

## **Savigny & Co., London.**

Probably established in about 1720 the history of Savigny is a classic example of how the published information can be misleading when trying to establish the history of London cutlers. Southwick in his write up on Savigny indicates that the firm started with John Fessier Savigny, cutler and razor maker, who was probably the son of Oliver Fessier, with John not adopting the surname Savigny until the early 1720s. He was succeeded by a John Horatio Savigny cutler and surgical instrument maker whose premises were at Pall Mall and 29 King St., Covent Garden from 1795 to 1808 though for 1807 and 1808 a partnership of Savigny, Everill and Mason are recorded at the site.

From 1809 to 1822 the three-man partnership is recorded at 67 St James St. being described as Wholesale and retail cutlers and surgeon instrument makers and manufacturers of patent razors. The records for 1822 do however show Savigny's name crossed through and Everill and Mason listed as having succeeded though they are still listed under the Savigny, Everill and Mason name in 1823.

However according to Bennion in her book on Antique Dental Instruments this firm founded circa 1720 by a Paul Savigny who succeeded the business of the late Widow How. In 1726 she lists the firm as a John Tessier (note the different spelling) Savigny and notes that in 1784 the firm was known as John Henry Savigny 129 Pall Mall.

The London trade directories do however make the history of the company from the 1820s a little clearer. So even though there are discrepancies in the records the history of Savigny seems to run along the following lines noting some of the records are far from clear as differently named firms occupied the same premises during similar dates.

Established c.1720 when a Paul Savigny succeeded to the business of a Widow How.

**1726** John (Tessier or Fessier) Savigny cutler and razor maker.

**1784** John (Henry or Haratio) Savigny 129 Pall Mall, and 29 Kung St.

**1794** John (Henry or haratio) Savigny 67 St James St.

**1810-c.1834** Savigny, Everill and Mason surgical instrument makes 67 St James St.

**1836** Everill, Philip and Wickes (Bennion records this name as Whicker) 67 St James St.

**1840-c.1847** Everill, P and W 67 St James St.

**1855** Philip, Whicker and Blaise 67 St James St.

**1856** Whicker and Blaise 67 St James St.

**1860** Savigny and Co. (wholesaler) 67 St James St.

**1860** Whicker and Blaise 67 St James St. manufactory, Young's Place, Wood St., Westminster.

**1870-c.1877** Louis Blaise 67 St James St.

**1840-1875** Savigny & Co. 67 St James St.

**1880-1886** C Wright & Co. from Louis Blaise 7 Co. (late Savigny & Co.) 108 New Bond St.

**1896-1960** Alfred Cox late partner of C Wright & Co. from Louis Blaise & Co. late Savigny & Co. 108 New Bond St. Moved to 120 New Bond St. c.1902, to 54 Duke St. c.1930 and to 108 Whitechapel Road c.1940. Dropped the association with Blaise and Savigny from his name c.1901 and became known as Alfred Cox(Surgical) Ltd. in **1945**.