

**Katherine Mansfield Society**

**Essay Series**

**Jennifer Walker**

**After Hornsey Lane: Beauchamp Forebears**



Group photograph of the Beauchamp family outside the Beauchamp house at Anakiwa.  
 Beauchamp family: Photographs. Ref: PAColl-D-0869. Alexander Turnbull Library,  
 Wellington, New Zealand, with kind permission.

Back row from left:

Claude Duncan Beauchamp (1877 - 1950), Cradock's son

Ethel Maude Beauchamp (1867 - 1946), Cradock's daughter (Mrs Grimsdale Anderson)

Margaret Annette Beauchamp (Nettie), (1869 - 1946), Cradock's daughter (Mrs John Duncan)

Stanley Beauchamp (1872 - 1959), Arthur's son

Arthur Beauchamp (1827 - 1910)

Middle row from left:

Reginald de Charms Beauchamp (1872 - 1916), Cradock's son

Harriet Augusta Beauchamp, née Broughton (1847 – 1908), Cradock's wife

Cradock Beauchamp (1830 – 1906)

Front row from left:

Helen Mary Beauchamp (1871 - 1939), Cradocks's daughter (Mrs Stuart Greensill)

A Broughton cousin, unnamed

Laura Elizabeth Gwendoline Beauchamp (1873 - 1939), Cradock's daughter (Mrs de Barclay)

Clement John Broughton Beauchamp (1880 – 1959), Cradock's son

(two other sons of Cradock, Herbert Arthur (1865 – 1916) and Henry William Granville (1875 – 1943) are not in this photograph).

Note by JW: the date of the photograph is given as c.1892. Judging from the ages of the subjects, it could be several years later than this. The married names of the daughters are given for information purposes; they were not necessarily married at the time the photograph was taken. Some additional information on the identities of the subjects (dates etc) has been given.

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Much of the following information on the history of the Beauchamp family has been extracted from *A Colourful Tapestry - Tales of the Beauchamps and the Elliots*<sup>1</sup> by Elizabeth Beauchamp Naylor. This article has used research details from other sources in order to clarify and supplement the original.

Elizabeth Beauchamp Naylor is descended from John Beauchamp the silversmith through his son, Henry Herron Beauchamp. Henry Herron's son, the eminent physician Sir Sydney Beauchamp (1861 – 1921), was her grandfather. Her father, Richard Beauchamp, was Sir Sydney's youngest son.

I am grateful to Elizabeth Beauchamp Naylor for her kind permission to use material from her book, and to a family member for supplying me with a copy.

## **Introduction**

Beauchamp Naylor's book tells us much about Beauchamp family origins and the colonial background of Katherine Mansfield and Elizabeth von Arnim. By tracing the lives of their Beauchamp forebears and relations, we begin to see characteristic patterns emerging: an ability to prosper in desperately difficult circumstances; a continuing need for culture, education and creative expression; and above all, a restless desire for travel. We can see how Mansfield draws upon her family history to name characters in her stories, and understand more of what the Beauchamp connection might have meant to her. The presence of some notably strong female characters in von Arnim's Scottish ancestry gives us a fresh clue about the origins of her character.

## **The main characters**

This synopsis provides a guide to those characters who played major roles in this story:

### Beauchamp family

John Beauchamp (1781 – 1852), and his sisters Elizabeth, Jane and Charlotte

Four of the sons of John Beauchamp: Henry Herron (father of Elizabeth von Arnim), Horatio, Arthur (grandfather of Katherine Mansfield) and Cradock

Their cousin Walter Powell (son of John Beauchamp's sister Elizabeth and John Powell), who married Ann Elizabeth Bell, daughter of

Joseph Bell (friend of John Beauchamp)

Harold Beauchamp (son of Arthur Beauchamp and father of Katherine Mansfield)

### Elliot family<sup>2</sup>

Margaret Elliot (1734 – 1813)

Grand-daughters of Margaret Elliot: Elizabeth and Kezia Bedford

Elizabeth Bedford and her children from two marriages: Georgina Ford (later Georgina Bell) and from Elizabeth's second marriage: Frederick Waite, Annie Mary and Elizabeth (Louey) Lassetter. (Note: Annie Mary married Horatio Beauchamp and Louey Lassetter married Henry Heron Beauchamp).

Kezia Bedford (Kezia Iredale after her marriage to Lancelot Iredale)

Frederick Waite Lassetter who married his cousin, Kezia Bedford's daughter Charlotte (Chaddie) Hannah Iredale.

## **Beauchamp background**

There is an intriguing family legend that the Beauchamps came to Britain from Normandy with William the Conqueror. After the conquest, Hugo de Beauchamp, whose name is on the list of William's knights in the Hastings church, received large estates in Hertford, Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. The de Beauchamp family's prosperity and status grew, until William de Beauchamp (1237 – 1298) inherited the title of ninth Earl of Warwick. This illustrious line ended when Anne, the fifteenth Countess of Warwick, died in 1449.

The ancestors of the Elliots were the de Alights, who also came across from Normandy but settled as a warrior clan in the border country of Scotland. Their line in this narrative is traced through a female descendant, Margaret Elliot. This clan was noted for their powerful and independent female characters, a trait which continues to this day.

## **The Beauchamps and their wandering descendants 1700 – 1850s**

Records of the Beauchamps in London begin with a pawnbroker, Robert Beauchamp, born in 1717. Married to Elizabeth Stretton, he was a member of the Broderer's Company. Their oldest son, a pawnbroker and silversmith, was Edward Beauchamp (1751 – 1813) who married Sarah Stokes in 1778. There were nine children:

Edward (b 1779), John (1781 – 1852), Sarah (b1782), Elizabeth (1783 – 1838), Robert (b1785), Sarah (b 1787), Mary (b1789) Jane (1792 - 1871), and Charlotte (1793 – 1877).

On 8<sup>th</sup> June 1802, the oldest surviving son, John Beauchamp, was bound apprentice to his father. He inherited a successful business and in 1815 married Ann Stone (1796 – 1859), one of the six daughters of Samuel and Mary Stone.

In her biography of Elizabeth von Arnim, Leslie de Charms<sup>3</sup> writes of John Beauchamp:

Early in the nineteenth century there lived in Hornsey Lane, in the north-west of London, a silversmith, John Beauchamp.

His business, a flourishing one in the hands of his forebears from 1660 at least onwards, ceased to prosper under his management, though he invented the process for turning out imitation silver originally known as British Plate. This he failed to exploit and it eventually got into the hands of German manufacturers... [he]enjoyed what could best be found in London, the company of intellectuals, writers and artists.

These last he had particular opportunities to meet, for John Constable and Charles Robert Leslie, noted painters, lived close by in St John's Wood and in Hampstead, and Leslie had married Harriet Stone, sister of John Beauchamp's own wife Ann. They were known as the 'Six Precious Stones' because of their charm and beauty.

John Beauchamp's interest in poetry and ability to recite verses (particularly those of Coleridge and Byron) earned him the nickname 'the poet of Hornsey Lane'. He became

known in the family as the original ‘Pa-man’ whose dominant but benevolent nature and forthright manner of expression was inherited by several of his sons.

The first child of the marriage, Annette (b 1815), died in infancy. Four sons followed: John Rutland (1817 – 1848), Frederick (1818 - 1861), George Western (b 1820 and died in infancy), Samuel (1822 - 1856); of these sons, only Frederick had children. Another daughter, Ann Charlotte (b 1823) also died in infancy.

Then followed the four sons who are of particular interest to this narrative: Henry Herron (1824 – 1907), Horatio Nelson (1826 – 1896), Arthur (1827 – 1910), Cradock (1830 – 1906). Henry Herron Beauchamp was to be the father of Mary Annette Beauchamp, Elizabeth von Arnim,<sup>4</sup> and Arthur Beauchamp became the father of Harold Beauchamp and grandfather to Kathleen Beauchamp (Katherine Mansfield). The youngest of the brothers of Hornsey Lane was Ralph (1834 - 1855).

### **Sisters of John Beauchamp: Elizabeth Beauchamp (1783 – 1838), Jane (1792 – 1871), Charlotte (1793 – 1877)**

Several of John Beauchamp's sisters had a crucial influence on the lives of succeeding generations, especially the Beauchamp nephews. Of particular importance was Elizabeth, who married John Powell in 1810. Thirteen years later, she became the first of the Beauchamp family to emigrate when she, her husband and children went to Van Dieman's Land (called Tasmania after 1853). The story of the Powells and their son Walter is continued later.

Jane was of independent character, and sought employment rather than follow the usual path of marriage. She became a companion and assistant to her wealthy Anglo-Irish friend, Lady Laura Tollemache at Ham House by the river Thames. On the death of Lady Laura, Jane Beauchamp was given £2000 plus extra annuities for the continuing care of the pets. Her younger sister, Charlotte, was widowed soon after, and the two women, both in their late thirties, left Ham House and settled in Worcester.

Jane Beauchamp knew Edward Gibbon Wakefield, a reformer who, having had personal experience of prison life, devised schemes to make emigration attractive to the educated classes rather than a punishment for miscreants. From 1837, he was the driving force behind the New Zealand Company, sending settlers to Port Nicholas (Wellington) and nearby areas. The Company offered 4000 shares at £100 each.

Jane, with members of the Tollemache family, bought shares in the Company when they became available in 1839, including several land grants in Wellington. Jane hoped some of her Beauchamp nephews would go to New Zealand and benefit from her shares. This happened in the early 1850s, when Arthur and Cradock Beauchamp, by then in Australia, took possession of some of these land grants in Wellington City.

### **Margaret Elliot (1734 - 1813) and her descendants**

As we follow the parallel stories of the migrant descendants of Margaret Elliot, we see how they played a major role in the destinies of Beauchamp family members.

Margaret Elliot, whose strong and independent character was to be inherited by her descendants, was one of the twin daughters of Gilbert Elliot (1751 – 1813, third Baronet) and Anna Maria Amy. She married Thomas Barratt and their daughter, Kezia Mary Barratt (1772-1804), married Thomas Bedford.

Thomas and Kezia Mary Bedford had four surviving daughters:

Susannah (b 1793), Elizabeth Ann (b 1795), Charlotte (b 1797) and Kezia (b 1801).

### **Elizabeth Bedford (1795 - 1844 ) and Kezia Bedford (1801 - 1863)**

Susannah Bedford was first married to a young soldier at the age of 16; Charlotte died at the age of 12. Their grandmother, Margaret Elliot, cared for the remaining two daughters after the deaths of their parents, but died following an accident, slipping on the ice in the winter of 1813, aged 83.

This left Elizabeth Bedford, aged 18, and Kezia, aged 12, to fend for themselves. Susannah's second husband, Frederick Waite, took care of his step-niece Elizabeth's education, enabling her to become a governess. In 1817, Elizabeth married George Ford, an illustrator for the Encyclopaedia Britannica, but he died of consumption in 1821, aged 25. There were two surviving daughters, Georgina (1818 -1902), and Jessica b c 1821/2

Elizabeth, Georgina and the baby, Jessica, returned to live with Susannah and her husband. Elizabeth became a governess in Brighton and the Waites adopted Jessica. Eventually, Elizabeth was joined by her daughter Georgina and her younger sister, Kezia. Around 1825, Elizabeth married Matthew Lassetter, who ran a small Methodist school in Somerset. Their son, Frederick Matthias Waite Lassetter, was born in 1828.

### **The pioneer Elliot migrants: Elizabeth and Kezia Bedford**

Soon after Elizabeth's marriage, Kezia Bedford left England for New Zealand, becoming the first of this family to emigrate. She took the unusual step of joining a group of Wesleyan missionaries at the Whangaroa Mission, near the tip of North Island. After many adventures in New Zealand, she arrived in Sydney, Australia. There, in 1829, she married the widower Lancelot Iredale, a Wesleyan ex-convict working as a blacksmith and iron merchant.

As the couple were doing well in Sydney, Kezia wrote to her sister Elizabeth, urging her to emigrate to Australia with her family. So, in 1832, Matthew Lassetter, Elizabeth and her children: Georgina (Ford) and Frederick Matthais Waite Lassetter sailed for Sydney on the '*Governor Halket*'.

Five children were born to the Lassetters after their emigration, but only three survived: Annie Mary (1834 - 1916), and Elizabeth Weiss (Louey) (1836 - 1919), and in 1839, and a son, Charles Henry, (b 1839 but he died in 1844).

Lancelot and Kezia had five surviving children (the first two died in infancy). These were: Alice (b 1834), Charlotte Hannah (b 1836), Emily Susannah (b 1837), Kezia Louisa (b 1841) and Lancelot Frederick (b 1844). They lived just outside Sydney where Lancelot also paid for a chapel to be built; Kezia was active in teaching at the Sunday school. Their ironmongery shop became widely known as the Iredale Store and as it prospered, Lancelot became a wealthy and highly respected citizen of the colony. Later, he joined the committee of Sydney College, which was to become Australia's first university, founded in 1850.

As the fortunes of the Iredales rose in Sydney, the fortunes of the Lassetters declined after their arrival. There was increasing tension in the relationship between Lancelot Iredale and Matthew Lassetter, which led to the removal, in 1837, of the whole Lassetter family from Sydney to Van Dieman's Land.

### **an Dieman's Land**

Around this time, Matthew Lassetter applied to become a Wesleyan lay-preacher; permission was granted but he was never ordained. Despite this, he became known as the Reverend Matthew Lassetter for the rest of his life. The two daughters, Annie Mary and Louey Lassetter were initially brought up in Longford, a small farming community close to Launceston.

Matthew Lassetter followed his new role as a lay preacher but did little towards supporting his family, which suffered considerable hardship. In the end, he and Elizabeth opened a school in Launceston (a 'School for Young Ladies'), which became a focal point for the growing Wesleyan community. Thus they became acquainted with other migrant families, including the Bells and the Powells.

The tough years of hardship in the colony took their toll on Elizabeth, and in 1844 she died, leaving the children destitute. However, only after the death of Lancelot Iredale in 1848, four years later, did Kezia feel able to help her sister's children. Her actions were eventually to bring the Lassetter children into contact with two of the Beauchamp sons from Hornsey Lane, and also ensured the prosperous future of her daughter, Charlotte, as the wife of Frederick Waite Lassetter.

### **Elizabeth Powell (née Beauchamp): pioneer migrant in Van Dieman's Land**

The tale of John Beauchamp's sister Elizabeth, her husband John Powell and their son Walter can now be resumed.

John Powell was spurred on to emigrate by a grant of 1200 acres of land close to Launceston, Van Dieman's Land. Their emigration, in 1823, brought them to a makeshift home, constructed of mud, which they named 'Fairfield' (clearly a translation of Elizabeth's maiden name). However, despite their initial high hopes, the family suffered considerable misfortune, especially when John Powell's health was undermined by fever not long after their arrival.

Elizabeth Powell had much to contend with, but nevertheless was responsible for setting up a small school in the colony. Walter Powell and his four older siblings benefitted from his mother's conscientious instruction and strict grounding in morality. She managed to maintain the school despite giving birth to three more daughters, including the twins Laura Jane and Charlotte Ellen in 1826.

Unsurprisingly, the Powell parents had difficulty surviving in this unforgiving environment, and died within a year of each other, just ten years after the birth of the twin girls. Laura and Charlotte were taken back to England to be adopted by Elizabeth's wealthy sisters, Jane and Charlotte in Worcester. This may be the reason why the Beauchamps would often refer to their mothers as 'Jane', or 'Little Jane'.

### **Van Dieman's Land: the Bells, the Lassetters and the Powells**

The Powell's son, Walter Powell (1822-1868), was to be an influential figure in his family's history as well as in the history of Melbourne. Because of his family's impoverished circumstances, he was obliged to leave school at the age of twelve and went to earn his living as an auctioneer's clerk. After the deaths of his parents, he went to live with a family friend and second employer and ardent Wesleyan, Joseph Bell (1792 – 1874).

Before his emigration, Bell had lived in London where he had worked as an auctioneer and become friendly with the John Beauchamp and his family. In 1831, after his wife died, he took his two small children, Ann Elizabeth (4) and William (3) to Van Dieman's Land and set up an auctioneering business in Launceston. There, in 1837, knowing the Beauchamp family connections, he employed the 15-year-old Walter Powell. In 1843, the Lassetter family became connected with the Bells when Joseph was married for the second time, to Elizabeth's daughter Georgina. Walter was treated as a member of the family, and in 1845 became Bell's son-in-law on his marriage to Ann Elizabeth Bell (usually called by her second name, Elizabeth).

### **Melbourne**

Hoping for a life in more favourable circumstances, the Bell and Powell families left Van Dieman's Land for Melbourne in September 1845. Joseph Bell was 51 years old, his wife Georgina was 25. Walter Powell was 23, and his wife (pregnant at the time) was 18. William Bell, Joseph's oldest son by his former marriage, was also with them.

The girls, Annie Mary and Louey Lassetter, were left behind in Launceston, in the sole charge of their rather absent-minded father. Later, their half-sister Georgina (Bell) returned to take them back with her to Melbourne.

(Eventually Matthew Lassetter remarried, went off to the Californian goldfields, and then in 1850 returned to Tasmania. In 1870, he joined Henry Heron Beauchamp's family on the ship *La Hogue*, travelling back to London).

### **The Beauchamp Family and their cousin, Walter Powell**

We now return to the story of the sons of John and Ann Beauchamp in Hornsey Lane, London.

In 1848, Walter Powell accepted an invitation from his wealthy English aunt, Jane Beauchamp, to visit her in England; on this occasion he also visited the Beauchamps in Hornsey Lane. There he discovered that of the Beauchamp brothers, only Henry Herron had left home to start his career. Arthur was apprenticed to a silk merchant, but none of the other sons was employed. Powell was a man noted for his energy, honest business dealings, generosity and commitment to the Wesleyan religion.<sup>5</sup> Disturbed to see their lives being wasted for lack of employment, Powell offered them assistance and support if they would emigrate to Australia.

Horatio and Arthur were the first to emigrate; they arrived in Melbourne in October 1848.

Cradock followed them to Melbourne and later went on with Arthur to New Zealand.

Samuel suffered from tuberculosis; his emigration proved too much for his health, and he died at sea, shortly after leaving Sydney in 1856.

Ralf also went to Melbourne and lived alternately with Arthur and Horatio. But Ralf suffered from mental instability and met an unfortunate end when he died in 1855 after falling into the harbour.

Frederick stayed in London to help his father and mother. After his mother's death, he married the mother of his four children, Ann Fox, and migrated to Sydney, where he died not long after their arrival in 1861.

John Beauchamp died in September 1852; Ann died on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1859. Neither saw their emigrant sons again.

### **Henry Herron Beauchamp (1824-1907), (married to Louey (née Elizabeth Lassetter, 1836-1919)**

Henry Herron's work for Philpotts & Co began when he was thirteen years old. After ten years with the company, he was sent to work in Mauritius, but after a couple of years he

decided to set up his own business as a shipping merchant. This led him to Sydney, Australia, where he arrived in 1850. There he met Frederick Lassetter and his pretty younger sister, Louey, who was staying with her aunt Kezia (Iredale). The Lassetters, Iredales and Beauchamp families became closely connected when, in 1852, Georgina's half-brother Frederick Lassetter married Charlotte Iredale, one of Kezia's daughters. Henry Herron and Louey (Elizabeth Weiss Lassetter) were married in 1855.

Henry Herron's business thrived, making him a wealthy man. By the 1863, the family had moved to one of the most prestigious addresses in Sydney, Kirribilli point. The Beauchamp children were all born in Sydney: Ralph (1857), Charlotte (1858), Sydney (1861), Walter (1862) Henry (known as Harry) in 1864 and finally on 31 August 1866, the future Elizabeth von Arnim, Mary Annette.

But in 1870, Henry Herron took the momentous decision to follow the Lassetter family back to England (see later) and, with his adopted niece, Emma Beauchamp (see below), the family travelled to London on *La Hogue* in 1870.

After their arrival in London, the Beauchamps and the Lassetters remained in close contact. They went together to live in Lausanne, Switzerland for a few years (1872-75). After this, they settled in London, where the Beauchamp children were able to take advantage of educational opportunities available, leading to distinguished careers for the sons, especially Sydney (later Sir Sydney) and Henry. This move to Europe was crucial also for the education and writing career of his youngest daughter, Mary Annette (Elizabeth von Arnim).

### **Horatio Beauchamp (1826 – 1896), married to Annie Mary (née Lassetter) (1834 - 1916)**

Horatio Nelson Beauchamp was the eighth child of John and Ann Beauchamp.

At the suggestion of Walter Powell on his visit to London in 1848, Horatio emigrated with his brother Arthur, to Melbourne. At first, they could find no work there and went to work on a sheep station, but later Horatio returned to Melbourne with enough capital to set up business as a partner in 'Palmer and Beauchamp Timber Merchants'. In 1853, another marriage had brought the Beauchamps and Elliot descendants together when he married Annie Mary Lassetter. Two of their eight children, Stanley and Leslie, died young, but six survived.

For a time, Horatio joined Joseph Bell in his business, but later left in order to start his own highly successful auctioneering business.

Horatio, influenced by his wife and also by Walter Powell, became an ardent Wesleyan. He used to preach against the evils of alcohol and became president of the Melbourne Total Abstiners Society.<sup>6</sup> Like Walter Powell, he also took an active role in philanthropic and educational projects as the town developed.

His oldest brother **Frederick Beauchamp (1818 – 1861)** arrived in Sydney in the early 1860s with his wife Ann and four children, but died soon after arriving. At this point, the Beauchamp brothers (Horatio and Henry) stepped in to help, funding the return passage of Ann and the youngest child (also called Ann) to England. Horatio and Annie, who already had three small children, adopted Frederick's eldest two, Frederick George and Clare. Emma Beauchamp was adopted by Henry Herron and Louey and later travelled back to London with the family on *La Hogue* in 1870.

### **Walter and Ann Elizabeth Powell in Melbourne and London**

For nearly ten years, Walter Powell stayed in Melbourne where he entered a partnership with two other Wesleyans to form a hardware company. With the aid of the gold rush (1851), this became a prosperous concern<sup>7</sup>. His success enabled him to give generous donations to many public charities, and take an active role in establishing the Wesley College in Melbourne where he is remembered to this day with the awards of the Walter Powell Scholarship. A talented musician, he became organist and choir master at the church in St Kilda.

In 1860, Walter and Ann Elizabeth Powell and their daughter Laura sailed back to London. From there he still actively pursued his business and charitable interests in Melbourne. He was also able to make amends for the lack of education he received in his youth, following a strict programme of academic self-improvement, studying music, mathematics, history, literature and languages.

Following an accident in his youth, Walter Powell had never been in good health, but he nevertheless travelled widely and worked tirelessly. His rigorous pursuit of business affairs, devotion to religious and charitable causes and the demanding programme of self-education undermined his fragile constitution; he died at the young age of forty-six in Bayswater, London, in 1868.

We can note, however, that his widow, Ann Elizabeth, was also with Henry Herron and his family on the ship *La Hogue* in 1870; possibly she had been in Australia after his death to see to his affairs there. After this, Elizabeth Powell and her daughter Laura (their only surviving child) lived at 79 Lancaster Gate where Henry Herron was a frequent visitor.

### **The Beauchamps, the Iredales and the Lassetters in Sydney and London**

On the death in Sydney of Lancelot Iredale, his widow Kezia Iredale arranged for Frederick Lassetter to come to Sydney to work for a friend, an auctioneer called George Lloyd. There, Frederick stayed with the Iredale family and in 1852 married Kezia's daughter, Charlotte (known as Chaddie). Frederick was by this time a partner in the Iredale Firm; his career prospered until, in 1863, he was able to open the famous stores, F Lassetter & Co, in Sydney.<sup>89</sup>

Frederick and his young wife were able to afford a splendid house (Wotonga) on Kirribilli Point. Henry Herron and Louey Beauchamp also bought a large house there, with wonderful grounds stretching down to the bay. There, in 1866, the last of their children, Mary Annette was born. Both the families were very well established, so it is surprising that in 1869, the Lasseters decided to return to London. A year later, the Beauchamps followed them and remained in Europe. The children benefitted from their education in England, becoming distinguished in the fields of music and medicine. Mary Annette married the Count von Arnim and became famous as the author 'Elizabeth'.

Eventually, Frederick returned to live in Sydney; the Lasseter's store remained a thriving business, and in 1910 celebrated its diamond jubilee. Frederick died in Sydney a year later on 5 September 1911, aged 83.

### **Connie Beauchamp in Melbourne, London and France**

Constance (b 1858), was the eldest daughter of Horatio and Annie Mary Beauchamp. When she was eighteen, her parents decided to encourage her to return to England with her uncle, Henry Herron, who was on the second of his long excursions from Europe to the southern hemisphere. They hoped she would be educated in Europe and make an advantageous marriage.

However, after her arrival in Europe, the rebellious Connie Beauchamp refused to attend her finishing school in Paris and also left a finishing school in Lausanne after just over a year. She returned to Henry Herron's family in London until 1878, when her parents arrived with their three youngest children and took charge of the situation and ensured their daughters were educated in Lausanne.

Eventually, Connie Beauchamp lived in London with a young woman called Jenny Fullerton, a Roman Catholic who dressed as a man, in pin-striped suits, a tie, and wore her hair short. Connie was converted to Catholicism and the two women were able to start a small private hospital. Their success led to the purchase of the *Villa Flora*, just outside Menton in the South of France, where they retired.

There, just after the First World War, they were able to care for Connie's desperately ill young cousin, Kathleen Beauchamp (Katherine Mansfield). Later, the two women bought a large house called the Villa Louise, further towards the Italian border; Katherine moved into a smaller house, the Villa Isola Bella, at the bottom of their garden.<sup>10</sup>

The close contact at this vital stage in her life between Katherine Mansfield and her older family member brought her in touch with many family memories. Connie had known her Great Uncle, Henry Herron, and stayed with his family. Connie's father was brother to Katherine's grandfather, Arthur. All the family history and names of her relations would no doubt have been mentioned in conversation.

### **The New Zealand: Cradock Beauchamp (1830 – 1906)**

Cradock was eighteen years old when Walter Powell made his visit to Hornsey Lane. By joining the merchant fleet as a cadet, he was able to join his brothers Horatio and Arthur in Melbourne. He went briefly to the gold fields, but then worked in Melbourne with Horatio.

Around 1862, Cradock sailed to New Zealand and sold his share of Aunt Jane's lands near Wellington. In 1864, he married Harriet Broughton, an educated lady from England and they settled in Anakiwa bay, Queen Charlotte Sound. Henry Herron visited them on his trip in 1876, and records that they had eight children. All were involved in the hard labour of running the homestead; to Henry Herron's dismay, he notes in his journal that there was little spare time or energy for cultural pursuits. Harriet took on the responsibility of her children's education when she started a small school, Grove School, across the bay.

Harold Beauchamp, son of Arthur and future father of Kathleen Beauchamp, was Cradock's god-child. He often spent holidays with his uncle and aunt at Anakiwa, and later his two eldest daughters stayed there while his wife Annie was having her fourth child. Kathleen visited the place several times.

When he was older and had more leisure, Cradock was able once again to enjoy reading and writing poetry. He died at Anakiwa in 1906. Harriet had wished to return to England, but also died there two years later, in 1908. Life at the homestead is recorded in a book by his daughter, Ethel Beauchamp Hazelwood.<sup>11</sup>

### **The New Zealand: Arthur Beauchamp (1828-1920)**

Arthur was the ninth child of John and Ann Beauchamp. In her book, his niece Ethel Beauchamp records that he was "always considered the smart, brainy show boy of the family, with his ready wit, wonderful memory and sentiment and pathos. His Aunts [the Stone sisters] rather spoilt him by always praising his efforts too largely, which our grandfather [Cradock] was always trying to knock out of him to keep him humble".

Arthur, earning only seven shillings a week while working at his Uncle de Charms's silk merchandising firm, was keen to accept Walter Powell's offer to help set him up in Australia. Towards the end of 1848, he, together with his cousin Robert Beauchamp, went to join Walter Powell and Horatio in Melbourne. Robert was the son of John Beauchamp's brother Robert; an elder son, also called John Beauchamp, was already in Melbourne. Some of his descendants later also went on to New Zealand.

Leaving Robert Beauchamp in Melbourne, Arthur and Horatio at first tried sheep farming, but Horatio returned to Melbourne and Arthur went to work with Henry Herron in Sydney. Not satisfied with this arrangement, Arthur decided to go to New Zealand and take possession of the land left to him by his Aunt Jane Beauchamp. A ship was chartered and filled with saleable merchandise, which he sold in Wellington, Canterbury and Otago.

He then returned to Sydney to buy more goods for sale. However, this was 1851 and news of the gold-rush in Victoria had reached him. His destination was now Ararat, the goldfield near

Melbourne. There he went into partnership to establish a store, but still unsettled, he soon left for Port Fairy. There he met Mary Elizabeth Stanley, the capable and well-educated daughter of a Lancaster silversmith. Orphaned at sixteen she had gone to Australia as a governess to Governor Younghusband's family; she was eighteen and Arthur twenty-six when they married in June 1854. Their first two children died soon after birth. The third son, Harold, was born in Ararat in 1858.

Further children followed: Arthur de Charms (1860 – 1940), Florence (1862 – 1893), Winifred (1864 – 1877), Walter Powell Beauchamp (1867- 1888), Charles (1869 – 1892), Stanley (1872 – 1959) and Henry Lomax (1876 -1939). Conditions were tough and not many survived to old age.

Back once again in Melbourne, Arthur joined Horatio in his auctioneering business. With his facility with words and ready wit, Arthur proved an excellent auctioneer.

After three years, early in 1861, Arthur decided to take his family to his lands in New Zealand. His family's health was suffering in Melbourne, where infections spread rapidly in the heat. Once again, he invested his capital in goods and chartered a ship. With him were his wife, three-year-old Harold, baby Arthur de Charms, and also his cousin Robert Beauchamp and family.

Once in Wellington, he, like Cradock, sold the six Wellington sections for land in Picton, the capital of the Marlborough Province, where Cradock was now based. Then, with a business friend he established himself as a merchant and auctioneer.

Picton was a thriving port and the discovery of gold at nearby Wakamarina in 1864 greatly increased its prosperity. There, Arthur prospered and was elected to the Marlborough Provincial Council in 1865. He is well remembered for his ten hour speech, blocking a proposal to move the council to Blenheim. He later became an MP for Picton and attended parliament in Wellington, where he held the liberal view that the Maori Wars could be terminated by a more just and honest land policy.

Arthur now had a large and comfortable home, 'Fernhill', on a fine section of Wellington Street. But the end of the gold at Wakamarina and more discoveries further along the West Coast prompted him to sell his business. Leaving his family behind in Picton, he headed for Westport to set up business there as a merchant, auctioneer and wharf owner. Two years later, he returned, intending to invest in farming.

The family left their home and started their farm on a property at Beatrix Bay near Havelock. Life now became a physically tough for the family, as they lived on fish, birds and mutton while they struggled to clear the bush.

In 1869, Arthur, together with his second son Arthur and cousin Robert Beauchamp, headed north to Wanganui, where there were new opportunities to make money after the end of the Maori wars. His wife and the other children joined him there as he once more became successful as a merchant, auctioneer, stock and station agent and ship owner. The older boys attended Wanganui College.

Here, on one of his world tours, Henry Herron found the family in 1876, and met the 17 year old Harold. He was greatly impressed with the young man; a friendship between nephew and uncle was forged at this time.

Arthur's wanderings continued until eventually, having stayed with Cradock at Anakiwa, he decided to farm at Crail Bay near Nopera. There, his son Stanley continued to farm while Arthur went off to develop orchards at Kenepuru.

By 1902 his energy was failing. He visited London in 1902, where he stayed with Henry Herron and his family. Henry Herron's son Sydney, a well-known physician, described him as a broken down old man with a bad heart. Nevertheless, Henry took him to see many of the Beauchamp relations in England.

Back in New Zealand, he continued to farm at Kenepuru where he and Mary celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. In 1907 they returned to Picton where Arthur died in 1910, aged 82. Mary stayed on there until her death in 1917.

### **New Zealand: Harold Beauchamp (1858 – 1938) and his family**

Harold had a tough childhood with few advantages. He left school at fourteen to work for his father's merchant and auctioneering business; he did well, and his later prosperity enabled him to provide his family with a lifestyle he could never have experienced in his youth.

He married Annie Burnell Dyer (1864 – 1915) in 1884. Three daughters, Vera, Charlotte, and Kathleen were born, followed by a son, Leslie, in 1894. Another daughter, Jeanne, was born in 1892. Annie was in delicate health, and found motherhood difficult. The main support in the household was provided by his widowed mother-in-law, Margaret Isabella Dyer.

The family's first home was at Thorndon, Wellington, and it was there that Kathleen (Katherine Mansfield) was born in 1888. A year later, Harold became a partner in his father's business and they were able to afford a much larger property on the outskirts of the city, *Chesney Wold*, in Karori. Later, the family moved back to Tinakori Road but owned a holiday 'bach' at Day's Bay. The girls were brought up as young ladies and were accustomed to having servants who would perform all household duties.

In 1898, Harold was appointed to the board of the Bank of New Zealand and eventually became chairman of the bank. He was now a wealthy and ambitious man who wanted his daughters to marry well. His Uncle Henry Herron, whom he greatly admired, had taken his family to England where they were now prospering after a good education. Henry Herron's daughter Mary was married to a German Count; for Harold; the idea of an English education for his family was very attractive.

So in 1903, he took his family to London, where his three older daughters attended Queen's College. Annie's sister Belle went with the family and remained in London to oversee the

welfare of her nieces. The girls spent their Christmas holidays with Henry Herron and Louey Beauchamp in Bexley. In 1906, Harold returned to London to fetch his daughters. He was received by King Edward VII and attended the Sixth Congress of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire. This was a high point in his career.

However, Harold discovered that his daughters loved London so much they did not wish to return to New Zealand. Kathleen, in particular, was showing signs of rebellion and desperately wanted to be allowed to stay behind. Belle did not return; she was to marry a ship-owner. The seeds of the conflicts between Kathleen and her parents, between the life they wished and envisaged for her and the life she needed to lead, were already sown. Kathleen was now dreading the thought of her future life back 'home'.

In Wellington, the family moved to a luxurious house at 47 Fitzherbert Avenue. Harold Beauchamp tried his best to further his daughter's literary career by supporting her submissions to a Melbourne literary magazine. But Kathleen could not be contained in New Zealand. In 1908 she sailed back, alone, for London.

Harold Beauchamp's life continued to be outwardly successful, but on a personal level it contained great sadness. He could never understand the behaviour of his daughter Kathleen; his only son was killed in the war in October 1915. His wife Annie's health declined and she died in 1918. In 1920 he was married for the second time to Laura Kate Bright. He was appointed a Knight Bachelor in the 1923 New Years Honours, and in 1935 he was awarded the King George V Silver Jubilee Medal.

In his later years he continued to travel frequently between Wellington and London, and died in Wellington in 1938. He left a legacy of funds to the National Art Gallery. If he died a satisfied man, history has not judged him kindly. In the light of his family background, perhaps we can better understand his attitude to the life and career of Katherine Mansfield. And perhaps we can reflect that she, like her father and her father's father, was born with the determination to cross the oceans to achieve her dreams; after all, she was born a Beauchamp.

The story of the Beauchamps and the Elliots gives us a glimpse into the past; the struggle to survive, the extraordinary success of some, the tragedies endured. Without close family support, most would have fallen by the way. It is hardly surprising that, towards the end of her life in far away Switzerland, Katherine Mansfield thought more and more of her family background in New Zealand. But it is strange to realise that, if Walter Powell had not visited Hornsey Lane in 1848, she would probably never have been born at all.

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## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Naylor Beauchamp, *A Colourful Tapestry - Tales of the Beauchamps and the Elliots* (private publication in New Zealand, 2009).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.elliotclan.com/history/> accessed 29/08/14

<sup>3</sup> Leslie de Charms, *Elizabeth of the German Garden* (New York: Doubleday & Co. Inc., 1959), p.9. Leslie de Charms is the pseudonym for Elizabeth (Liebet) von Arnim-

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Schlagenthin, second daughter of Elizabeth von Arnim. The pseudonym is an amalgamation of the married surnames of two of the sisters of Ann Stone.

<sup>4</sup> Jennifer Walker, *Elizabeth of the German Garden – A Literary Journey* (Sussex: Book Guild Publishing, 2013), p3.

<sup>5</sup> Benjamin Gregory, *The Thorough Business Man: Memoirs of Walter Powell* (London, W Isbister & Co., 1874)

<sup>6</sup> <http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/beauchamp-horatio-13691> (accessed 18/06/2014)

<sup>7</sup> Renate Howe, 'Powell, Walter (1822 – 1868)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.aun.edu.au/biographypowell-walter-4411/text7> 199. Published hardcopy 1974. (Accessed online 14 July 2014)

<sup>8</sup> <http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/lassetter-frederic-fred-3996> (accessed 19/06/2014)

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/f\\_lassetter\\_and\\_co](http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/f_lassetter_and_co) (accessed 04/08/2014)

<sup>10</sup> Kathleen Jones, *Katherine Mansfield, the Story Teller* (New Zealand: Penguin Group, 2010), p.384

<sup>11</sup> Ethel (Beauchamp) Hazelwood, *Life at Anakiwa: the First Hundred Years 1864 – 1964* (New Zealand, Nelson, 1974)

See also:

Harold Beauchamp: *Reminiscences and Recollections* (T. Avery & Sons, New Plymouth, 1937)

Henry Herron Beauchamp Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California, Call numbers: mss HM 77555 - 77664

Robert Hughes, *The Fatal Shore: A History of the Transportation of Convicts to Australia, 1787 – 1868* (London, Vintage, 2003)