

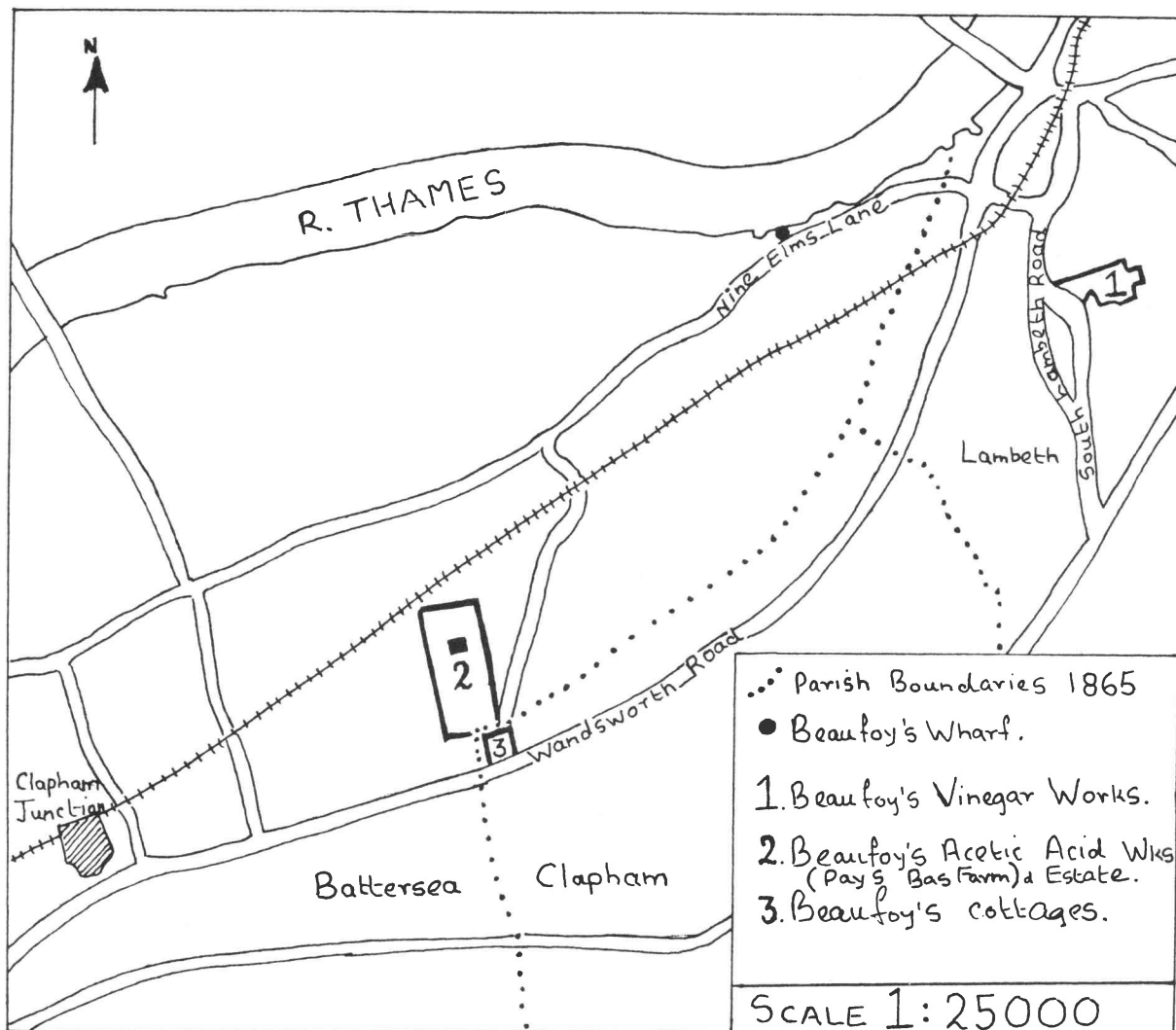


Fig.1. Sketch map showing sites of Beaufoy holdings

The Beaufoy's at Battersea

DIANA GUNASENA

'How can a group of Christians, who claim that they are deeply concerned with social evils - many of which are stimulated by overcrowding - continue to demand such voluminous space for their one hour a week activity of worship? It is a mockery of Christian concern that up till quite recently the children in many of the homes adjoining our empty church building were living five in a room' [1].

NOT VICTORIAN LONDON, but Battersea in 1970, at the time the Beaufoy Estate (formerly Pays Bas Farm) was pulled down by Wandsworth Council. How these words would have saddened Henry Benjamin Hanbury Beaufoy (1786-1851), educationalist and philanthropist, who purchased the land on which first a factory, then later, church houses and two schools stood (Fig.1). Today little remains to link this eminent Lam-

beth family with Battersea save the Beaufoy Arms public house and the 'BEAUFÖY ROAD' street sign on display in Wandsworth Museum, and nothing has been previously written about the Battersea connection except a reference to the fact that they had a warehouse in Nine Elms [2].

The Beaufoy's believe that they are descended from William de Beaufoy, Chaplain and Chancellor to William the Conqueror prior to the Conquest [3]. They settled in Warwickshire on the Manor of Guy's Cliffe [4]. The last of the principal line died in 1705, and the present-day family derives from a branch which moved to Evesham (Fig.2). Griffin Beaufoy of Evesham had joined the Quakers by 1672 [5] and like many Quakers, helped by their principle of 'Letting your yea be yea and your

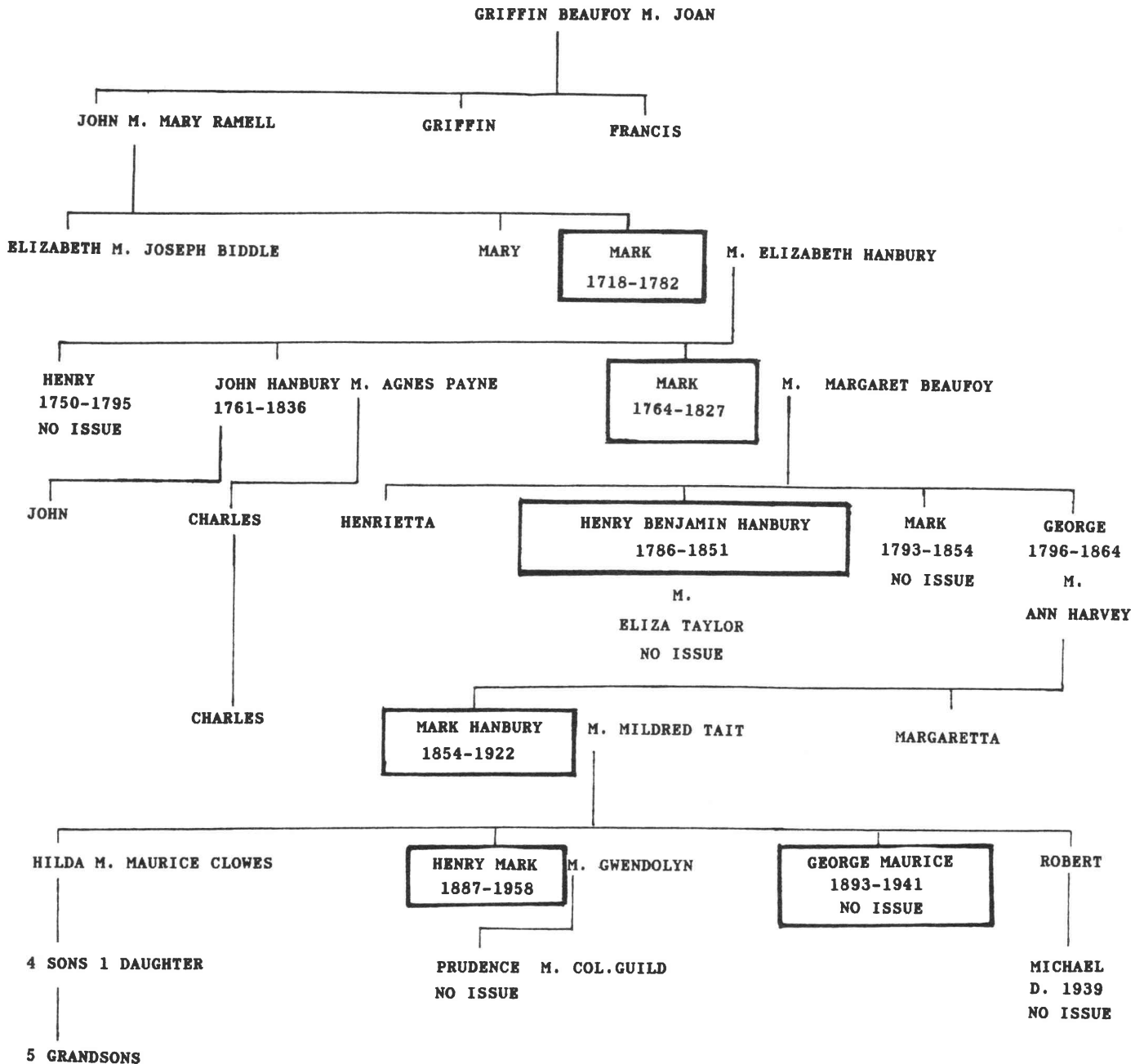


Fig.2. Beaufoy family tree

may be nay' and the trust it inspired, went into business. His son or grandson, John, was a maltster and oilman (manufacturing linseed oil and cake) in Evesham; in 1723 he and others were assigned land on which to build 'a public meeting-house for the people called quakers' [6]. He married Mary Ramell and it was their son Mark, born in 1718 and brought up in Bristol by his Uncle Ramell, who founded Messrs Beaufoy & Co. In 1734 he was apprenticed to a Bristol distiller, Joseph James (also a Quaker) and by 1741 he was a partner in the firm now called Beaufoy, James & Co. It is said that the firm changed to vinegar production because of the evils of spirits but there was anyway a natural decline in spirit sales following legislation to control it. In any event Mark went to Holland in 1741 to study vinegar production, presumably the findings of Hermann Boerhaave who discovered early in the eighteenth century that the rate of acid production in the vinegar process was directly proportional to the amount of surface exposed to the air. Vinegar (French - 'vin'-wine; 'aigre'-sour) is made by acetic acid fermentation of any of numerous dilute achoholic liquids, e.g. apples or grapes (cider or wine vinegar), malted barley or oats (malt vinegar), beers, sugars, rice and other substances

I We W^m Wells both appear by the Memorials of the W^m Meeting of the People called Quakers in the City of Bristol that W^m Mark Craufoy of this City Visitter and Elizabeth Handbury Daughter of Joseph Handbury late of this City forranger deceased did on the first day of the Sixth Month One Thousand seven hundred and forty three Visitty their intentions of Marriage and it became such their intentions were on the Twenty third Day of the same Month Published in the Publick Meeting House of the said People in the Presence of many Persons there congregated Now forasmuch as their appears no just occasion wherefore a Marriage between the said W^m and Elizabeth should not be consummated And therefore where Names are hereunto subscribed are Witnesses that on the Day of the Date hereof the said W^m Mark taking the said Elizabeth by the Hand did Declare that he did take the said Elizabeth Handbury to be his Wife and the said Elizabeth holding the said W^m by the Hand did Declare that she did take the said W^m Craufoy to be her Husband And further the said W^m and Elizabeth whilst holding each other by the Hand did Mutually Promise each to other to Live together as Husband and Wife in Love and Faithfulness according to Gods Holy Ordinance untill Death they shall be separated or woe to that Effect And Also that the said W^m Craufoy and Elizabeth had now W^m as a further testimony of such their taking each other and of such their Promise each to other have hereunto subscribed their names this Fifth Month Day of the Seventh Month in the Year One thousand seven hundred and forty three

Mary Child
Mary Chapman
Mary Coffin
John Farnham
Nehemiah Chamberlain
Saml Whitehead
John Hooker
Ely Hall
James Parker

Liver Endridge
La Royden
Thos Bradley
Jas Thomas
Joseph Whitehead
Elizabeth Gurnea
Mrs. B. Dwyer
Wm Chandler
Frederick Lloyd
T. C. Worthington
Jas. Martin

London, 1842.

Mary Estlin.
 Herald Office
 No 111 N 4th St
 St Louis
 Aug 17 1842
 Dear Mother
 I have just received
 your letter of the 14th
 and am glad to hear
 from you. I am well
 and hope this finds
 you the same. I am
 ever your affectionate
 daughter
 M Estlin

My dear
Mr. Chapman
I have been
very busy
and have not
had time to
write you
before.

11th Nov 1894
 12th Nov 1894
 13th Nov 1894
 14th Nov 1894
 15th Nov 1894
 16th Nov 1894
 17th Nov 1894
 18th Nov 1894
 19th Nov 1894
 20th Nov 1894
 21st Nov 1894
 22nd Nov 1894
 23rd Nov 1894
 24th Nov 1894
 25th Nov 1894
 26th Nov 1894
 27th Nov 1894
 28th Nov 1894
 29th Nov 1894
 30th Nov 1894
 1st Dec 1894
 2nd Dec 1894
 3rd Dec 1894
 4th Dec 1894
 5th Dec 1894
 6th Dec 1894
 7th Dec 1894
 8th Dec 1894
 9th Dec 1894
 10th Dec 1894
 11th Dec 1894
 12th Dec 1894
 13th Dec 1894
 14th Dec 1894
 15th Dec 1894
 16th Dec 1894
 17th Dec 1894
 18th Dec 1894
 19th Dec 1894
 20th Dec 1894
 21st Dec 1894
 22nd Dec 1894
 23rd Dec 1894
 24th Dec 1894
 25th Dec 1894
 26th Dec 1894
 27th Dec 1894
 28th Dec 1894
 29th Dec 1894
 30th Dec 1894
 1st Jan 1895
 2nd Jan 1895
 3rd Jan 1895
 4th Jan 1895
 5th Jan 1895
 6th Jan 1895
 7th Jan 1895
 8th Jan 1895
 9th Jan 1895
 10th Jan 1895
 11th Jan 1895
 12th Jan 1895
 13th Jan 1895
 14th Jan 1895
 15th Jan 1895
 16th Jan 1895
 17th Jan 1895
 18th Jan 1895
 19th Jan 1895
 20th Jan 1895
 21st Jan 1895
 22nd Jan 1895
 23rd Jan 1895
 24th Jan 1895
 25th Jan 1895
 26th Jan 1895
 27th Jan 1895
 28th Jan 1895
 29th Jan 1895
 30th Jan 1895
 31st Jan 1895
 1st Feb 1895
 2nd Feb 1895
 3rd Feb 1895
 4th Feb 1895
 5th Feb 1895
 6th Feb 1895
 7th Feb 1895
 8th Feb 1895
 9th Feb 1895
 10th Feb 1895
 11th Feb 1895
 12th Feb 1895
 13th Feb 1895
 14th Feb 1895
 15th Feb 1895
 16th Feb 1895
 17th Feb 1895
 18th Feb 1895
 19th Feb 1895
 20th Feb 1895
 21st Feb 1895
 22nd Feb 1895
 23rd Feb 1895
 24th Feb 1895
 25th Feb 1895
 26th Feb 1895
 27th Feb 1895
 28th Feb 1895
 1st Mar 1895
 2nd Mar 1895
 3rd Mar 1895
 4th Mar 1895
 5th Mar 1895
 6th Mar 1895
 7th Mar 1895
 8th Mar 1895
 9th Mar 1895
 10th Mar 1895
 11th Mar 1895
 12th Mar 1895
 13th Mar 1895
 14th Mar 1895
 15th Mar 1895
 16th Mar 1895
 17th Mar 1895
 18th Mar 1895
 19th Mar 1895
 20th Mar 1895
 21st Mar 1895
 22nd Mar 1895
 23rd Mar 1895
 24th Mar 1895
 25th Mar 1895
 26th Mar 1895
 27th Mar 1895
 28th Mar 1895
 29th Mar 1895
 30th Mar 1895
 31st Mar 1895
 1st Apr 1895
 2nd Apr 1895
 3rd Apr 1895
 4th Apr 1895
 5th Apr 1895
 6th Apr 1895
 7th Apr 1895
 8th Apr 1895
 9th Apr 1895
 10th Apr 1895
 11th Apr 1895
 12th Apr 1895
 13th Apr 1895
 14th Apr 1895
 15th Apr 1895
 16th Apr 1895
 17th Apr 1895
 18th Apr 1895
 19th Apr 1895
 20th Apr 1895
 21st Apr 1895
 22nd Apr 1895
 23rd Apr 1895
 24th Apr 1895
 25th Apr 1895
 26th Apr 1895
 27th Apr 1895
 28th Apr 1895
 29th Apr 1895
 30th Apr 1895
 1st May 1895
 2nd May 1895
 3rd May 1895
 4th May 1895
 5th May 1895
 6th May 1895
 7th May 1895
 8th May 1895
 9th May 1895
 10th May 1895
 11th May 1895
 12th May 1895
 13th May 1895
 14th May 1895
 15th May 1895
 16th May 1895
 17th May 1895
 18th May 1895
 19th May 1895
 20th May 1895
 21st May 1895
 22nd May 1895
 23rd May 1895
 24th May 1895
 25th May 1895
 26th May 1895
 27th May 1895
 28th May 1895
 29th May 1895
 30th May 1895
 31st May 1895
 1st Jun 1895
 2nd Jun 1895
 3rd Jun 1895
 4th Jun 1895
 5th Jun 1895
 6th Jun 1895
 7th Jun 1895
 8th Jun 1895
 9th Jun 1895
 10th Jun 1895
 11th Jun 1895
 12th Jun 1895
 13th Jun 1895
 14th Jun 1895
 15th Jun 1895
 16th Jun 1895
 17th Jun 1895
 18th Jun 1895
 19th Jun 1895
 20th Jun 1895
 21st Jun 1895
 22nd Jun 1895
 23rd Jun 1895
 24th Jun 1895
 25th Jun 1895
 26th Jun 1895
 27th Jun 1895
 28th Jun 1895
 29th Jun 1895
 30th Jun 1895
 1st Jul 1895
 2nd Jul 1895
 3rd Jul 1895
 4th Jul 1895
 5th Jul 1895
 6th Jul 1895
 7th Jul 1895
 8th Jul 1895
 9th Jul 1895
 10th Jul 1895
 11th Jul 1895
 12th Jul 1895
 13th Jul 1895
 14th Jul 1895
 15th Jul 1895
 16th Jul 1895
 17th Jul 1895
 18th Jul 1895
 19th Jul 1895
 20th Jul 1895
 21st Jul 1895
 22nd Jul 1895
 23rd Jul 1895
 24th Jul 1895
 25th Jul 1895
 26th Jul 1895
 27th Jul 1895
 28th Jul 1895
 29th Jul 1895
 30th Jul 1895
 31st Jul 1895
 1st Aug 1895
 2nd Aug 1895
 3rd Aug 1895
 4th Aug 1895
 5th Aug 1895
 6th Aug 1895
 7th Aug 1895
 8th Aug 1895
 9th Aug 1895
 10th Aug 1895
 11th Aug 1895
 12th Aug 1895
 13th Aug 1895
 14th Aug 1895
 15th Aug 1895
 16th Aug 1895
 17th Aug 1895
 18th Aug 1895
 19th Aug 1895
 20th Aug 1895
 21st Aug 1895
 22nd Aug 1895
 23rd Aug 1895
 24th Aug 1895
 25th Aug 1895
 26th Aug 1895
 27th Aug 1895
 28th Aug 1895
 29th Aug 1895
 30th Aug 1895
 31st Aug 1895
 1st Sep 1895
 2nd Sep 1895
 3rd Sep 1895
 4th Sep 1895
 5th Sep 1895
 6th Sep 1

Fig.3. Marriage certificate of Mark beaufoy and Elizabeth Hanbury.
(Original kindly loaned by Steve Race FRAM, FRSA)

and also industrial alcohol (distilled white vinegar); it had been made throughout history; Hippocrates (460-357 BC) used to prescribe it [7]. Beaufoy's always made their vinegar from malted barley. By 1743 Mark was back in Bristol where he married Elizabeth Hanbury, a member of another important Quaker family and heiress to the Hanbury Soap Manufactory (Allen & Hanburys) (Fig.3). His sister married Joseph Biddle and Elizabeth's brother, Capel Hanbury, married Mary, heiress daughter of William Lunn of St Botolphs, Citizen and Vintner, and settled in Clapham [8]. By 1745 Mark and Elizabeth were in London too where Mark leased three acres at Cupers Gardens (formerly occupied by the infamous pleasure gardens) for a yearly rent of £1,200 [9]. In January 1756, Mark tendered successfully for the supply of malt vinegar to the navy:

'If the competitorship in this Tender should become equal in point of Terms, I hope Gentlemen for your preference, on Account of having in the last war broke the Combination of Vinegar makers (till then invincible) by taking contract to vinegar Myself, when I discharged to the satisfaction of the Victualling Board, the consequence whereof is a Saving to ye Crown of £1500 p. ann on a Warr Consumption of this Article' [10].

In 1761 the firm became Beaufoy, Biddle & James and went into the production of 'sweets', the name for British wines; they were the only firm to make both vinegar and wine under the same roof [11]. The firm prospered, becoming one of the largest in the country [12]; it was said that brewers needed £2,000-£10,000 in capital to set up in business, but vinegar manufacturers needed even more [13]. The Beaufoy money obviously came from his wife; her cousins who had married into the Lloyds and the Barclays had entered banking (Hanbury Taylor & Co) and brewing (Truman Hanbury & Buxton).

Three sons were born: Henry, John Hanbury and Mark, who all attended dissenting schools, but eventually left the Quaker movement [14]. Henry was then free to become a Liberal M.P. reflecting the social position and economic strength of a 'trade' becoming respectable. Henry was elected, first to Bridgenorth, then Minehead, and finally Great Yarmouth; he spoke against the Test Act, for the abolition of slavery and for the extension of British fisheries [15]. He had a house in Great George Street and owned Castle Hill Lodge, Ealing where there is a tablet in St Marys Church.

Upon their father's death in 1882 John had taken over the running of the business,



Fig.4. Mark Beaufoy (1718-1782). From an engraving by V. Green from a painting by Gainsborough. By courtesy of Friends Reference Library, 84/A 13.

In 1790 the stocks held by the brothers were as follows:

Henry	£21,752 18s 9d
John	£19,681 4s 7d
Mark	£8,286 16s 8d

Mark as never involved in the business and indulged himself in private scientific experiment from at least the age of fourteen years:

'before bed-time, with the assistance of a neighbouring turner...by making the experiment in one of the coolers in his father's brewhouse, the large bunch of counting-house keys being put in requisition for a motive power' [18].

Mark married his first cousin, Margaret Beaufoy, when he was only twenty and lived in 'exile' in Switzerland, Henriette and Henry Benjamin Hanbury being born in Neuchatel. In 1787 he became the first Englishman to climb Mont Blanc, where he made a few limited experiments [19]. Eventually they were able to return to England where they found a house at Hackney Wick where their five other children were born. Mark devoted his life to science [20], having been a pupil of William Bayly, Astronomer to Cook's third voyage. In 1791 he founded the Society for the Improvement of Naval Architecture with the Duke of Clarence as President. The first meeting was at the Crown & Anchor Tavern



Fig.5. Henry Beaufoy (1750-1795). From an unfinished painting by Gainsborough. (From 'Leaves from a beech tree' (1930).

in the Strand, on 14th April; Greenland Dock was given over to the experiments. Henry writes of his parents:

'For some years the calculations were made at Colonel Beaufoy's Residence at Hackney Wick, by himself assisted by his wife, who contributed no inconsiderable share to the progress and success of the experiments: for, favoured alike in person and in mind being a woman of considerable talent and scientific attainments, besides the usual female accomplishments in which she excelled, she was a good mathematician and practical astronomer, familiar with all the details of the observatory, the calculation of eclipses etc; and by method and strict economy of her time, while the domestic arrangements proceeded with perfect regularity, she was never at a loss for leisure in the furtherance of her husband's pursuits'.

Margaret died suddenly in 1800 after a few hours illness and Mark refused to marry again for love of her, leaving the fifteen year old Henriette to bring up the children - his sons and nephew Charles helping with the experiments [21]. Mark became a fellow of the Royal Society, a Fellow of the Linnean Society and a member

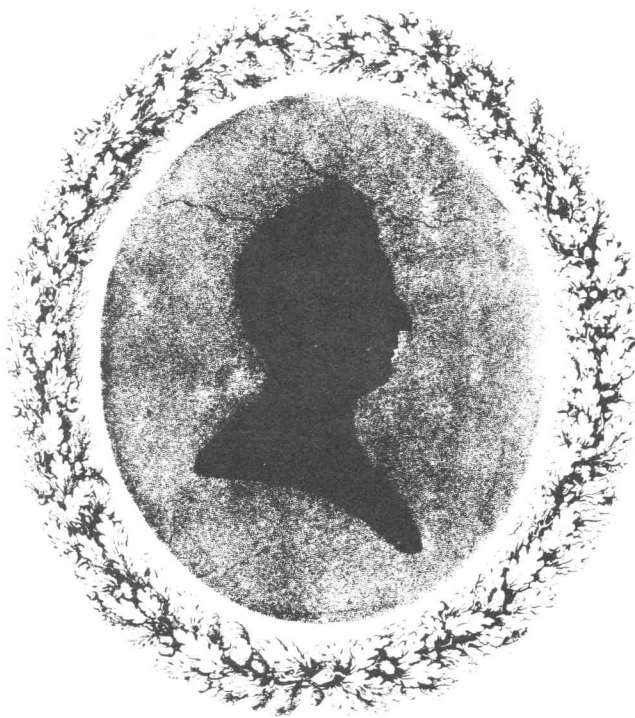


Fig.6. Mark Beaufoy (1764-1827). A silhouette from the frontispiece to his 'Nautical and hydraulic experiments', vol.1. (1834). The only known likeness

of the Council of the Royal Astronomical Society [22]; two of his clocks survive at the RAS and two other instruments can be seen at the Museum of the History of Science at Oxford. The family moved to Bushey Heath in 1815 where there is an obelisk to his memory; he became a Governor of Harrow and his coat of arms in stained glass was placed in a window in the speech room. Following publication of his work he received over a thousand letters of congratulation [23] and some gold medals, one of which was presented by the RAS by proxy just prior to his death with the words:

'He has succeeded in rendering his name conspicuous among astronomers, and his observatory a standard point of reference, - one of those zero points on earth which, like the standard stars in the heavens, will serve for the determination of innumerable others'. [29]

He died in 1827, aged 65 and is buried at the Church of St John at Great Stanmore. His brother John in the meantime had been living at the works at Cupers Garen's but presumably never liked the life of a London businessman for immediately Henry Benjamin Hanbury attained his majority in 1807, John retired to his house at Upton Grey in Hampshire, taking to country life in great style. He left Henry with such great charges upon the business that it was 'crippled' for years [25]. He died in 1836 and his epitaph in the main nave at



Fig.7. Henry Benjamin Hanbury Beaufoy (1786-1851).
From 'Leaves from a beech tree' (1930)).

Upton Grey Church states '...His feelings were most kind ever alive to sympathise with sorrows and relieve distress - No one lived more loved and respected Nor departed this life more generally regretted..' [26]. Henry saw through his uncle before this and bought him out completely in May 1833 'Partnership between John Hanbury Beaufoy and Henry as Makers and Sellers of Vinegar and Sweets, be dissolved' -Henry to receive and repay all his Uncle's debts [27].

Henry Benjamin Hanbury (Benjamin after his maternal grandfather, Benjamin Beaufoy) warranted only half a page in the family history [28] possibly because he lived with an actress, Eliza Taylor, from Astley's Theatre, for thirty years before marrying her. Yet Henry ran the business for forty-four years (longer than anyone else) and most successfully at that. His brother Mark joined the Coldstream Guards and brother George entered the Navy on 14 July aged 14 [29]; his cousin John (the illegitimate son of Uncle John)

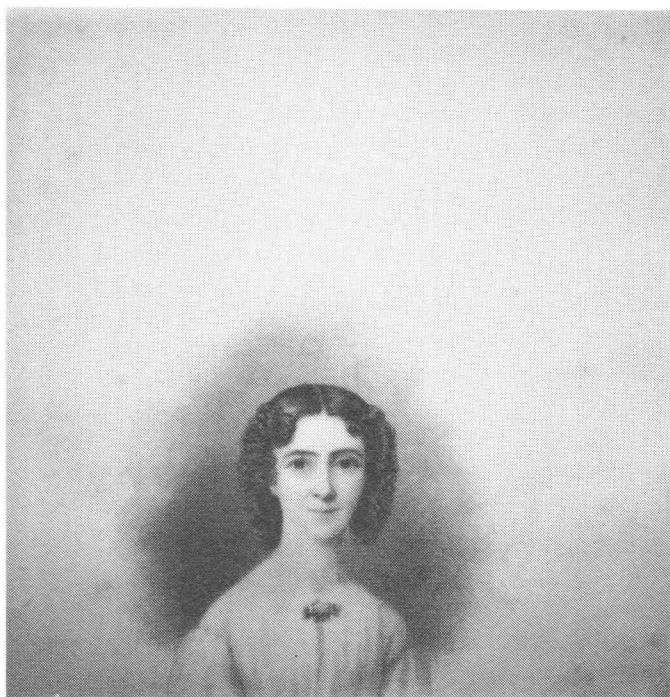


Fig.8. Eliza Beaufoy. From 'Memorials of Lambeth Ragged School'(1859).Minet Library MS.S3053.

joined the Royal Fusiliers, dying at the Battle of Talavera in 1807 [30]. Initially Henry lived alone at Cupers Gardens and was quiet and scholarly, his passion was collecting books which he was constantly ordering [31]. He often put in an eighteen hour working day and very much missed his family [32].

In 1810 Messrs Beaufoy & Co was forced to move as the Cupers Gardens site was required for the building of Waterloo Bridge and the firm received £26,000 in compensation from the Strand Bridge Co. [33]. Four acres were purchased in South Lambeth, part of the grounds of the old residence of Caroun House [34] and a new works built to include an excise office, a chemical laboratory, malt stores warehouses and cellars, the cooperage, two long ranges of stables, the mansion and gardens, the Counting House and manager's office. Above the Counting House was Henry's library, 'one of the most elegant and extensive private collections to be found in connection with men of business, and contains, beside a few fine and interesting pictures and objects of vertu, as many as 25,000 volumes, including a First Folio of Shakespeare' [35]. Apart from experiments at the works, Henry continued research in his spare time, returning to Hackney Wick to make a balloon

Fig.9. George Beaufoy (1796-1854). From 'Leaves from a beech tree' (1930).



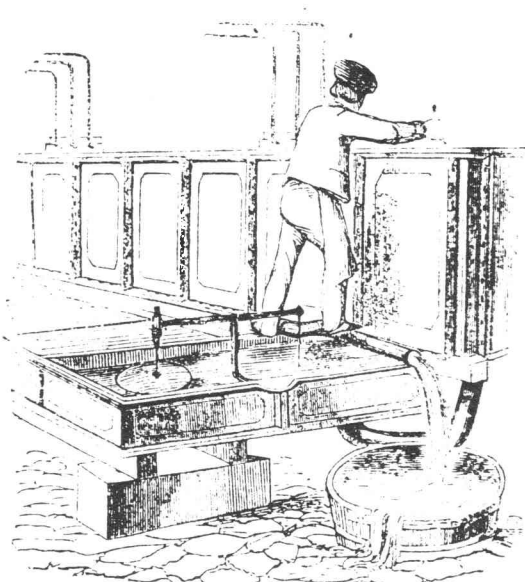
journey from the Mermaid Tavern to Chelmsford on 29 August 1811, accompanying James Sadler whose twentieth ascent it was. During the one and a half hour journey the two men conducted scientific experiments despite encountering a hailstorm [36]. Henry was elected to the Linnean Society in 1811 and to the Royal Society in 1815. But it was not all hard work. In 1814, despite the war, Henry and cousin Charles were planning the 'grand tour' and Mark, writing from Paris where he was stationed, stressed that Henry should carefully consider which was the lesser of two evils - leaving Eliza at home alone or taking her along where she would not be received [37].

After Waterloo, Mark sailed with adventurers to Mexico where he invested unsuccessfully in the Thalpuxahua Silver Mine, took meteorological observations, and studied the antiquities of Otumbo and Cholula [38]. He then tried the States - another failure [39] and returned a broken man following the deaths of his father and his betrothed, and going to live on an annuity from the business at Bowness on Windermere where there is a memorial to him.

George had an uneventful career in the Navy, was made a Lieutenant in 1821 and retired on half-pay from 1845 [40]. He did

not join the business until 1851 when Articles of Agreement were signed on 8 July, and George was taken into partnership and received £1,000 p.a. payable half yearly [41].

In 1842, Beaufoy's made their vinegar in the following way. The prepared malt was brought to South Lambeth Road by horse and wagon and was hauled into the upper floors of the brewhouse and stored in bins. As necessary, the quantity required for one 'brewing' was measured into sacks and poured through funnels to be ground either by a mill stone or crushing roller. It then fell through a hose to the mash-tuns (copper boilers), circular vessels with central stirrers worked by a steam engine (there were three steam engines) and was fermented with hot water. When the water (the temperature of which had to be constantly checked) had acted on the malt, now called 'wort', for a certain period it flowed out of the mash-tuns through pipes into a large cast-iron vessel called an 'underback', about 24' long and 8' wide, and then into a 'refrigerator' which acted on the following principle: 'A continuous pipe, between three and four hundred feet in length, passed backwards and forwards through the refrigerator, and through this pipe cold water was continually flowing from an



Underback and refrigerator.



Wine manufacture - fruit pressing.



Vinegar field - Drawing off.

Fig.10. A vinegar and British wine factory. From the Penny Magazine XI (Oct 1842).

Artesian well two hundred feet deep'. The 'wort' was then pumped into fermentation tuns and mixed with yeast, the fermentation subsiding after a few days. Now the mixture was called 'gyle' and pumped into storage vats for a further few days to deposit its sediment, thence into wooden casks, cylindrical vats called acetifiers where it assumed the form of vinegar. Two different methods were possible and both were used by Beaufoy's. The first was 'stoving', where the casks were arranged in three stove-rooms which were locked and the casks exposed to a certain temperature until acetification had been reached; the second was 'fielding', where the casks (each containing more than 100 gallons) were arranged in the open air for nine months. The bung-holes remained open so long as the weather remained good and the casks were examined twice every day; if it rained there was a great flurry of activity, all hands being called out. Event-

ually the vinegar went to the 'rape-shed' for filtering and clarifying and was then stored in vats until needed for sale when it was put into casks of 116,50 or 25 gallons [42] (Fig.9).

The manufacture of British wines arose directly out of the vinegar production and was never a very large part of Beaufoy's business. The 'rape' used in the 'rape-shed' to construct the filters in Holland (where Mark, the founder, learned his trade) came from the raisin-wine manufacturer and the raisin-wort distiller, and there was no such supply in England so Mark had to import it. Dr Fothergill, a Quaker physician, convinced Mark that he should go into the production of British wines [43] and later English fruits were also used e.g. blackcurrants, elderberries and raspberries.

The Chemical Laboratory at Beaufoy's was always a scene of experiment, and they perfected the method of producing 'white

vinegar' (acetic acid produced from the distillation of wood, pyroligneous acid, and purifying it into a salt with lime and then decomposing this salt by the agency of sulphuric acid). It was perfectly pure and superseded distilled vinegar for the purposes of medicine and the arts and was tried out for three successive seasons by the ships of the East India trade. It could be produced in a dilute state equal in strength to the best Malt Distilled Vinegar, to 5, 10, 20 and even 30 times that strength. In his hand-written document of 1821 [44], Henry Benjamin Hanbury claims to be the exclusive manufacturer of this acetic acid, sold under the name of 'Improved Distilled Vinegar' [45]. Clearly another factory was required.

To be continued

References

1. 'J. Preswell, Parish Priest' St Bartholomews Church Magazine (Dec.1970).
2. N. Farrant 'Mineral water manufacturers of Wandsworth' Wandsworth Hist 19 (1978)3.
3. G. Beaufoy, Leaves from a Beech Tree. Oxford:For the Author, 1930.
4. The Victoria County History of Warwickshire
5. G. Beaufoy op cit.
6. G. May, A Descriptive History of the Town of Evesham, from the foundation of its Saxon Monastery. Rev edn. (1845).
7. Encyclopaedia Britannica s.v. Vinegar.
8. A.A. Locke, The Hanbury Family (1916).
9. Jesus College Deeds.
10. British Vinegar Archive, Greater London Record Office Temporary Ac. 77.29. This archive is on loan from British Vinegars and on limited access. The greater part was destroyed when the bomb fell on Caron Place, South Lambeth, in 1841.
11. The Penny Magazine (1842) 432.
12. Victoria History of the County of Surrey; A.W. Slater 'The Vinegar Brewing Industry' Industrial Archaeology 7 no.3 (1970) 292-309.
13. P. Mathias, The Brewing Industry in England 1700-1830 (1959).
14. The Eleventh and Twelfth Books of the Southwark Monthly Meeting and the Sixth Weekly Meeting, vol.16, 1785-1790 (Indexed).
15. Gentleman's Magazine (Indexed).
16. Victoria History of the County of Middlesex; Middlesex Record Office Acc. 1028/25-6,30-2.
17. British Vinegar Archive loc cit.
18. M. Beaufoy, Nautical and Hydraulic Experiments I. London: Private Press of Henry Beaufoy, 1834.
19. M. Beaufoy, 'Narrative of a Journey from the village of Chamouni [Chamonix] in Switzerland, to the Summit of Mount Blanc, undertaken on August 8, 1787' Annals of Philosophy. By T. Thomson. IX (1817) 97-103.
20. Royal Society Catalogue; Royal Astronomical Society Catalogue.
21. C. Beaufoy, Experiments etc made for the purpose of ascertaining the stability of bodies floating on the surface of the water (1806).
22. Information kindly supplied by the Librarian of the Royal Astronomical Society.
23. G. Beaufoy, op cit.
24. Royal Astronomical Society Monthly Notices 11 April 1827, 24.
25. G. Beaufoy, op cit. John also owned the manors of Hampton and Harington near Evesham.
26. Transcript of epitaph kindly supplied by present owner of Upton Grey House.
27. London Gazette 7 June 1833.
28. G. Beaufoy, op cit.
29. W.R.O'Byrne, Naval Biographical Dictionary (1849).
30. Tablet in Upton Grey Church.
31. A letter containing an order for books from Charles Tilt of Paris, Minet Library, IV/27/39.
32. G. Beaufoy, op cit.
33. British Vinegar Archive, loc cit.
34. Lambeth Borough Council, Vauxhall Park Deeds.
35. The Shops & Companies of London ed. H. Mayhew. i (1865) 7-12.
36. H. Beaufoy, 'Journal kept by Henry Beaufoy, Esq. during an Aerial Voyage with Mr James Sadler, sen from Hackney, Middlesex, to East Thorpe, Essex, five miles from Colchester, August 29, 1811' Annals of Philosophy. By T. Thomson. IV (1814) 282-291. (Also published separately).
37. G. Beaufoy, op cit.
38. M. Beaufoy, Mexican Illustrations (1828).
39. [() Beaufoy] Tour through Parts of the United States & Canada. By a British Subject.
40. W.R.O'Byrne, op cit.
41. British Vinegar Archive, loc cit.
42. The Penny Magazine, loc cit. By the 1860s the 'quick' or 'stoving' method had been introduced and virtually replaced the 'fielding' method H. Mayhew, ed. op cit. A.W. Slater, op cit describes it thus: 'the lower half of the vat serves as a reservoir for the 'gyle', which is constantly sprayed or 'sparged' over birch twigs in a current of air drawn upwards through the acetifier...the complete fermentation takes about five days...from the acetifiers the rough vinegar is pumped into huge storage vats, holding many thousands of gallons, and is there allowed to remain for nine months to a year'. Further information is contained in: T. Pennant, Some Account of London 5th edn. (1813); T. Allen, The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Lambeth (1827); The Parish of St Mary Lambeth Part Two: Southern Area. (The Survey of London XXVI) (1956). N. Pevsner and B. Cherry, London 2 South (1981) (The Buildings of England); The Victoria History of the County of Surrey.
43. British wine is made from imported grape juice, whereas English wine is made from grapes grown in England. Information kindly supplied by The English Wine centre.
44. British Vinegar Archive, loc cit. Published as: Beaufoy's White Vinegar, a most important and economical article for pickling and family use etc. (1921).
45. A.W. Slater, op cit 294.

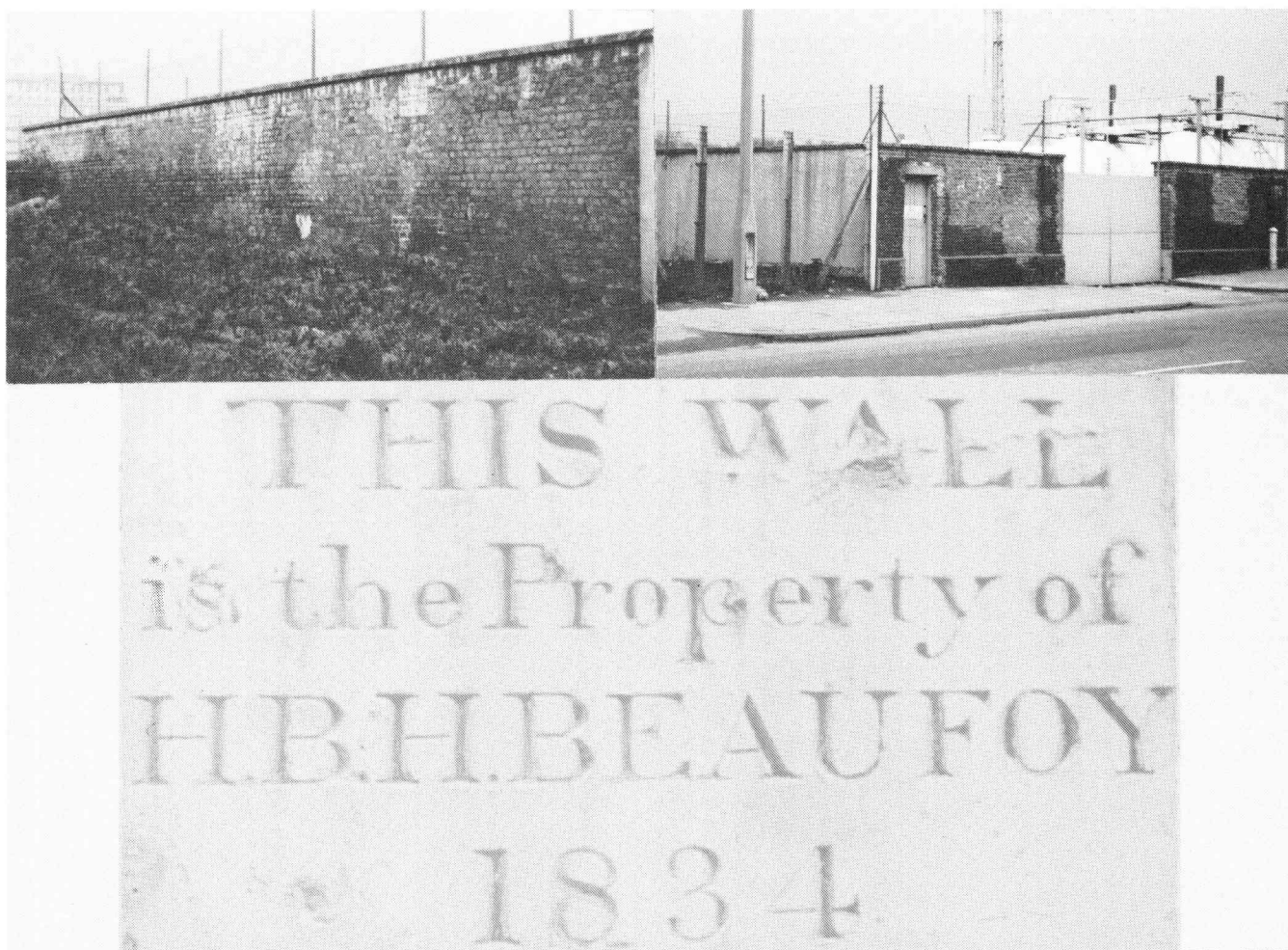


Fig.11. The west and south walls of Beaufoy's warehouse and wharf at Nine Elms in 1970 when they had been partly demolished - note that the boundary stone may be seen in position in the upper part of the west wall and that the building in the background is Dolphin Court on the north bank. (Photo: Nicholas Fuentes)

The Beaufoys at Battersea: Part 2

DIANA GUNASENA

WITH THE need to increase the manufacture of 'Improved white vinegar' Henry Beaufoy purchased Pays Bas farm in Battersea (Fig. 1 in Part I). Henry first appears in the Battersea rate books as a tenant of a house and land in 1827 [46].

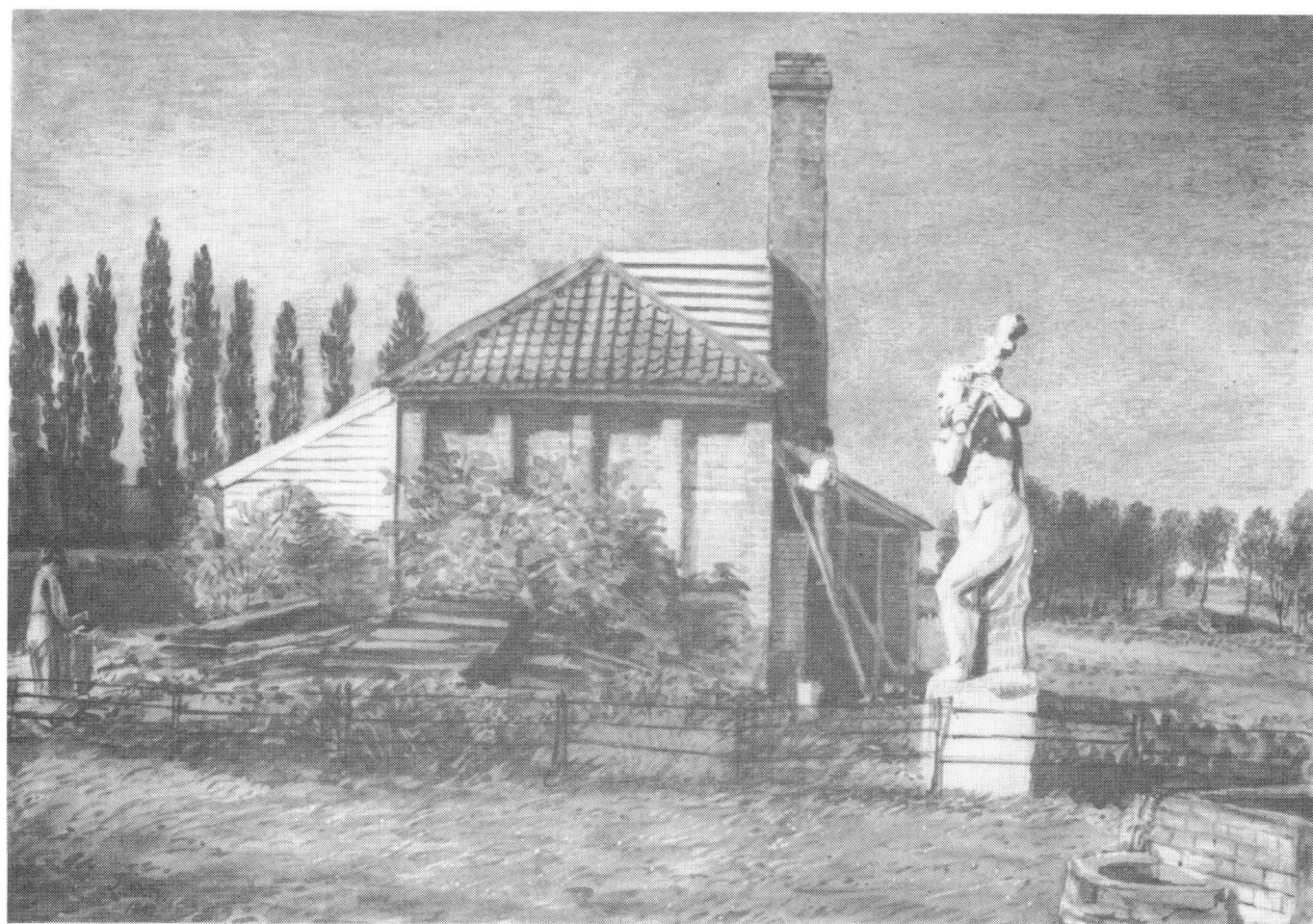
The first known (1841) manager of the Pays Bas Acetic Acid Works was a chemist, John Sadler, aged 35 [47] and he could well have been the son of the James Sadler who took Henry on his aerial voyage in 1811.

In the 1830's Henry acquired a wharf at Nine Elms, Battersea (Fig.1 in Part I), first appearing in the rate books as a tenant of sheds in 1835 [48] and as owner of a wharf and buildings in 1838 (Front Cover and Fig.11) [49].

Henry was a prudent man and the business flourished. An example of his views is seen from a letter which he sent in response to a request for charity;

'Nothing would have afforded me so much pleasure as to have responded to your

flattering offer. But those who infer that I must be a wealthy man, because I now and then give, are mistaken. I am a man of income but not a capitalist at command. The large sums sunk in my business are gone, being no more available to the possessor than the shaft and the machinery of a coal mine to the owner. In either case the capital sunk will yield an income so long as it is prosperously worked, but if otherwise becomes a dead weight and a charge upon the proprietor. The offer you have so handsomely proposed is far beyond my means. I never anticipate. Before I offer to give, the required amount has been saved up out of my income and set aside for that specific purpose. Thus the fund for Mrs Beaufoys' Ragged Schools and any other objects I have in contemplation are already set aside before I begin, and cannot on any account be diverted to any other purpose. Every shilling of the interest of my funded property is devoted to some who are depending on my considera-



*The Acetic Acid Works at Pays Bas Farm, Battersea, Surrey, the property of Henry B. Hanbury Esq.
This view showing on the right of the building the Artesian Well. Taken September 1848.
By J. S. Wingfield.*

Fig.12. A view in 1848 of the Acetic Acid Works at the Pays Bas Farm, with the artesian well (right foreground) and the statue of Hercules. Other views of the farm, which lay to the west of Queenstown Road, show it to be fairly well covered with trees. (Photo: Greater London Record Office - Maps and Prints)

tion for an income and the means of maintaining them in their position in society. This part of my property is therefore sacred'|50|.

Nevertheless, he was able to give generously to charity, donating £10,000 to the City of London School|51|, erecting the Lambeth Ragged Schools (opened 5th March 1851) with a gift of £10,000 and investing £4,000 in perpetual trust for their maintenance|52|. In 1839 he gave a number of his father's scientific instruments to Capt. James Ross on board the 'Erebus' at Chatham|53|. In 1850 he presented his collection of 1335 trade tokens to the Corporation of London where they can still be seen in the Guildhall Library|54|. His collection of antiques and statues outgrew South Lambeth and 'Hercules' ended up at Pays Bas (Fig. 12).

Henry was devoted to Eliza and it was her work with poor children that inspired him to establish the Ragged Schools; after her death in 1847 he wrote 'I am sometimes

so low that I seek privacy as my greatest solace'. His health deteriorated and scattered through his letters can be seen 'Excuse my tremulous hand, I can scarcely write today', 'Excuse this sad writing, but it is with difficulty I can guide my pen or see to write'|55|. He died in 1851 and was buried at Lambeth Parish Church. In 1856 Sadler reported to the Trustees of the Ragged Schools that the tomb and railing required repairing, cleaning and painting|56|. At some point Henry's body was removed to Norwood Cemetery where there is a family vault, in a poor state of repair and appearing to be empty of coffins, with a flat stone inscribed:

'In the vault beneath are deposited the remains of Eliza, the beloved wife of Henry Benjamin Hanbury Beaufoy, who died 22nd January 1847 in the 54th year of her age.

Also the remains of her husband Henry Benjamin Hanbury Beaufoy of Caron Place,

South Lambeth, who departed this life on July 12th 1851 in the 66th year of his age.

Likewise George Henry, the child of George, youngest brother of the above Henry Beaufoy, died 21.1.54 aged 14 months.

Here also rests the body of George Beaufoy born 14.10.1796 died 3.8.1864. Likewise his wife Anne Beaufoy born 29. 7.1825 died 13.12.1894|57|.

George only joined the firm four days before Henry's death having apparently done nothing for the previous six years; he was shy and untried but within six months married Anne Harvey, who was the widow of a naval friend and blessed with a forceful personality|58|. He faced hard times for despite increased consumption of vinegar the industry had to contend with a drop in prices because of adulteration of vinegar with sulphuric acid and production of a substitute vinegar based on acetic acid. Beaufoy's themselves were found guilty of adulteration|59|.

Nevertheless, the firm continued to prosper and Henry Mayhew who visited the factory shortly after George's death reported that the property was sworn under the enormous amount of quarter of a million sterling|60|. The business was left to his son, Mark, to be run by his mother, Anne until he reached his majority. Anne was to receive upwards of £7,000 per annum and a

OUR PAST & FUTURE MEMBER.



Mark Beaufoy

Fig.13. Mark Beaufoy as featured in an election poster - he was Liberal MP for the Kennington Division of Lambeth from 1889 to 1895.



Fig.14. The coat of arms from the 21st birthday programme of Henry Mark Beaufoy.

settlement of £30,000 was made on their daughter Margaretta; £10,000 was to maintain Henry's library and collections and allowances were made for continuing Henry's scheme of prizes for workmen, gratuities to clerks, and the annual celebration of the works' feast.

Mark was educated at Eton and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He was elected Liberal MP for the Kennington Division of Lambeth in 1889 and campaigned for the reduction in working hours(Fig.13)|61|. He was defeated in 1895 and moved to Dorset, building Coombe House in 1887 near Shaftesbury although continuing to run the business. During the 1870s he began to develop the Beaufoy Estate on the land surrounding the Battersea factory. In 1900 he became High Sheriff for Wiltshire. In 1907 he built the Beaufoy Institute. He died in 1922 and was buried at Chalton Church near Coombe House.

His eldest son Henry had a grand 21st birthday celebration at Coombe(Fig.14) but had to break up the estate in 1922 because of death duties, moving to Steeple Aston (Oxon.) where he became High Sheriff, leaving his younger brother George Maurice to live at Caron Place and run the business. It has not been possible to unearth much information but it is certain that in 1929 Beaufoy and Co amalgamated with Grimble & Co to become Beaufoy, Grimble and Co. Ltd. |62|. In 1930 the wine-making side was amalgamated with Vine Products and registered as Beaufoys Wines Ltd|63|. In 1932 the vinegar-making side was absorbed with many others into British Vinegars. George Maurice continued to sit on both boards and manage the Head Office and works which continued at Caron Place. His obituary reads as follows:

'We regret to record the death by enemy action on the night of 16th/17th April of

Mr George Maurice Beaufoy, chairman and managing director of Messrs Beaufoy's Wines Ltd. Caron Place, South Lambeth Road, SW8. Mr Beaufoy, who was 46 years of age, came of a family well-known and esteemed in Lambeth for very many years from a business and civic point of view, Mr Beaufoy was an M.A.(Cambs.) a J.P., a trustee of the Walcot Technical Fund (appointed by the governing body of the Beaufoy Scholarship Fund) and Master of the Grocers Company. In addition he was interested in the work of the Beaufoy Institution in Black Prince Road, Kennington and he was treasurer of the Cambridge House Boys' Club at Camberwell. At one time he was a member and Alderman of the London County Council. Added to his work for Messrs Beaufoy's Wines Ltd., he was Chairman and Managing Director of British Vinegars Ltd., vice-chairman of the National Association of British Wine Producers' [64].

Most of the archive and much of the plant at Caron Place were destroyed on the night of 16th/17th April 1941[6].

(To be continued).

References

46. Battersea Poor Rate Book 1827, 28.
47. 1841 Census.
48. Battersea Poor Rate Book 1835, 32.
49. Ibid 1838, a.894.
50. Transcript of a letter loaned to Arthur Chiltern, Headmaster in 1905 - City of London Archives. They have over 50 transcripts, details of the scholarships and 'wranglers', the Beaufoy medals, a bust and a portrait of Henry.
51. Stone tablet still located in the old building of the City of London School.
52. The Illustrated London News has drawings of the Ragged Schools. Paintings in the scrapbook at the Minet Library, MS S 3053 (1859), 'Memorials of the Lambeth Ragged School'; GLRO A/BFY, papers on Lambeth Ragged School; T.Robinson 'Beaufoy School'(1956) - typescript at Minet Library.
53. Letter in Henry's hand, August 1839. Royal Society MS. Sa. 127. Ross made a magnetic survey of Great Britain and Ireland from 1834-38 and in September 1839 sailed to the South Pole where he made a wealth of discoveries and gave the name to 'Mount Erebus'.
54. J.M.Burn, A descriptive catalogue of the London Traders', Tavern, and Coffee House Tokens current in the seventeenth century; presented to the Corporation Library by Henry Benjamin Hanbury Beaufoy (1853).
55. City of London School Archive, loc. cit.
56. GLRO A/BFY/1.
57. Information kindly supplied by the Norwood Society.
58. B. Kerr, The Dispossessed: an aspect of social history (1974). 'Henrietta Thornhill's Diaries 1864-1880', Lambeth Archives IV/81/12; Henrietta was the granddaughter of Henrietta Beaufoy, orphaned when her parents were killed in the Indian Mutiny and sent to live with 'Aunt George' at Caron Place when her grandmother died in 1866.
59. A.W.Slater, op cit fn 12.
60. H.Mayhew, op cit fn 35.
61. Hansard CCCXLI, 3rd series 1890; VIII, 4th series, 1893.
62. A.W.Slater, op cit fn 12.
63. Information kindly supplied by Vine Products and Whiteways Ltd.
64. Source unknown: cutting found amongst City of London School Archives. A portrait of George Maurice used to hang in the office of Beaufoys Wines in the 1940's, whereabouts now unknown; his nephew, Mr Archie Clowes, represented the family interests on the board of British Vinegars which was owned jointly by Nestle, Distillers and the Beaufoys through Beaufoy Grimble. About 1977 Beaufoys and Distillers sold their interests to Nestle and the family now have nothing to do with British Vinegars (information kindly supplied by Archie Clowes).
65. That part of the archive which survives had been taken home by an executive a few months before the bombing. When GLRO place it on open access and it is also possible to view the family archive, then hopefully a much fuller picture of the business will emerge.

Corrections to Part I (W.H. No.61)

P.4 - last sentence in last paragraph in left-hand column should read: 'He had a house in Great George Street and owned Castle Hill Lodge, Ealing; he endowed almshouses on the Uxbridge Road and Old Brentford [16]. He died aged 44 at Bristol but was buried in Ealing where there is a tablet in St Mary's Church.'

P.4 - date in penultimate line in left-hand column should read '1782' (not 1882).

P.4 - the list of stocks held by the three brothers should have the reference number '|17|' added.

P.8 - at the end of the first part-paragraph in the right-hand column, the Figure number should be '10'.

P.22, ref. 10 - the date at the end should read '1941' (not 1841).

P.22, ref. 44 - the date at the end should read '1821' (not 1921).

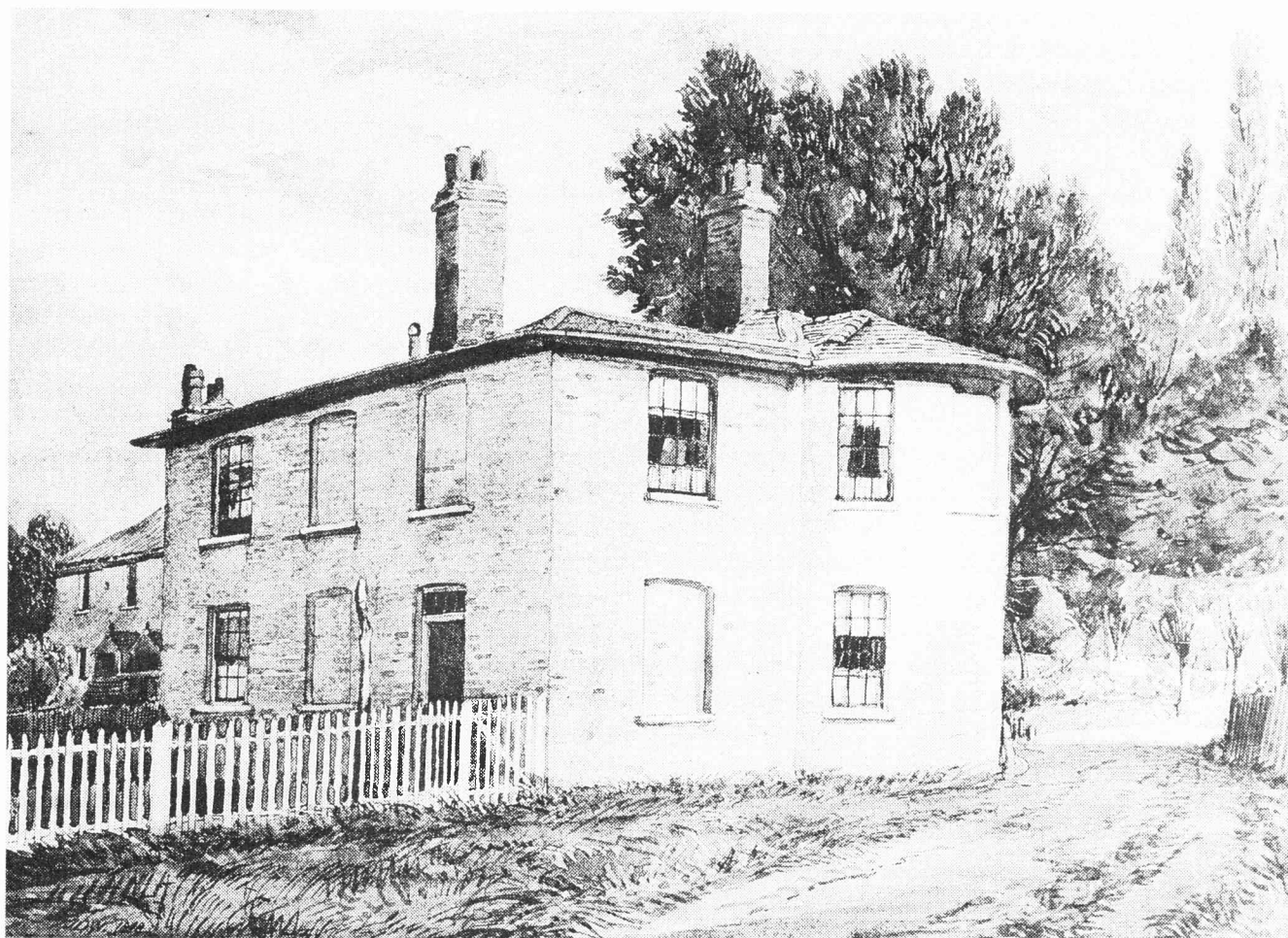


Fig. 1: The Acetate Manufactory at Pays Bas Farm, Battersea, Surry, the property of Henry B.H. Beaufoy Esq^r. This view of the house occupied by M^r John Sadler. Taken 20th September 1848. By J.D. Wingfield. (London Metropolitan Archives SC/PZ/BT/02/001-040/14482)

The Beaufoys at Battersea: Part 3

DIANA GUNASENA

‘THROUGH THE CENTURIES Battersea, like Romney Marsh and Plumstead Marsh, has had its numerous “innings” or enclosures from the river by its gradual embankment and the reclamation of much of its present area from river tidal and flood waters. A curious reminder of this is that in a deed relating to some land owned by Mr Beaufoy, near Lavender Hill, which is named Pays Bas, or Low Country’⁶⁶.

Beaufoy’s Acetic Acid Works was established in the western fields of Longhedge/Piddoes Farm⁶⁷. The extent of the fifteen acres purchased by Henry Beaufoy in 1827 is clearly detailed on the Tithe Map and Apportionment and consisted of three meadows, one arable field, two patches of rough ground and a garden; in addition to the farm buildings there were

four houses. A description of Battersea at the time of the Tithe Map gives a good sense of the physical topography:

‘The Parish of Battersea consists principally of the alluvial soil of the valley of the Thames of which Market Gardens and Pastures are entirely composed and partly of a gravelly upland overlooking the valley and which is Common, sites of Houses, private gardens etc. The Market Garden is naturally dark strong soil but from long cultivation is quite artificial. The produce is herbage of all descriptions for the London Market - flowers - fruit - potatoes, etc. Although 346 acres are called arable land, I should think that never above 60 or 70 acres in any one year produces grain and this not for sale but merely to support the animals

in the conveyance of the Garden Stuff to Market. The whole extent of the Market Garden and Pasture is a magnificent sheet of land - level, rich and in the highest state of cultivation, and letting for from £3 to £6 per acre⁶⁸.

The Beaufoy Estate lay to the north of the Heathwall Sewer on alluvium and flood plain gravel, and was bounded by open ditches on all sides; the Heathwall, which separated the 'island' of Battersea from the high ground to the south, was not covered until 1866. The land was so low-lying that one of the two wells on the Pays Bas property often overflowed⁶⁹. Immediately south of the Heathwall, the land rises rapidly from two to fifty feet to Lavender Hill (then called Wandsworth Road). Although the Beaufoy Arms was built on the top of the rise, this land was never owned by the Beaufoys; Henry did however purchase the land and houses just over the parish boundary in Clapham⁷⁰.

With the destruction of most of the Company's records, it is not possible to outline the nature and development of Pays Bas⁷¹, which was first called a factory in 1834⁷². Following the Industrial Revolution, workers increasingly relied on commercially produced condiments, etc, and with the establishment of, in particular, textile mills, came the greatly increased demand for soaps, alkalis and acids. Acetic acid was a cheap substitute for brewed vinegar - when acetic acid, the essential basis of vinegar, is diluted with water to 4-5% and coloured with burnt sugar, the undiscerning palate cannot tell the difference, although the solution does lack the vitamins of brewed vinegar.

It requires only a minimum of equipment beyond a shed, while capital is not tied up for 9-12 months in the maturing process. Beaufoys claimed it had superseded distilled vinegar for the makers of acetates, manufacturers of fine colours (such as carmine), calico printers, dyers, etc. It was tested for three successive seasons by the ships of the East India Company. A leading house in the Scottish salmon trade pickled some salmon in the summer of 1820 and found them to be absolutely excellent when opened in February 1821. Vegetables were pickled according to Beaufoys recipes in 1819 and exhibited to the Horticultural Society of London in August 1820 when their colour and flavour obtained the commendation of members⁷³. Michael Faraday confirmed that acetic acid was much in use in the Arts by 1827⁷⁴. The Pays Bas site at Battersea may have been chosen because it lay close to the nearby industries on the Wandle.

A later Beaufoy trade pamphlet advertising Chloride of Soda lists the following uses:

'Domestic: preserve meat, fish and game; purify water; bleach linens and muslins; stain removal; remove mildew from ships' sails; disinfect sickrooms, clothing and

bedlinen, night chairs, drains, sewers, WCs; produce tasteless whiskey and rum as has long been employed on the Continent; freshen musty and stinking casks; freshen newly sized houses, kitchens and workshops with charcoal fires, factories using animal products; to control maggots in furriers, feather merchants and natural history museums; veterinary surgeons can use it as an injection or lotion; disinfect cowsheds, stables, sheepfolds, hen-roosts, dog-kennels, pig-sties, menageries etc.

Medicinal (under direction of Medical Practitioner): use as an ablution, affusion, in asphyxia, gargle, injection, lotion or dressing, internally as a draught, disinfect lint and bandages, preserve anatomical subjects.

For extensive fumigation add a few ounces of Acetic Acid to the Solution of Chloride of Soda, and after the removal of every living thing that it is not the object to destroy, close windows doors chimneys, hatches etc⁷⁵.

The first manager, John Sadler, who was a chemist, was installed by 1832, living on site with his family and three labourers⁷⁶. Sadler was party to the indenture for the establishment of the Lambeth Ragged Schools and attended every quarterly meeting until his death in 1860⁷⁷. He earned the good wage of £230 a year, which compares well with the managers at South Lambeth, namely Messrs Sutton £500, Solthau £400 and Bolton £230⁷⁸. In 1865 the hands were paid 16s to £2 10s per week and the boys 8s to 16s; these again were good rates for as late as 1913, average wages for similar work were 18s to £1 10s⁷⁹.

In 1853 the ten-hour day was legalised for adults but Beaufoys reduced their hours to eight hours per day and found output increased. Thereafter Mark fought continually in Parliament for an eight-hour day (it finally crept in between 1908 and the late 1930s). Mayhew records of his visit in 1865 to the Lambeth factory, 'We found here every consideration for the work-people, cricket clubs, bean feasts and sick clubs'⁸⁰. Workers were encouraged to use the excellent library and a draft copy of the lending library record scheme is preserved⁸¹.

By 1861 Sadler's son, also named John, a manufacturing chemist, was running Pays Bas, aided by his brother George and three labourers; another brother, Henry, was a surgeon. By 1871 Matthew Cannon, an analytical chemist, was the manager, helped by a vinegar maker and a labourer. Sometime prior to the 1881 Census, all workers had ceased living on site⁸².

Further insights into the varying profitability of the plant at Pays Bas over the later part of the 19th century are provided by surviving letters. In particular, they imply that there was a temporary crisis in 1895/6 (see Appendix).

Along with industrial development went sales of the surrounding fields. In 1863 about three acres of the

northern meadow were compulsorily purchased for railway expansion - it was listed as osier beds⁸³; the remaining portion of that meadow was later listed as marsh and pasture⁸⁴. In the late 1870s seven acres were let on a lease of 99 years for building 230 houses⁸⁵. Beaufoy and Hanbury Roads were named in 1879, while the 1893 OS map shows the area completely built over. Basnett Grove Board School (later renamed John Burns Primary School) was opened in 1883 and in the late 1890s, Basnett Road Special School (renamed Wycliffe Road Special School in 1904) was opened in four bungalows for ESN children⁸⁶. A church was built in 1891⁸⁷.

The entrance to the factory was moved from Lavender Hill to 21/23 Hanbury Road and after the Board School was built, to 100 Wickersley Road⁸⁸. One cannot be sure what finally caused the closure of Pays Bas but it was no longer included in Battersea Directories from 1901/2. Between 1844 and 1860 the price of brewed vinegar fell from 3.7 shillings per gallon to 1.9 shillings; by 1900 the price had bottomed out at 4½ pence per gallon and it was in this climate that Beaufoys decided to concentrate production back at South Lambeth.

What of the Beaufoys' legacy? Today the South Lambeth site is luxury housing (some of the facades have been preserved); the south wing of the Ragged School remains on the corner of Newport Street and Black Prince Road; the Beaufoy Institute still stands at 39 Black Prince Road (a temporary Court of Justice); Eliza and the Ragged Schools feature in a painting adorning Lambeth Walk; Beaufoy Walk leads to Lilian Baylis School (formerly Beaufoy School); some Beaufoy Trusts are administered by Lambeth Council; a plaque commemorates the Ragged Schools, Henry Beaufoy and the Shaftesbury Society (first building from Vauxhall, south side of Wandsworth Road); the City of London School has a Beaufoy Theatre, a Beaufoy rowing-boat, and the four Trusts have been amalgamated to form one scholarship⁸⁹.

Over 280 houses on the Beaufoy Estate were purchased in the 1970s by Wandsworth Council, many by CPOs, the so-called 'slum clearance' scheme⁹⁰; seven houses remain at the north end of Wycliffe Road and four at the north end of Wickersley, plus all the houses in the Beaufoy section of Eversleigh Road (formerly Arliss); the new estate of smaller houses, called Wycliffe Estate, uses a new road layout and the family names of Beaufoy and Hanbury have not been retained. There was much ill-feeling over the CPOs and the disruption of the community as friends and neighbours were separated and moved away, 'they left the ends, but tore the heart out'⁹¹. In 1975 John Burns School was demolished and rebuilt on the east side of Wycliffe Road; there was much controversy because the new building was said to have been a victim of bad

planning, bad organisation and shoddy materials⁹²; the old gate from 1883 still stands next to 68A Dunston Road. In 1994, the John Burns School of 1975 was abandoned because of faulty workmanship, asbestos danger, etc and rehoused on the site of Wycliffe Special School.

Appendix

Letters concerning the state of the business at Pays Bas 1860-99

22.12.1860 Inland Revenue to George Beaufoy. Retorts can be moved from Chemical Works at Pays Bas to Vinegar and Sweets Manufactory at South Lambeth, there to use them in the manufacture of Sweets, providing the officers can examine them whenever they wish. To transfer licence and Stills for making Acetic Acid at Pays Bas. To use retorts kept at Pays Bas in making Chlorides of Soda and Limes⁹³.

29.12.1883 Beaufoys to Royal Exchange. Owing to great alterations at Lavender Hill premises a new insurance policy is required. A plan of the new works is enclosed.

19.2.1884 Beaufoys to Royal Exchange. Buildings, Plant and Stock in trade at Lavender Hill Works insured for £10,460; South Lambeth Works insured for £82,550; and the House, Library and Counting House insured for £15,700. Policies are lodged with Russell-Cooke, Solicitors.

13.8.1885 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Would be advantageous to have son working at Pays Bas too so you can devote more time to experiments and chemical researches. The difficulty is that the profits from the Acid Manufactory will not permit much increase in the expenses. Suggest £40 p.a. to start, increasing by £10 p.a. up to £120, unless increased sales of acids show greater profits.

8.5.1890 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Submitting the terms for the sale of the new acid: 'on all the new Acid sold in substitution of our present "B 50" I am willing to allow you a commission of ten shillings per ton. Should we at any future time be able to use it in substitution for "C 50", either by itself or mixed with vinegar I shall be willing to allow you the sum of one pound per ton. It is of course understood that this agreement gives me the sole right of selling in the United Kingdom the acid made by your new process.'

20.5.1890 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Agreement for one year re Acid and Acetate of Soda. Sanctions £150 on new plant. Encloses £24 5s in payment of Royalty on improved "B 50".

4.11.1891 Beaufoys to Brandham Bros & Co. Rotherhithe. "We have this day sold to you one thousand (1000) 10 gallon carboys, or more if required, at your option, of Acetic Acid specific gravity 1.048 equal to 37% Crystallisable Acid, free

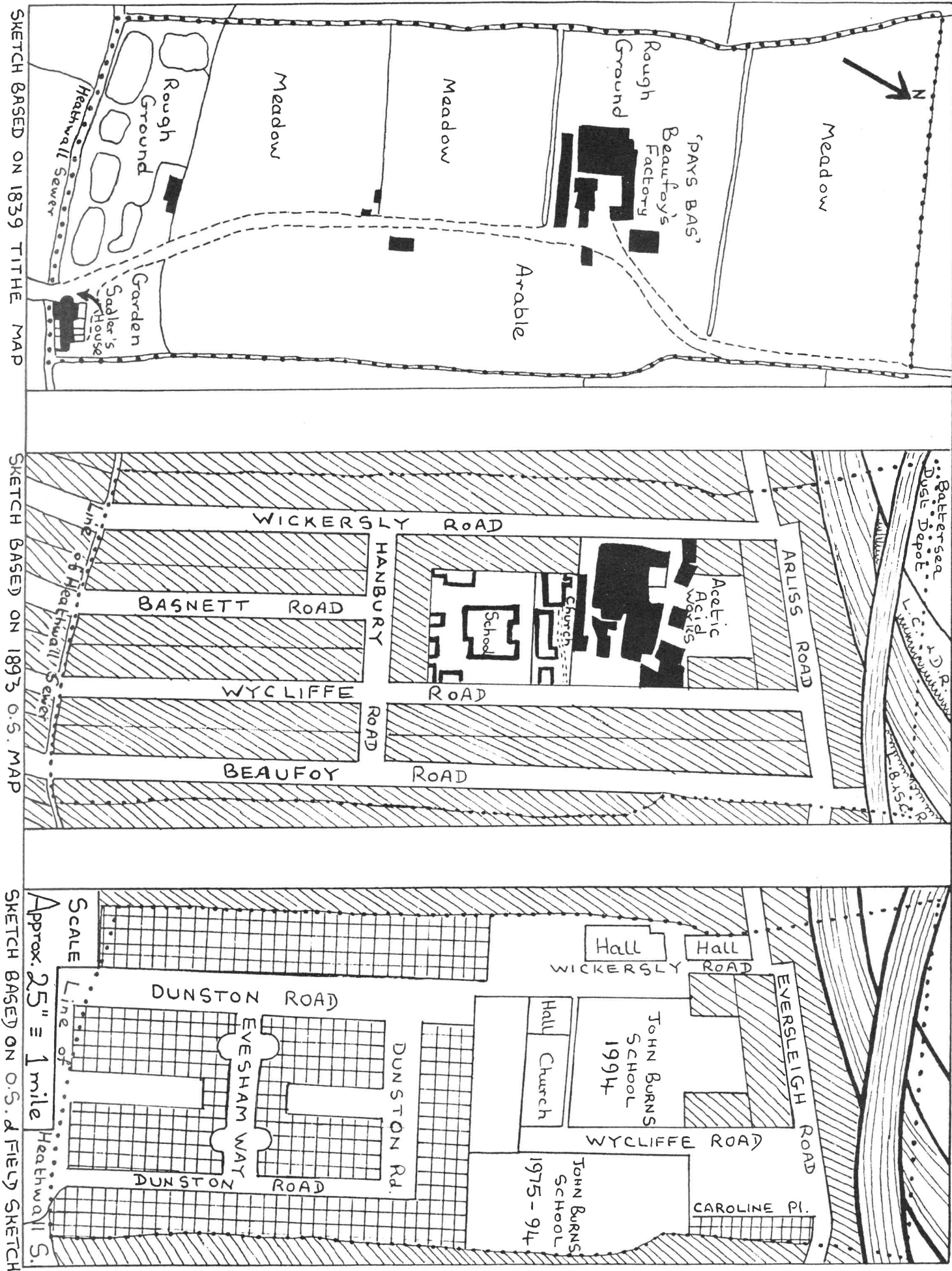


Fig. 2: Sketch maps of Pays Bas of 1839, 1893 and 1996.

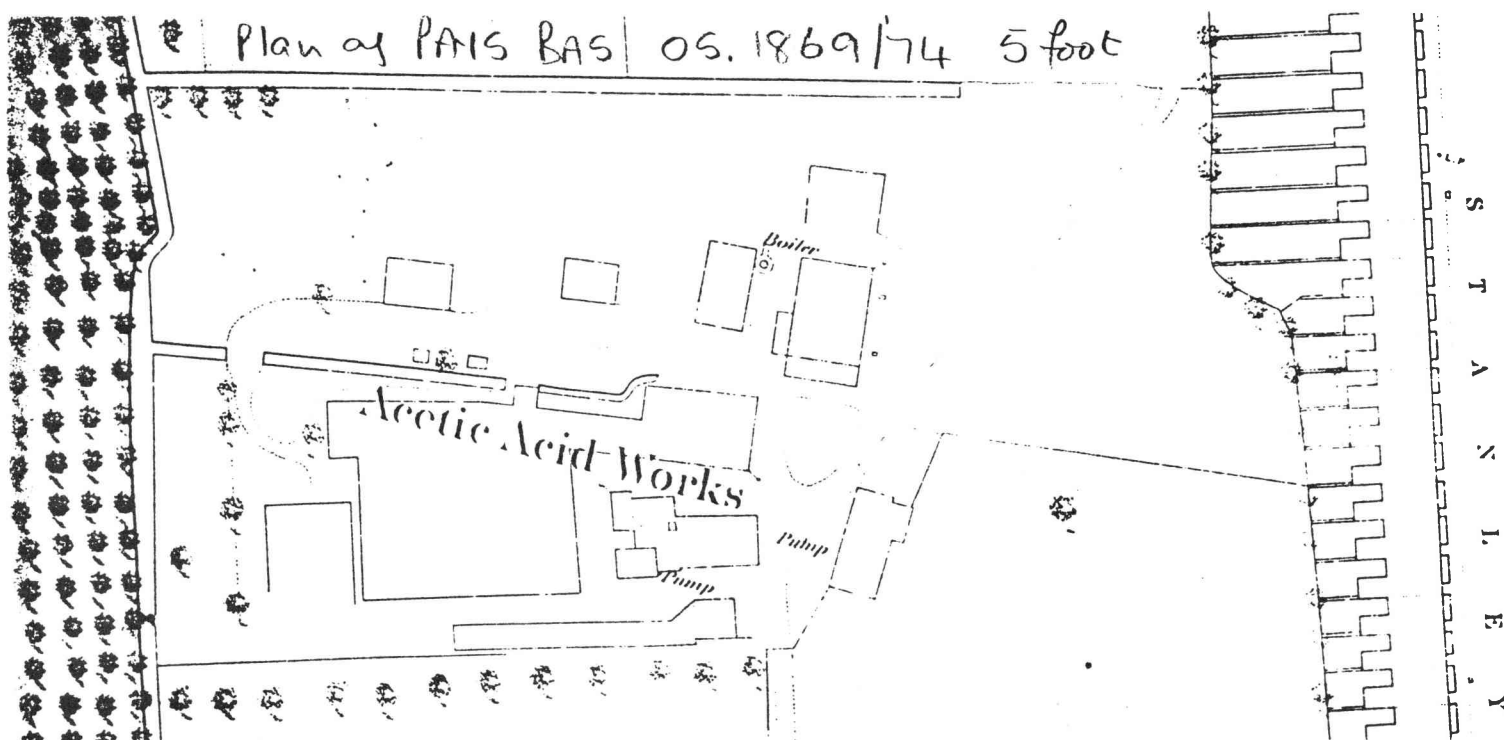


Fig. 3: Plan of Pays Bas from the Ordnance Survey 1869/74 5 foot map.

from Sulphuric and Hydrochloric Acid, iron and tar, at £13 per ton.'

18.7.1893 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Re a complaint from Oliver of Bury, one of our oldest customers, that the product is sometimes too weak, sometimes too strong; the whole must be run into one large round to get equal strength.

7.5.1895 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Requesting a calculation as to the costs per lb. of the different kinds of acids sold based simply upon the cost of the raw material. The other expenses attached to its manufacture will be calculated at South Lambeth.

25.5.1895 Beaufoys to M. Cannon Pending a final decision on the future of Pays Bas it is absolutely essential that a real and effective reduction is made in the working expenses. Calculate the effect of closing the factory side entirely, keeping only the Distillery going.

29.5.1895 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Costs are still too high. Can you do without your son's assistance?

9.7.1895 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Royalties on Patent Process will be withheld as from April 1st last. Margin of Net Profit on Pays Bas is so small that unless great economies are effected it must be closed.

12.5.1897 Beaufoys to M. Cannon. Present practices are not in breach of your Patent No. 14333 of 1888 - the use of Manganese Dioxide was fully set out

in Bronneo's book on the manufacture of Acetic Acid, published 1876. Your and your son's salary and commission amount to 26% of the net profits, and if anyone gets more it should be your son, but you would have to get less.

May/June Report 1897. The new stills at Pays Bas render them short of steam so a new Boiler will be erected at a cost of £75.

June Report 1898. The two new German Stills (costing £60 each) at Pays Bas are working well. Price of Acetate of Lime had gone up since outbreak of Spanish American war but there is no need to purchase more stock for a couple of months.

29.3.1899 Extract from Report on Pays Bas. Accounts show a profit of £1,216 16.0 for the year. Plant has been renewed but there is great competition from abroad in Acetic Acids.

15.5.1899 Auditors' Report to Russell-Cooke. Dead stock i.e. plant, machinery, cases, bottles etc: Pays Bas:- £7,545 13.5; South Lambeth:- £21,746 0.0.⁹⁴

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following for their generous help and co-operation: Andrea Cameron, Archie Clowes, Brian Bloice, Christine O'Brien, Steve Race

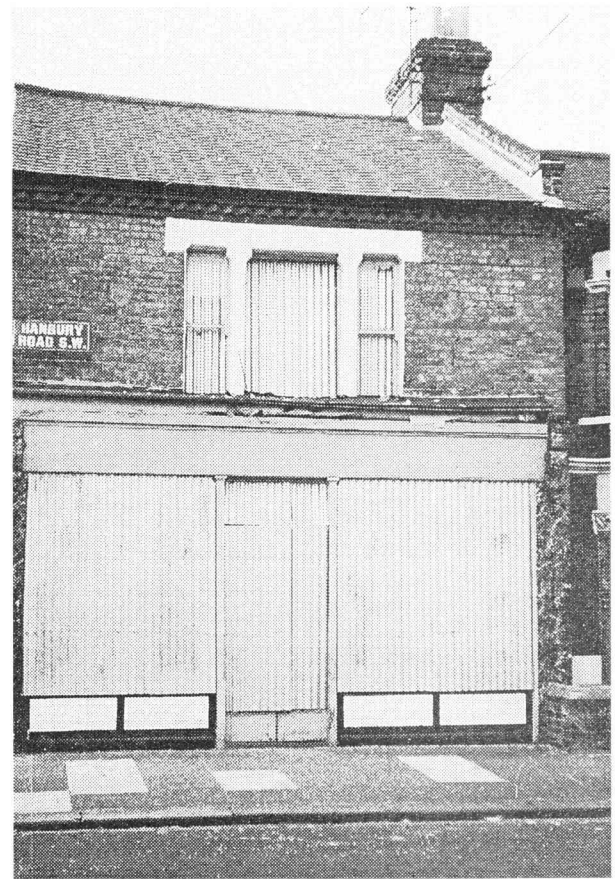


Fig. 4: Houses awaiting demolition in Beaufoy and Hanbury Roads.

and Blake Roberts.

The Vicars of St. Phillip's, Battersea; Stanmore; Evesham; and Upton Gray.

British Vinegars, Vine Products & Whiteways Ltd, The English Wine Centre, Guardian Royal Exchange, Russell-Cooke Potter & Chapman, The Shaftesbury Society, Companies Registration Office, and the Business Archives Council.

ILEA Design & Technology Centre (formerly the Beaufoy Institute), William and the staff of the City of London School, and the John Burns Primary School.

The Senior Citizens of Queenstown Day Centre.

The Friends' Reference Library, Euston and the Friends' Southwark, Lewisham and Bromley Monthly Meeting.

Members of the Norwood Society, Vauxhall Society and Wandsworth Historical Society.

Tony Shaw at the Wandsworth Local History Library, staff at the British Library, Geological Museum, London Metropolitan Archives, Royal Society, Royal Astronomical Society, Linnaean Society, City of London Record Office, Minet Library, Science Museum and the National Maritime Museum.

References

66. Foreword by John Burns to E.A.Woolmer, *The*

story of Battersea [1924] p.vii. The Deed has not come to light.

67. An article on the farm will appear in *The Wandsworth Historian* in due course.

68. Public Record Office, IR 18/10091, Battersea Tithe File, commissioners' answer to Qu.11.

69. Memoir of the Geological Society, *Geology of London* Vol. II, p.185; Vol. IV, p.539; W, Whitaker, *The Water Supply of Surrey* (1912) p.110, lists deposits from a 244ft bore at Pays Bas; *Records of Wells in the South London Area* (HMSO,1979); G.W.Lambert 'The Geography of London Ghosts', *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research* 40, no. 706 (1960) pp.397-409 discusses the flooding in 'disturbed' houses along the line of the Heathwall Sewer which is still open to the Thames at both ends; H.S. Simmonds, *All about Battersea* (1882) p.143, states that the site of Pays Bas was formerly a brickfield, bricks being made there for the construction of Chelsea Hospital. Doubt is thrown on this statement by the Geological Society's Explanation to Sheet 270 p.64: 'At Battersea, some brickearth was mapped, but there is much doubt as to its existence. It is so coloured on Mylne's [1856] map of London made at the time when more evidence was available than today; but up to the end of the 16th century the



Fig. 5: Houses awaiting demolition in Wickersley Road.

area was a marsh, flooded at every tide, and the material would probably be more correctly described as alluvium'.

70. *Wandsworth Hist* 61 (1990) p.1, Fig.1; Wandsworth Local History Collection, Battersea Library (hereafter WLHC), Clapham Tithe Map and Apportionment.
71. *Wandsworth Hist* 61 (1990) p.22, ref.10, and *Wandsworth Hist* 64 (1992) p.4, ref 65, and correction to the former on the same page.
72. WLHC, Battersea Poor Rate Book 1834.
73. *Wandsworth Hist* 61 (1990) p.22, ref 44: printed as Beaufoy and Co., *Beaufoy's white vinegar*. 6th edn. (1822) British Library T.893(3).
74. M. Faraday, *Chemical manipulation* (1827); see the *Oxford English Dictionary*, s.v. Acetic.
75. Beaufoy and Co, *Beaufoy's concentrated solution of chloride of soda* [An advertisement] (1835?) British Library 1881.a.3 (29).
76. WLHC, Battersea Poor Rate Book 1832.
77. London Metropolitan Archives A/BFY *loc. cit.* ref 52
78. British Vinegar Archive, *loc. cit.* ref 10, Box File 2, loose doc.
79. Mayhew *op.cit.* ref 35; M. Pember Reeves, *Round about a pound a week* (1913, repr, 1979)
80. Mayhew *op.cit.* ref 35.
81. British Vinegar Archive, *loc.cit.* ref. 10 Box File 2, loose doc.
82. Census Returns for 1861, 1871 and 1881.
83. Surrey Heritage Centre, Kingston, QS/6/8/642.
84. British Library, OS Book of Reference to the Plan of Battersea (1874, resurveyed 1869/70).
85. Simmonds *op. cit.* ref 69; WLHC, Building Notices, Vol. 3/11 & 15, Vol. 4/69; Metropolitan Board of Works, Minutes 13.6.1879, 4.7.1879, 26.4.1881; Index to Street and Building Plans, ref. 127 & 1002; District Board of Works, Plan No. 657; Battersea Minutes, 2/78, 3/8, 89 & 100, 5/33, 6/238 & 363, 7/157, 335 & 459; Deeds in numbered envelopes relating to Wandsworth Council's Terrier: Nos. 2113, 2117 & 8071; LMA c/70/943.
86. Minutes of the School Board of London; Minutes of the LCC; *South Western Star* (20 June 1891).
87. M. Cornish, 'St Bartholomew's Church, Battersea, 1891-1971' *Wandsworth Hist* 58 (1989) pp.14-17.
88. WLHC, Rate Books.
89. *Wandsworth Hist* 64 (1992) p.4, ref 50 & 51.
90. Wandsworth Council, *Age and Condition of Residential Properties Survey* (1965), overwritten on the OS 5 foot map.
91. Pers. comm., senior citizens at Queenstown Luncheon Club, Wickersley Road.
92. *St Phillip's Church Magazine*, Sept. 1975.
93. British Vinegar Archive, *loc.cit.* ref 10, Box File 2, loose doc.
94. British Vinegar Archive, *loc.cit.* ref. 10, Letterbook 2 - all 16 letters. Russell-Cooke may have become Beaufoy's solicitors through association with Temple-Cooke, a barrister who married Margaretta Beaufoy - this requires further research. Russell-Cooke, Potter and Chapman are not prepared to divulge what documents they hold because they still act for the Beaufoy heirs. Guardian Royal Exchange have very few documents from the 19th century and nothing relating to the Beaufoy's.