


No.	Service:	Rank:	Names & Service Information:	Supporting Information:				
5.-	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 159 252 376">17<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1845</td> <td data-bbox="252 159 347 376">1<sup>st</sup> Feb. 1848.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="156 376 252 461">Mason April 1838</td> <td data-bbox="252 376 347 461">Sept 1848</td> </tr> </table>	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 1845	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb. 1848.	Mason April 1838	Sept 1848	Captain	<p><b>Gordon Thomas Falcon, R.N.</b></p> <p><b>B.1777,</b></p> <p>. D. 11 Jan 1854, Kensington, London. <b>B. 20 Jan 1854,</b> All Souls, Kensal Green, Kensington and Chelsea, England.</p> <p><b>1794</b> Gordon Thomas Falcon entered the Navy, as Able seaman, on board the frigate "<b>Sheerness</b>", under Capt. William Geo. Fairfax, in the Channel, flag-ship, of Rear-Admiral Henry Harvey.</p> <p><b>1795-6</b> attained the rating of Midshipman, and accompanied the former officer into the "<b>Repulse</b>"; a Dutch hoy that the Admiralty purchased in 1794. She was commissioned into the Royal Navy in March 1794 under Lieutenant George Hill. She and several of her sister ships (Lion, Eagle, Scorpion, and Tiger), formed part of a short-lived squadron under Philippe d'Auvergne at Jersey. In <b>1795</b> she was under Lieutenant Jackson Dowsing, in the Channel. And "<b>Venerable</b>", she was a 74-gun third rate ship of the line of the Royal Navy, launched on 19 April 1784 at Blackwall Yard . In 1795 the ship is known to have been under the command of Captain James Bissett . In 1797, the "<b>Venerable</b>" served as Admiral Duncan's flagship at the Battle of Camperdown, the latter bearing the flag of Admiral Duncan, whom, after participating in the battle off Camperdown <b>11 Oct. 1797.</b></p> <p><b>1798</b> he followed onto the "<b>Kent</b>", she was a 74-gun third-rate ship of the line of the Royal Navy, launched on <b>17 Jan 1798</b> at the Blackwall Yard. During his attachment to which ship he appears to have been lent, for three months, as Acting-Lieutenant, to the "<b>Champion</b>" 20 guns, under the command of Captain Henry Raper. She was one of nine <i>Comus-class</i> corvettes of the Royal Navy, built in the late 1870s and early 1880s to a design by Nathaniel Barnaby.</p> <p><b>May-Sep 1799</b> he successively joined, in the same capacity, the "<b>Busy</b>" 18 guns, she was launched in 1797 as the only member of her class of brig-sloops. And later joined the "<b>Hyaena</b>" frigates, with Captains John Acworth Ommanney and David Lloyd, was a 24-gun Porcupine-class post-ship of the Royal Navy launched in 1778.</p> <p><b>15 May 1800</b> he was appointed to the full rank of Lieutenant. He was also confirmed</p>	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Son of Michael Falcon (B.1731, -D.1811.) and Barbara Gordon (1739, -1824)</b> [daughter of William Gordon of Largmore (?-1745) and Nicolais Garthshore.] In all they had 6 boys, Gordon Thomas was the last.</p> <p><b>7 Oct. 1834</b> - Capt. Falcon (aged 57 years) married <b>Louisa</b>, (widow of the late Captain <b>Cursham.</b>) (<b>1787-1860</b>) and daughter of Richard <b>Merricks (Meyrick)</b>, Esq., of Runkton, co. Sussex, by whom he had issues.</p> <p><i>Although listed as having issues, <b>Gordon</b> was 57 years old when married and his wife, <b>Louisa</b> was 47 years old. They are shown in the 1841 Census, however searches have fail to find them in the subsequent 1851 Census.</i></p>  <p><b>Gordon Thomas Falcon</b> by Richard James Lane lithograph, 1855.</p>
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into the "**Wright**" an armed-ship, under Captain Thos. Campbell.

**23 Aug 1800** his subsequent appointments as Lieutenant were on the West India, North America, and Lisbon stations.

**1801** Gordon Thomas Falcon was at the blockade of the Dutch coast in the Sheerness; and in the "**Andromeda**" at the taking of the Danish and Swedish islands in the West Indies.

**9 Jun 1802** posted to the "**Adromeda**" 5th rate vessel of 32 guns, launched from Liverpool 1784, she was under Captains. Jas. Bradby and Edw. Durnford King.

**21 Jul 1803** to the "**Cambrian**", a Royal Navy 40-gun fifth-rate frigate, and "**Leander**" a Portland-class 50-gun fourth rate of the Royal Navy, flag-ships of Sir Andrew Mitchell.

**23 Feb 1805** while in the "**Leander**" Mr. Falcon assisted, under Capt. John Talbot, at the capture, of "**La Ville de Milan**" French frigate, of 46 guns, and the simultaneous re-capture of her prize, the "**Cleopatra**" of 32 guns.

**1806-9** he was appointed to the "**Leopard**", a 50-gun *Portland*-class fourth rate of the Royal Navy. She had served during both the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. She and was notable for the actions of her captain in **1807**, which were emblematic of the tensions that later erupted in the War of 1812 between Britain and America. She was wrecked in **1814**. Falcon was later attached to the "**Barfluer**", she was a 90-gun second-rate ship of the line of the Royal Navy, designed by Sir Thomas Slade on the lines of the 100-gun ship *Royal William*, launched at Chatham Dockyard on 30 July 1768, at a cost of £49,222. In about 1780, she had another eight guns added to her quarterdeck, making her a 98-gun ship; she possessed a crew of approximately 750. Her design class sisters were the *Prince George*, *Princess Royal*, and *Formidable*. She was a ship of long service and many battles. Falcon was also attached to the "**Ganges**", a 3<sup>rd</sup> rate ship containing 78 guns, and "**Barfluer**" yet again, bearing the flag of Hon. George Cranfield Berkeley.

**22 Mar 1807 - 22 June 1807** Falcon was with Captain Salusbury Pryce Humphreys, in the "**Leopard**", when he was one of the officers sent to search the United States' frigate "**Chesapeake**" for deserters, after that vessel had struck her colours, an action that led again to war.

**Nov 1809 - Sep 1810** Falcon was First-Lieutenant of the "**Barfleur**" when Lord Wellington occupied the lines of Torres Vedras. The "Lines of Torres Vedras" were lines of forts built in secrecy to defend Lisbon during the Peninsular War. Named after the nearby town of Torres Vedras, they were ordered by Arthur Wellesley, Viscount Wellington, constructed by Sir Richard Fletcher, 1st Baronet, and his Portuguese workers between **Nov 1809** and **Sep 1810**, and used to stop French invasion of **1810** and their offensive. By this and there subsequent use of these allowed enough for the defence, giving the Anglo-Portuguese army time to train and recruit for the next campaigning season.

**8 Mar 1811**, while acting as Captain of the "**Macedonian**", a 38-gun fifth rate *Lively*-class frigate of the Royal Navy. She was later captured by USS *United States* during the War of 1812. She was built at Woolwich Dockyard, England in 1809, launched **2 Jun 1810** and commissioned the same month.

Followed this Falcon was made Commander of the "**Melpomene**" a frigate troop-ship of 40 guns, taken from the French.

**29 Oct 1813** he attained post-rank of Captain, and he soon afterwards re-joining the "**Leander**" 50. HMS *Leander* was a 50-gun spar-decked frigate of the Royal Navy which saw service in the Napoleonic Wars, the War of 1812, and the Second Barbary War. *Leander* and her near sister HMS *Newcastle* were a new type of ship to the Royal Navy, being exceptionally large and powerful frigates. They were ordered in response to the threat posed by the heavy American spar-decked frigates, during the War of 1812. *Leander* proved a successful ship, which operated in squadrons which chased the American frigates, but ultimately failed to catch them before the war ended.

**14 Mar 1814** he obtained command of the "*Cyane*" of 32 guns, and 171 men. She was a Royal Navy *Banterer-class* sixth-rate post ship of nominally, built in 1806 at Topsham, near Exeter, England. She was ordered in January 1805 as HMS *Columbine* but renamed "*Cyane*" on 6 December of that year. She had a distinguished career in British service that included the award in 1847 of a clasp to the Naval General Service Medal to any still surviving crew members of either of two actions. On 20 February 1815, she and HMS *Levant* engaged the USS *Constitution*; outgunned, both had to surrender. She then became USS *Cyane*, and served as including a period on anti-slavery duties,

After a furious action off Madeira, in which, besides being much cut to pieces, she sustained a loss of 6 men killed and 13 wounded, the vessel, together with her consort, the "*Levant*", she was a 20-gun *Cyrus-class* sixth rate of the Royal Navy built by William Courtney, of Chester.

**20 Feb 1815** The "*Levant*" was one of five British warships that USS *Constitution* captured or destroyed during the **War of 1812**. She was soon recaptured, and after 1817 was reclassified as a sloop of war. At this time the "*Levant*" event, she carried at least 131 men, when unfortunately captured by the American ship "*Constitution*", of 54 guns and 469 men.

**21 Feb 1815** Captain Falcon (and his all of his crew) consequently became a prisoner of war, but, peace soon restored him his liberty, he returned home to England.

**24 Jun 1817** was afterwards appointed to the "*Tyne*"; she was a 6<sup>th</sup> rate with 26 guns, dimensions of 446bm, and 108½' ft. x 30½' ft. In this vessel in **Oct 1820** he brought over, 700,000 specimens from South America to England thus greatly widening the knowledge of England.

**28 Jun 1815** Gordon Falcon's name appears on UK, Naval and Military Court Martial Registers, 1806-1930 for events that occurred on the "*Cyane*", [ref- ADM 194/42] (see above).

**1 Mar 1823** appointed to the "*Isis*", lying at Chatham. She was launched in 1819 was ordered in 1811 as a 50-gun two-decker of the fourth rate *Salisbury* class, but was redesigned while building, being lengthened on the stocks by 11 feet, and cut down by one deck to produce a spar-deck frigate, that is, to carry extra guns on the spar deck which linked the forecastle to the quarterdeck.

It was then intended for her to have carried 58 guns, but this weapon 'fit' was amended on 3 June 1823 to complete her as a 50-gun frigate with an unarmed spar deck, and she was later reduced in 1830 to a 44-gun frigate carrying twenty-six 32-pounder guns on the upper deck, twelve more 32-pounder guns on the quarterdeck, and two 32-pounder guns on the forecastle together with two 8-inch shell guns.

**23 Jun 1823** appointed to the "*Spartiate*" of 76 guns. She was originally a French 74-gun ship of the line, launched in 1797. In 1798, she took part in the Battle of the Nile, where she became one of the nine ships captured by the Royal Navy. In 1805, she fought at the Battle of Trafalgar under Francis Laforey. Flag-ship of Sir George Eyre, on the South American station.

**21 Aug. 1825** appointed to the "*Wellesley*", she was a 74-gun third rate, named after the Duke of Wellington, and launched in 1815. She captured Karachi for the British, and participated in the First Opium War, which resulted in Britain gaining control of Hong Kong. Thereafter she served primarily as a training ship before gaining the distinction of being the last British ship of the line to be sunk by enemy action and the only one to have been sunk by an air-raid. She was also flag-ship of Sir George Eyre, on the South American station.

**1 May 1833** appointed to the "*San Josef*", a 114-gun first rate ship of the line of the Royal Navy. She was captured from the Spanish Navy at the Battle of Cape St Vincent on 14 February 1797. In 1809 she served as the flagship of Admiral John Thomas Duckworth.

**5 Sep 1835** appointed to the "*Royal Adelaide*" 104, both of the above vessel bore the flag of Sir William Hargood, Commander-in-Chief at Plymouth, where he continued

			<p>until paid off, 30 April, 1836. HMS Royal Adelaide was a 104-gun first-rate ship of the line of the Royal Navy, launched on 28 July 1828 at Plymouth. When first ordered in 1812 she was intended to be a second rate of 98 guns, but in the general reclassifications of 1817 she was re-classed as a first rate.</p> <p><b>1841 Census</b> shows Gordon T Falcon (60) [Navy] and his wife Louisa (50) living in Grosvenor Place, Southampton Town.</p> <p><b>17 Feb 1845</b> he was appointed and employed as Captain of the "<b>Royal Sovereign</b>" yacht, and Captain/Superintendent of the Dockyard at Pembroke. He took over from Captain Watkin Owen Pell.</p> <p><b>1 Aug 1848</b> his promotion to Flag-rank took place; on which occasion he was superseded as the Captain Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard, by Captain Peter Richards.</p> <p><b>1 Aug 1848</b> he was appointed to the rank of Rear Admiral, of the Blue.</p> <p><b>Jan 1854</b> Rear Admiral Gordon Thomas Falcon Died.</p>
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			<p>George Mason reported the following in <b>1904</b>:-</p> <p>....On <b>Aug 19, 1846</b>, Mr. Meyrick, the late owner of the Bush estate, conveyed through Edward Laws, Esq., a site for the erection of a new church. <i>It was reported by Mrs Peters</i>, that on this site was once a rope-walk, owned by a man named Eldridge. The ground for the building of the church was staked out on Wednesday, September 4, 1846, and the foundation-stone was laid on <b>21 Sept 1846</b>, by Lord Auckland, 1st Lord of the Admiralty. He was accompanied by Sir Charles Adams and Captain Berkeley, subsequently Lord Fitzhardinge, and the Board of Admiralty. The Mayor and Corporation were present. The Superintendent of the Dockyard, <b>Captain Falcon</b>, gave a short address, after Lord Auckland had spoken. The Royal Marines formed a guard of honour, and the band of the 37th Regiment. The architect was J. Harrison, Esq., and the contractors were Messrs. Jones and Griffiths. The cost of the church was £3,500. On September 29, 1848, the Church of St. John the Evangelist, as it was named, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of St. David's the late Right Rev. Connop Thirlwall, who was reportedly one of the greatest Greek scholars of his day. With the consecration of the church, Pembroke Dock became ecclesiastically a new parish, that of St. John's.....</p>
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			<p>George Mason reported the following in <b>1904</b>:-</p> <p><b>4 Aug 1847 Royal Visit:</b> .....On many occasions British Royalty, making passage to Ireland found Milford Haven a safe resting place, her Majesty Queen Victoria, with the Prince Consort and their children on board the Royal yacht "<b>Victoria and Albert</b>" on their way to the Cove of Cork (subsequently renamed Queenstown in commemoration of the Queen's official visit there) put into Milford Haven. Their arrival in the Haven was made known to the people by the firing of a Royal salute from Pater Battery by men of the Royal Dockyard Battalion. During the afternoon; Prince Albert steamed up the Haven .on board· the tender "<b>Fairy</b>" landing at the Dockyard where he was received by <b>Captain Falcon R.N.</b> the Superintendent of the Yard and a Royal Marines guard of honour. He was then conducted over part of the -Dockyard, and subsequently proceeded in a carriage to Pembroke to view the old Castle, but owing to the immense crowd that had gathered near the ruins, he went no further than Bush-Hill, where he did obtain a splendid view of the Castle, which, was surrounded by water, the tide being in. His Royal Highness having viewed the locality was presented a pencil sketch by Mr. Harry E. Potter, of Pembroke (formerly of Haverfordwest). After this he and his party returned to the Dockyard and from there went down the Haven to re-join the Royal Yacht.</p> <p>It was the only time Her Majesty visited Milford Haven. She did not land· on the occasion, neither did the Royal children – the Princess Royal and Prince ·of Wales.</p> <p>The Queen did accept a present of fresh butter from <b>Captain Falcon's</b> dairymaid, who made the presentation dressed in full Welsh national costume, which pleased Her Majesty very much.</p> <p>The Royal Yacht and retinue squadron left the Haven at day break the next morning. <i>Reported by George Mason as "Sunday", but checks have proved this would have been Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> or Friday 6<sup>th</sup>. .....</i></p>
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