

1863, at the age of 96 and was buried in Petersham churchyard.

CHAPTER VII

THE FAMILY OF JOHN JOHNSON II

The title of this chapter is something of a misnomer because so much has already been said about the subject that little can remain. The short histories of Charles and Martha have been told as fully as they can be, and that of Percival has been carefully attended to in a separate publication. George Richard, who took over the family business on his father's death, will receive his due in the next chapter. There remain to be dealt with, therefore, only the mother, Mary Johnson, and the rest of her children, John Frederick, Arthur Harry the youngest of the family and the two sisters who married the two brothers, John Hornby Maw and Solomon Maw.

MARY JOHNSON

When her husband died in 1831, Mary Johnson was on the threshold of 65, and in spite of her large family and the undoubted hardships and illnesses of her early life in the business at Maiden Lane, she was fit and well. She appears to have lived on for a time in the Kennington house and then to have moved to Clapton to be near her son George Richard and his family. For eight or nine years she rented a cottage at Hastings near the Hornby Maws and spent part of the year there. She also followed them to Devonshire and then to Worcester for a short time around 1850. After that she took a small house at the bottom of Richmond Hill near the Solomon Maws. By then she was well in the 80s, but nevertheless alert and active. She was continually visited by her now large family of relatives, whose love and respect she commanded unceasingly. In 1853, at the age of 87 she gave a large dinner party to as many of them as could be assembled at the then famous Star and Garter hotel at Richmond, an event remembered by all of them for the rest of their lives. Eventually she died at her home on March 2nd,

JOHN FREDERICK JOHNSON

John Frederick Johnson was born, presumably at Maiden Lane, on September 30th, 1798, and baptised at St Michael's, Wood Street, on May 15th, 1799, the latter event being entered in the registers of St Mary Staining. His sponsor was his uncle John Norton. Where he was educated we do not know but we have told in Chapter VI how he was apprenticed to his father and how the partnership between him and his brother Percival broke up in 1817. He did not finish the full term of his apprenticeship, but applied, as he had the right, for freedom by patrimony in 1819, two years before that term was up. Evidently by that time he had left the Maiden Lane business since in the Freedom Book he is described as Silversmith of Dean Street, Soho. His name cannot be found in the City of Westminster rate books under that address for that date and so presumably he was not then acting as a master man. It cannot have been long after this when there came into his hands a copy of a travel book very famous at that time, namely *A Voyage to South America*, by the Spanish naval captains Don Jorge Juan and Don Antonio de Ulloa. In this book there is a good deal of description of the mineral wealth of New Granada and especially of the silver mines of Potosi. This description seems to have fired John Frederick's imagination and he decided to go out and offer his services as assayer to the local mints.

He found his way to Potosi itself, took up a post there and married a local lady named Maria Antonia Cacaes. Unfortunately she died soon afterwards and in June 1825 we find John Frederick opening a hardware business in the city of Arequipa. He may have been attracted to Arequipa by the presence there as British Consul of a man named Udney Passmore Pousett. The Pousett family were friends of the Johnsons at home. At one time they lived in Stoke Newington, where the Johnsons lived from 1805 to 1828, and also the Consul's brother W. M. Pousett was certainly employed by