

aged six and four, but there is no mention of them in the will, and it seems likely that Cuthbert had not communicated with her.

A year passed between Jane's death and the proving of her will in September 1862, and by then Cuthbert had only four months to live. He died aged 45 on 2 January 1863 in the Immigrants' Home at Prince's Bridge in Melbourne, of acute hepatitis. Those filling in the death certificate knew so little about him that the names of the father and mother were marked 'not known'; whether married, and where, and at what age, is likewise 'not known'. They did know that he had two small boys, Charles and Vans, but their whereabouts are again 'not known'. This seemingly destitute and friendless artist was by no means destitute however, had he been aware of it, for as well as his share in the various valuables his mother bequeathed to members of the family—gold watch and chain to Cuthbert; jewellery to daughters and grandchildren; oil painting, Bible, tea chest, writing desk, to sons and sons-in-law (both high ranking army officers, one a general); a fourth of her silver plate to each of her children (except for her silver coffee pot and silver tea pot which each daughter might use for her lifetime and then pass on to her eldest girl) and so on—she had directed that stocks and shares standing in her name at the Bank of England and the Bank of Australasia in London, should be administered by her two named trustees and the dividends divided equally among her children.

There are two reasons for dealing at length with Jane and her will, the first being to note the solid background from which this maverick artist sprang, and secondly because it makes it clear that the break with the family was of Cuthbert's choosing. This being so it is strange that he retained family names for his sons. The elder, born in 1856, was called Charles Marmaduke Havelock, and the younger, born in 1858, was called Vans Christian, the name of Cuthbert's younger brother. There was some uncertainty in naming the first born, for Cuthbert called him John when registering his birth. On his wife's death certificate, under 'living issue', the above names are given to a child born on that date and so without doubt the same baby.

The date of Cuthbert Clarke's birth generally has been given as 1819. He was born in Smyrna in Turkey, where his father, a Naval surgeon, had a shore posting as surgeon of the British Hospital. His birth certificate shows that he was born on 1 October 1818 and baptised on 2 February 1819.<sup>2</sup>

In 1834 when he was sixteen the family returned to London. Attempts to discover anything about his activities at that time have failed, though he claimed to have done work as an illustrator in Britain. He was not trained at the Royal Academy, the only art school in London whose records have survived. In 1838, John Cuthbert Clarke, his father, retired from the navy and returned to his native Edinburgh, and from the brief mention Cuthbert made in a diary he kept in New Zealand many years later we know he travelled north with the rest of the family. However he was not with them for the 1841 census and when he