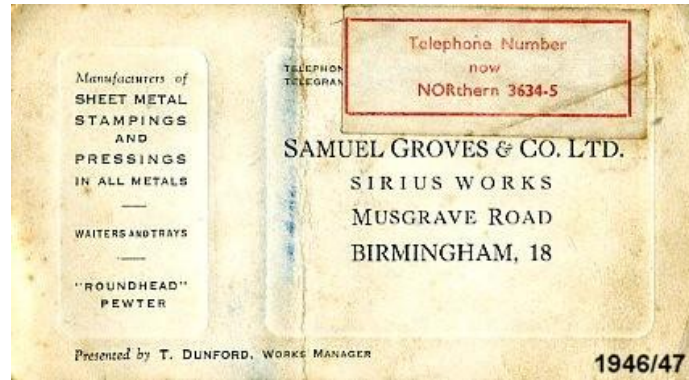


The Two - SAMUEL GROVES - FROM 1799 TO 1893 and their Cannon  
research and article by Christine Ellis of Sydney Australia.



Samuel Groves – there are in fact two Samuel Groves and PS12656 and PS14876 are definitely connected. PS14876 as listed at present is an amalgamation of the Father and Son as proven by the following:

The London Gazette 1866 2 February Issue 23065

*Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between Samuel Groves the elder and Samuel Groves the younger, of Broad-street Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Britannia Metal Smiths, carrying on business under the firm of Samuel Groves and Son, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. All debts owing to or from the said late copartnership will be received and paid by the said Samuel Groves the younger, by whom the said business will be carried on.-Dated this 20th day of January, 1866. Samuel Groves, senr. Samuel Groves, junr.*

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*Samuel Groves Senior born in 1799 died in 1869 – Britannia Metal Smith*

*Samuel Groves Junior born in 1832 died in 1893 Britannia Metal Smith/Electro plate manufacturer*

*Henry Groves born in 1862 died 1936 Metal Spinner/Electro plate manufacturer*

*Eric Samuel born 1890 (1911 Britannia Metal Spinner)*

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Individual details :

**1) Samuel Groves Warwickshire 1799-1869**

1829 LG 24 February Issue 18553

*Notice is hereby given. that the Partnership lately subsisting between us the undersigned James Howes and Samuel Groves, of Cheapside, in the Parish of Aston, near Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Manufacturers of Britannia Metal Goods, was dissolved on the 1st day of November last by mutual consent. - Witness our hands the 6th day of February, 1829. James Howes. Samuel Groves.*

1830 Wrightson's Triennial Directory of Birmingham (1829-30)  
Groves Samuel Britannia Metal tea pot Manufacturer Cheapside

1830 History, Topography and Directory of Warwickshire  
Samuel Groves Britannia Tea pot manufacturer Cheapside

Birmingham City Archives : Counterpart lease for 99 years. Parties: Sir Thomas Sherlock Gooch of Benacre Hall, co. Suffolk, Bart., Samuel Groves, Britannia metal worker, (plus other names) all of Birmingham. Property: Bordesley Street and Barn Street. with plan.

1833 Wrightson's Triennial Directory of Birmingham & 1835 Pigots Directory  
Samuel Groves Britannia Metal ware manufacturer 86 Cheapside

1835 Directory of Birmingham  
Samuel Groves Britannia tea pot and brass candlestick manufacturer 82 Cheapside (entry is listed as 82)

1835 Pigots Directory of Derby, Herefordshire etc  
Samuel Groves Britannia metal ware manufacturer 86 Cheapside

1839 Robsons Directory  
Groves Sl. Brass Candlestick maker 86 Cheapside

**1841 census** Dean Street Upper St Martin Birmingham (Occupation listed as Brass Founder)  
Samuel 41 Ann 35 Ann 15 Samuel 9 William 5

1842 Pigots Directory of Derby, Herefordshire etc  
Samuel Groves Brass Candlestick maker 9 Upper Dean Street

1849 Whites History & Directory of Birmingham & 1850 Whites History Gazeteer and Directory of  
Warwickshire - Groves Samuel, Britannia metal manufacturer, 21 Great Barr Street

**1851 census** 89 Digbeth Occupation listed as Mettel Smith  
Samuel Groves 51 second wife Caroline 45

1852-53 Slaters Directory  
Samuel Groves Temperance Coffee house 89 Digbeth.

1855 Whites Directory  
Samuel Groves Manufacturer of Britannia Metal wares 55 Hill Street

1858 Dix General and Commercial  
Samuel Groves Britannia metal ware mnfr 55 Hill Street

1860 Birmingham Daily Post Wed April 18 Issue 613

BREECH-LOADING CANNON To the Editor of the DAILY POST.

Sir,- In the year 1849 I, Samuel Groves, living at that time at No.89 Digbeth, Birmingham, conceived the idea of a "liquid-fire shell," of which I made a communication to Robert Martineau, Esq., Mayor of Birmingham, who gave me a letter to William Scholefield, Esq., M.P., for the same borough. Through this gentleman I laid my models and explanations before the Select Committee of Officers of the Royal Artillery at Woolwich, who gave me an order for twelve shells or bombs of certain calibre, and promised to fire them by way of test, which they performed in March, 1850, but with effect or remuneration, under the superintendence of Lieutenant-Colonel J.U. Chalmer, R.A., their Secretary. This officer said, "If you should have any other invention which you would wish to bring before the Select Committee, and you will entrust it to my care, I will bring it before them and report upon it to the Master General of Ordnance and yourself, to save you the expenses, as you, being a working man, can ill afford them."

While at Woolwich I saw men exercising upon large cannons. I there also conceived the idea of the breech-loading cannon; subsequently I made the model and sent it to Lieutenant-Colonel Chalmer, Select Committee Office, Woolwich, where it remained during six weeks, and was returned to me without comment.

This brass model remained in my possession till January, 1854, when a Mr. William Henry Bentley, from Bedford, came to lodge at my house, No. 55, Hill Street, Birmingham, on who seeing the model, said, "I give you credit for what you have done ; but what a pity to let it lie idle. Why not bring it out?" I told him what had been done for that end, and that, having spent much money and time upon it, I did not then feel disposed to spend more; he replied, "If I would let him take it to London, he could, through the influences of the Duke of Bedford and the Earl de Grey, bring it out so as the Government, no doubt would adopt it." On this assurance I agreed to let him take the model, and to do the best he could with it, on condition that I bore no expense ; but should anything turn to my advantage *that he would be rewarded according to merit.*

He took the brass model Cannon and in a few days wrote to me for a second, with certain improvements. Accordingly a second one was made, and sent, by his instructions, to the station-master of Euston Square Station, London, for William Henry Bentley. I have not seen my models since then, but I find that the said W. H. Bentley, of Bedford, in the county of Bedford, patented, in 1855, the following year, a breech-loading cannon, with projectiles thereto ; and that the said Mr.

Bentley is at this moment soliciting sympathy in Birmingham, to enable him to prove that both Mr. William Armstrong and Mr. Whitworth, of Manchester, have stolen his invention, infringed his patent, and have gotten the honours and rewards that, solely and by right, belong only to himself. My object, Sir, in writing this is to put the public right as to the facts of the case, which I *solemnly* declare are true and candid. The insertion of our cause will oblige,

Sir, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL GROVES

33A, Wharf Street, Bridge Street,

Birmingham, April 16th, 1860.

1862 Birmingham Corporation

Samuel Groves Plated ware manufacturer Old Steel Mills, Bridge St, Broad St.

Residence King Edwards Road

1866 The London Gazette 2 February Issue 23065

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1868 Birmingham Burgess Roll

Groves Samuel - Nature of the Property rated – House - 28 Islington (son also listed)

Samuel Groves Snr dies 1869

## 2) Samuel Groves Jnr 1832-1893

### Census :

1851 census Handley Street Saint George Birmingham Britannia Metal Worker

Samuel 18 Lodger

1861 census Albion Place Chester Street Birmingham Britannia Metal Worker

Samuel 28 wife Caroline 25

1871 census 28 Islington (Broad Street) Birmingham

Electro Plate manufr emply 22 men 10 boys 3 women 4 girls

Samuel 38 Caroline 36 Henry 8 Beatrice 6

1881 census 69 Broad Street Birmingham Electro Plate manufr

Samuel 48 Caroline 46 Henry 18

1891 census 296 Hagley Road Edgbaston Birmingham Electro Plane manufacturer

Samuel 58 Caroline 56

### Birmingham Daily Post Newspaper Advertisements :

1866 METAL SMITHS - WANTED a good SPINNER and MAKER UP- Apply Samuel Groves 28, Broad street, Islington

1874 GIRLS Wanted about 14, to learn the Burnishing.- Apply S.Groves 69, Broad Street and

WOMAN (young) Wanted, used to Casting Britannia Metal.- Apply S.Groves 69, Broad Street

1875 ELECTRO-PLATE Trade- Wanted an Engraver: one used to Britannia metal work- Apply 69 Broad Street

1876 ELECTRO-PLATE - Wanted a Man accustomed to Hammers Waiters, &c.- Apply S. Groves 69, Broad Street

1880 ELECTRO-PLATE- Wanted, respectable Girls, age 14, to Learn the Burnishing- 69 Broad Street

1881 ELECTRO-PLATE- Wanted, good Burnisher, used to B.M. work- Apply 69, Broad Street

1882 ELECTRO-PLATE- Wanted a first-class Chaser and Embosser.- Apply S.Groves 69, Broad Street and

ELECTRO-PLATE- Wanted, respectable Girls, age 14, to Learn the Burnishing- 69 Broad Street

1885 ELECTRO-PLATE Trade - Wanted, a Youth, about 18, used to Polishing.- Apply, Groves 69 Broad Street and

YOUTH Wanted, Used to Dipping and Burnishing; must be steady.- Apply, before 10 69, Broad Street

1890 GIRLS (respectable) Wanted, about 14, to Learn the Burnish - Apply, Groves 69 Broad Street

#### **Directory entries :**

1867&1868 Kellys Directory

Samuel Groves Electro plater Broad Street (28)

1875 Whites Directory

Samuel Groves Electro-plated ware mnfs Islington Works 69 Broad Street

1878 Post Office Directory

Samuel Groves 69 Broad Street manufacturer of Electro and Britannia Metal wares

1879 Post Office Directory

Samuel Groves Electro plater 69 Broad Street

1883 & 1890& 1892 Kellys Directory

Samuel Groves Electro plate mfrs Broad Street

#### **Miscellaneous :**

1866 The London Gazette 2 February Issue 23065

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1868 Birmingham Burgess Roll

Groves Samuel, the younger (Nature of the Property rated) House 28 Islington (Father also listed)

1886 Samuel takes out a Mortgage on his rented premises in Broad Street when they are offered for sale

*NB Other information held show that details regarding the premises of Broad Street in relation to the Groves family (ie Samuel, his Widow and his daughter in law) are contained within the Gaskell and Chambers archival collection - 1886/1889/1894/1901/1903/1918.*

1893 Birmingham Post Saturday June 10 Issue 10912 - DEATHS

Groves - On the 8th inst., at 69, Broad Street, aged 60 years, Samuel Groves

1893 Probate Samuel Groves of 69 Broad Street Birmingham electro-place manufacturer to Caroline Groves Widow Effects £2493 15s. 4d

It appears the wife Caroline may have been in control of the business until her death in 1922.

### 3) Henry Groves 1862-1936

#### Census :

1881 census 69 Broad Street Birmingham  
Henry 18 Occupation Metal Spinner

1891 census Sunnyside Springfield Road Kings Norton Kings Heath  
Occupation Electro plate manufacturer  
Harry 28 Charlotte E 26 Eric S 10 months

1901 census 69 Broad Street Birmingham  
Occupation Electro plate manufacturer - worker  
Henry 38 Charlotte E 31 Eric S 10 Leslie C 6 months living with widowed Mother Caroline 66 (Head of Household)

1911 census 69 Broad Street Birmingham – Occupation Electro plate manufacturer Manager  
Henry 47 Charlotte Elizabeth 41 Eric 21 Leslie 10 with widowed Mother Caroline 76 (Head of Household)

#### Birmingham Daily Post Newspaper Advertisements

1894 ELECTRO-PLATE Trade - Two good Pierce workers Wanted.- Groves, 69 Broad Street

#### Directory & Miscellaneous entries :

1895/1897/1899&1900/1905 Kellys Directory  
Samuel Groves Electro plate mfrs 69 Broad Street

1906 Telephone Directory Samuel Groves works 69 Broad Street Cen 1200 and 1200a

1908 Kellys Directory  
Samuel Groves Electro plate mfrs 69 Broad Street TN1200

1913&1915 Kellys Directory  
Samuel Groves Electro plate mfrs 69 Broad Street TN400 Midland

SAMUEL GROVES & CO.LIMITED was first registered at Companies House on 28 Dec1917 as a Private Limited with share capital with registered number 00149246.  
(<http://www.companycheck.co.uk/company/00149246>)

1921 Kellys  
Henry Groves Ltd 70 (back) Broad Street Electro plate manufacturers  
Samuel Groves & Co Ltd Musgrave Road Electro Platers and Gilders

1921/22 Telephone Directory  
Henry Groves Broad Street Electroplate manufacturer  
Samuel Groves & Co Ltd Musgrave Rd Hockley - Carpathian Silver Waiters - Northern 2220

1922 Caroline, Widow of Samuel Groves Jnr dies 1922 *Probate Birmingham to Henry Groves electro-plate manufacturer*  
(from 1922 onwards 69 Broad Street no longer under name of Samuel Groves)

Samuel Groves & Co

1922 British Industries Fair - Listed Exhibitor. Manufacturers of Carpathian Silver Waiters, Marvel Waiters, also Brass, Copper and Electro plate Waiters, Teapots, Tea sets, and general EPBM\* ware (Stand No. D20)

\* EPBM = Electro plated Britannia Metal / Britannia Metal is a pewter-type alloy favoured for its silvery appearance and smooth surface. (Graces Guide)

1923 Telephone Directory

Henry Groves Broad Street Electroplate manufacturer

Samuel Groves & Co Ltd Musgrave Rd Hockley - Carpathian Silver Waiters - Northern 2220

**1923 Various entries in The London Gazette include such details as:**

*The Companies Acts, 1908-17 In the Matter of Henry Groves Limited. 69 Broad Street Birmingham (In voluntary Liquidation) Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 188 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908 – Henry Groves Chairman*

*Unable to verify at this stage whether a family interest is retained in Samuel Groves & Co Ltd .*

Later company details:

1924 Telephone Directory

Samuel Groves & Co Ltd Musgrave Rd Hockley - Carpathian Silver Waiters - Northern 2220

Telephone Directory

1929/1930 Samuel Groves & Co Ltd - Waiter Manufacturers, Pewterers.

Musgrave Rd Hockley Northern 2220

1934 Kellys Directory of the Engineering, Hardware, Metal & Motor Trades - List of Proprietary Articles and Trade names

"Roundhead" Art Pewter Goods, Samuel Groves & Co. Ltd. Sirius works, Musgrave rd, Birmingham

Telephone Directory

1933-1946 Northern 2220 (*Henry Groves dies in 1936*)

1940 Kellys Groves Samuel & Co. Waiter mfrs Musgrave rd 18 TA "Sevorg;" Northern 2220

Telephone Directory

1947/48/49 Telephone 3634

Business card details 1946/47:

Samuel Groves & Co. Ltd Sirius Works Musgrave Road Birmingham, 18

Manufacturers of Sheet Metal/Stampings and Pressings in all metals / Waiters and Trays

"Roundhead" Pewter Presented by T.Dunford, Works Manager

1947 British Industries Fair - Listed Exhibitor. Manufacturers of Tableware in chrome and Nickel-plate, Pewter, Aluminium, etc. Service trays for Canteen, Hospital and Cafeteria use, Dessert Dishes, Cake baskets, Tankards.

Trade Marks: "Novex", "Roundhead", "Sevorg". "Mermaid", and "Sirius". (Olympia, Ground Floor, Stand No, D1628)

*Company has been taken over several times 1979 Concentric > 1983 Zero > Actuant (US co.) > Metalrax – now sells Cookware.*

