

John Frederick's brother Percival in his business at Hatton Garden and married a sister of Percival's wife.

On October 20th, 1827, John Frederick married again to Augustina Wieta y Pena. There were three daughters of this marriage: Enriqueta (Henrietta) who married George Stafford, Julia who married Adrian Ward, and Juana (Jane) who married Alexander Hartley. How long the hardware business continued we do not know but there is a strong tradition in the Johnson family that John Frederick went on to sheep raising and made a fortune at it. Conditions were not too easy in Arequipa in those days. He records that there were two very violent earthquakes, eight revolutions, the town was bombarded there were many battles in the vicinity and the ringleaders were shot in the principal square. The Chileans once occupied the city and the Bolivians came down from La Paz to clear them out. John Frederick himself describes one of the earthquakes in a letter dated August 22nd, 1868:

'Fortunately for us, our forecourt, around which the rooms are built, is very large - twenty yards square - and here I collected all my immediate family, sixteen in number, and made them keep their ground and saw the walls and rooms falling and crumbling around us. Nearly the whole population are living in tents and rush huts in the open country and I have come in merely to address you, saying we have all escaped with life. . . . Stafford is doing all he can to persuade me to take Henrietta and his children to England but she does not like to leave her mother, nor do I think it to be consistent with my duty to leave my wife. My own loss in edifices and offices connected with our vineyards may be more or less 50,000 dollars but thank God the vineyards are not destroyed.'

George Stafford who married Henrietta is said to have later become British Consul at either Arequipa or Lima. He is also said to have made a fortune in alpaca sheep. The whole Stafford family appears to have come to England later and to have lived in Harrington Gardens, Kensington. There were five children: George, Mary, Elvira, Amelia and Margaret. Of these, Elvira died soon after reaching England, while Margaret, with whom Amelia lived for many years, survived unmarried until 1948. The original George Stafford was joined in Peru by a nephew, William Stafford, who came out from England for the purpose.

He had a family and two of them, a son and an unmarried daughter, were still living in Arequipa in 1947. The sister Julia who married Adrian Ward had one son, John, but her sister Jane had no children. Mary Stafford married Robert Myburg and had two sons and a daughter.

John Frederick came to England in the late 1870s and visited his relations, becoming godfather of John Frederick Johnson, the son of his nephew George. He gave his godson a writing desk which he kept for many years. John Frederick died at the age of 80 on August 20th, 1879, in Kensington in the presence of his grandson George F. Stafford.

ARTHUR HARRY JOHNSON

Arthur, Mary Johnson's youngest son, was born on April 9th, 1809, at Stoke Newington and was baptised there on July 1st, 1809. His sponsor was Miss Pollet, who, Mrs Wood tells us, was one of Mary Johnson's former schoolmistresses. But the same authority tells us that the name of Arthur was a compliment to a Mrs Arthur, who was a friend of the parents and a refugee from the Lisbon earthquake. Of Arthur Johnson's youth and upbringing we know nothing, but after his father's death in 1831, it becomes evident that he was assisting his brother George Richard in taking over and running the family business. No doubt he came into it at the age of 14 like his elder brothers, but, as has already been stated, he was not formally apprenticed under the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, since he later took up the freedom by patrimony on February 3rd, 1836 (he became a liveryman on April 28th, 1842). His presence in the business can be traced in its entries in the directories and these will be discussed further in Chapter IX. The only personal account of him that we have is that of Colonel Edward Matthey in his unpublished memoirs. He writes as follows:

'Arthur Johnson was a very different type of man to his brother, he was always courteous and urbane. I saw very little of Arthur Johnson myself, but have always heard him described as a gentlemanly, kindly disposed Christian gentleman. He died in 1855. Arthur Johnson always admired and spoke highly of the constant progress adopted by the Hatton Garden