

his family of three children was growing up: Anne Mary (born 1830), George (born 1832) and Arthur (born 1834). In 1863 Anne Mary married A. B. Wood of Philadelphia, had three sons and a daughter, and later wrote the diary from which we have quoted so much. The youngest child was the distinguished sculptor Francis Derwent Wood, R.A. (1871-1926). George married Frederica Brown and had eight children, of whom Percival and Davy Maw later became directors of the Johnson companies. Arthur married Grace Myer and had eleven children, none of whom entered these companies. As regards Solomon's family, he had four children, of whom two boys died in infancy and another, Mowbray Percival John, at the age of 24. The survivor, Charles Maw (born 1835), later became the head of his father's business and acquired great wealth and a family of sixteen children. None of the latter appear to have concerned themselves with the Johnson companies.

After leaving the family business, John Hornby Maw followed his interest in the arts by forming an important collection of paintings, taking lessons from Peter de Wint and himself exhibiting water colours at the Royal Academy for a number of years. His mind however was not completely weaned from business and about 1849 or 1850 he became interested in the manufacture of encaustic tiles. Starting from a local pottery in Devon, he progressed to a small works in Worcester and then in 1852 to a larger one at Brosley in Shropshire, from which about 1880 another move of a mile or so was made to Jackfield, where the tile works of Maw & Co exists to this day. In all this work John Hornby Maw was assisted by his two sons, George and Arthur, and it was no doubt their families who followed on in the later years. And as we shall see, at least one important member of the Johnson companies in the 1900s came from Jackfield.

CHAPTER VIII

CHARLES HALSEY JOHNSON AND HIS FAMILY

The younger of the two sons of the first John Johnson has no very important part in our story, but he was a senior member of the Johnson family and he had a number of children, one of whom was responsible for a considerable output of scientific literature which had, and still has, its value. The father was born December 1767, baptised at St Mary, Stratford Bow, on December 30th, 1768, and owed his second name of Halsey to Charles Halsey and his wife who had been benefactors to his father and grandfather. We know nothing about his early days or his education. He is not shown in the registers of St Pauls as entering there and probably went to the Bow Academy. On leaving school at 14, as stated in Chapter IV, he was apprenticed to a goldsmith in Cheapside on October 1st, 1783, for a term of seven years. Whether he completed this term satisfactorily is not known, but in the light of what is said below, it seems unlikely. In fact, already one begins to sense in him a want of persistence and a propensity to flit from one thing to another, in contrast to the conscientious sense of duty of his elder brother, in whom it was coupled with undoubted signs of initiative and originality. On July 15th, 1786, he applied, through his father, to be admitted to his half share of the ten acres of land at West Ham and the other property in Stratford Bow, which had been left to him, jointly with his brother, by his uncle John Wight, the coal merchant of Stratford Bow. On April 20th, 1795, however he sold half of three and three-quarter acres of this to his brother, and on May 16th, 1795, half of another two acres. On June 28th, 1822, he sold a half of the property in Stratford, also to his brother. This however still left him in possession of at least two acres, which appears in his will. In September 1789 he received £138 due to him from his father's estate and also of course he came into a small income from the 'Joint Account'.