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Author: Joan Hancock, Eric Richards, 'Muecke, Hugo Carl Emil (1842 - 1929)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 10, Melbourne University Press, 1986, p. 604.

MUECKE, CARL WILHELM LUDWIG (1815-1898), educationist, pastor and editor  
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A050352b.htm>