



At the same time he went into partnership with his brother, Charles Terry Sparks, as East India Merchants and agents.

It is worth noting, that this was the time of the Indian Mutiny, when the British government took over control of India from the East India Company, so the new partnership between John and his brother might be somehow related to that new order. It was though, also the year in which Charles married.

Up to 1857, David Cooper and his rapidly expanding family, had occupied numbers five to seven in Shoe Lane. In 1857 John and Charles Terry Sparks took over number seven for their business, working together there until 1863, at which time their partnership was dissolved, with Charles staying on at Shoe Lane, as an East India Agent, until about 1869.

John continued as an East India Merchant until the late 1870s, though there are no directory entries for his office

after 1862. This was either because he did not need an office or, more likely, because the nature of his business: arranging deals with long-term clients, rendered it unnecessary to advertise.

John also went into business in Eastbourne as a publisher and bookseller and died there in December, 1888.

His wife, Jane, stayed on in Eastbourne until her death in 1907.

Unlike so many members of the Sparks, Cooper and Towsey families, all three of Mary

Harriet Towsey's brothers managed to produce enough surviving offsprings to ensure the continuation of their branches of the Sparks family. In John's case, he and Jane produced nine children who, in turn spawned about twenty grandchildren.

