

G W Henty

Of all of L. Herbert Beecroft's paintings, my favourites are invariably the earliest when Beecroft seemed to add many comical touches to the caricatures. I have identified at least 11 which were completed in 1908, his most productive year for the Club. This essay concerns Gilbert Waldegrave Henty, an active member of the Squadron from the moment he joined in 1902 until his death in 1938.

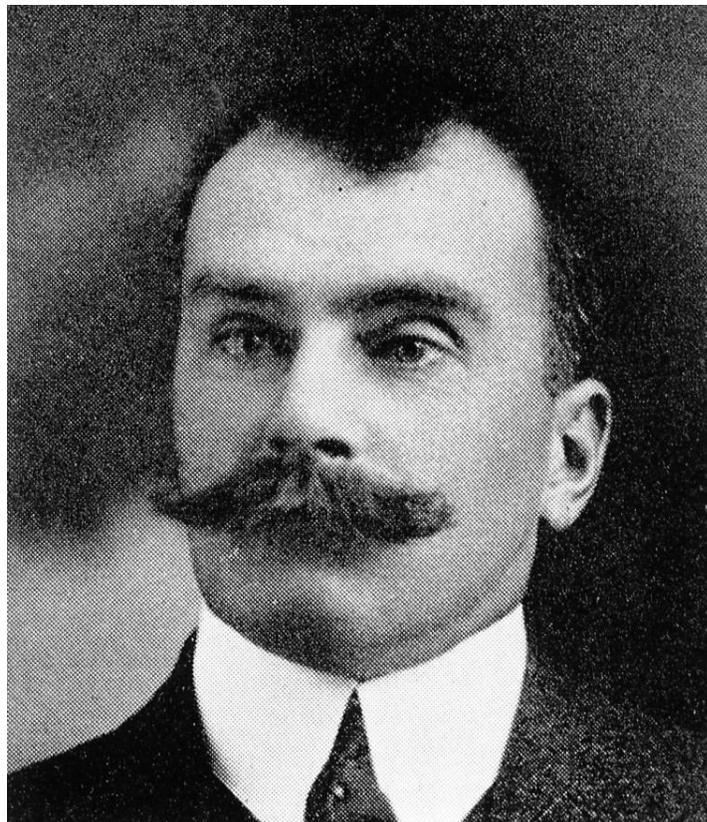
Mr. Henty came to Sydney from Melbourne where he had been a prominent yachtsman. Here is an entertaining letter written to the editor of the Melbourne Age in 1898.

Thursday, 5th May, 1898 - Melbourne Age

RULE OF THE ROAD AT SEA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AGE.

Sir,— Mr. Corby evidently, by your report in Saturday's issue, dislikes yachts and yachtsmen. What passed at the Marine Board in connection with the yacht White Wings, and the just complaint of the Club to which I have the honor to be secretary, has caused much uncomfortable feeling and even alarm amongst yachtsmen. Perkinness on the part of a yacht ought not to be dealt with on the spot with a pretence of running down. A pretence, that might, with extreme case, be made a reality, were the steersman of the yacht so frightened as to imitate the apparent intention of the steamer not to observe the "rule of the road," and alter his helm, for the yacht could then be run down with impunity, so far as any legal censure to the steamer is concerned. Of course, Mr. Corby's views will then be realised, for Port Phillip Bay will be closed to yachtsmen. It is all very well, and sounds most proper, to say that those on pleasure bent should give way to craft engaged on business, which means that those who know themselves to be on business can interpret the "rule of the road" as they think fit. What would Mr. Corby



say if, in his drag on the way to Flemington, a string of milk and bakers' carts were to go straight for him, on the ground that he, being on pleasure, and they on business, the rule of the road did not apply? Instead of taking the law into their own hands, with the consequent risk to life and property, if steam ship captains were to complain to the Club to whom the delinquent belongs, they would find perkinness properly dealt with, and means taken to prevent such offence occurring in the future. —Yours. &etc.

G. W. Henty, Hon. Secretary Royal Yacht Club, Victoria. Melbourne, 4th May.

When Mr. Henty moved to Sydney, he joined the Squadron in 1902.

Tuesday, 18th November, 1902 - Sydney Morning Herald

SAILING.

ROYAL SYDNEY YACHT SQUADRON.

Mr. A. G. Milson presided over a very fair attendance of members of the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron at the monthly meeting, hold at the Clubroom, Pitt street, last evening. A letter was read from the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club in reference to the Moore testimonial fund, and it was decided to open subscription lists immediately, and a very good beginning was made, some £9 being collected in the room. The Neutral Bay

Amateur Sailing Club wrote stating that they had put a motor launch race on their programme, open to all craft belonging to any Club, and asking the co-operation of the squadron. It was decided to notify the members. It was announced that the new Clubhouse, *Carabella*, would be taken over on the 1st proximo. Messrs, W. B. Love, H. Y. Russell, E. R. S. Campbell, and **G. W. Henty** were elected members of the squadron. Several new members were proposed.

Many of the subjects of Beecroft's paintings are directly descended from immigrants who were significant pioneers in the development of the Australia. G. W. Henty was one such.

Saturday, 8th April, 1911 - Sydney Morning Herald

THE PIONEERS.

EARLY DAYS RECALLED,

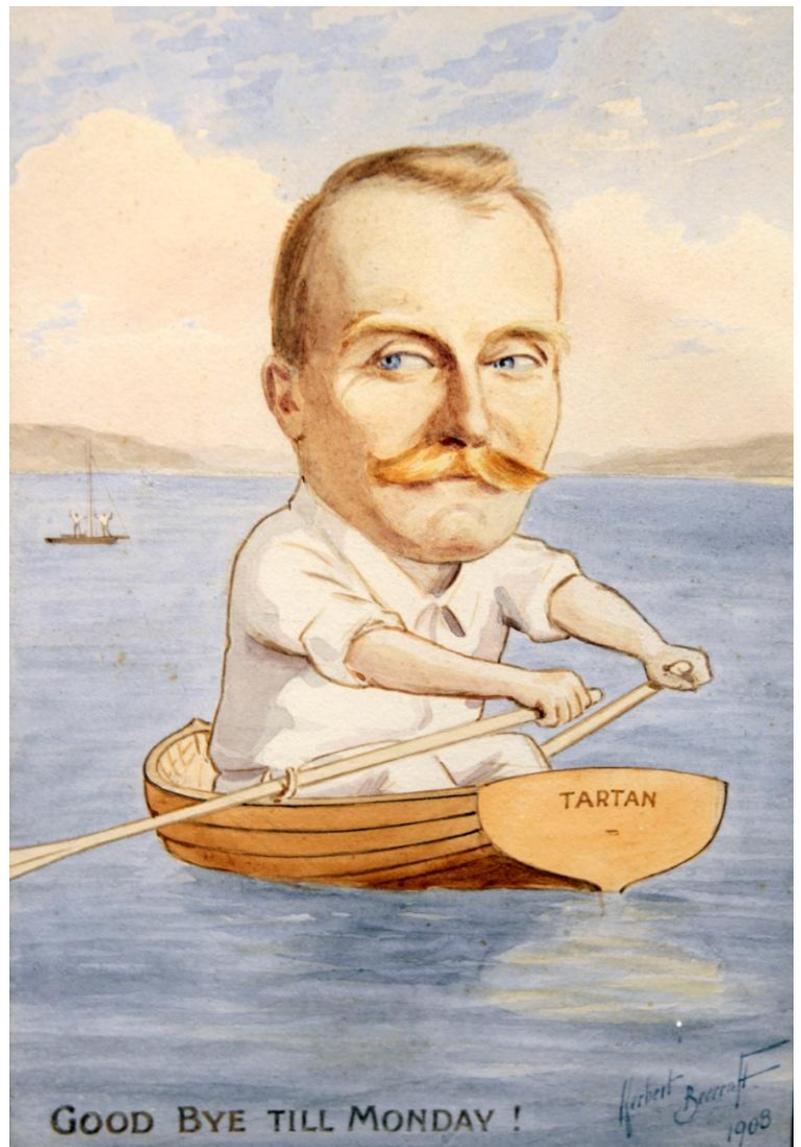
HISTORICAL PORTRAIT GALLERY. THE MEN WHO MADE AUSTRALIA.

THE FIRST VICTORIAN SETTLERS.

In connection with the Henty family, the first Victorian settlers - there is a portrait of Edward Henty in the gallery - we read a romantic story in Labillier's "Early History of Victoria." Portion of it runs: - "Mr. Thomas Henty was a landowner and banker at West Tarring, in Sussex. He was one of the few gentlemen - their number was but six - who kept flocks of merino sheep. He laid the foundation of his stock from purchases made at the sale of King George III's merinos (about 1806), which were presented to that monarch by the King of Spain. Henty's first connection with the colonies arose from a sale of select rams for exportation to Australia. Having seven sons, he determined on trying his fortune in the new country. In 1829 he despatched three of them to Western Australia with stock and outfit, and no less than 40 servants. Such an importation, in accordance with the land regulations, entitled his family to a grant of upwards of 80,000 acres. Being disappointed with the quality of the soil, the Hentys proceeded in 1832 to Tasmania, and it was from Launceston that Edward Henty and his brother' Stephen went to Portland, in Victoria, in 1834. The portrait of Edward Henty has been presented to the Club by his grandson, Mr. G. W. Henty, of the firm of Parbury, Henty.

Beecroft's painting shows Mr. Henty rowing in his dinghy to his yacht "Tartan." The caption says "Good Bye Till Monday!" Comparing the painting to the photo, Mr. Henty's prominent moustache is unmistakable and by the look of his eyes, he is very happy to be escaping for a weekend away on the boat with 2 mates who you can just see aboard the "Tartan" with their arms in the air, waving enthusiastically.

The "Tartan" was in fact owned by Mr. Henty with Ned Hungerford, the subject of the first of these essays about Beecroft's paintings. The pair raced "Tartan" frequently before World War 1 but retired from racing after the war.



Saturday, 18th November, 1933 - Brisbane Courier Mail

HISTORIC FIRM.

PARBURY, HENTY & CO.

Behind names associated with commercial life there is frequently a romantic but little-known story of human effort. There are few persons in Brisbane who do not know the name of Parbury House, but how many are familiar with its history?

This house takes its name from Mr. Frederick Parbury, who, in 1835, began business in Sydney in partnership with Captain William Lamb, R.N., a Napoleonic wars veteran, under the title of Lamb, Parbury, and Company. Within a few years a branch was established in Brisbane on the site now occupied by Parbury House. Two years before the firm was established in Sydney, Mr. James Henty had opened an office in Melbourne under the name of James Henty and Company. Frederick Parbury had opened an office in London, and in 1891 F. Parbury and Co., of London, and James Henty and Co., of Melbourne, were amalgamated. From that time the business was carried on by the direct descendants of the founders under the name of James Henty and Company, Melbourne, and Parbury, Henty, and Co., London, Sydney, and Kobe (Japan).

LATEST DEVELOPMENT.

In February, 1932, the business became a proprietary company, and was registered under the title of Parbury, Henty, and Co., Pty., Ltd. The first directors were Messrs. T. W. Haynes (managing director), A. O. Henty, W. C. Parbury, H. V. Parbury, and C. J. Henty. Mr. C. J. Henty, who has since died, was a grandson of the founder of the firm. Mr. W. C. Parbury and Mr. H. V. Parbury, directors of the present company, are grandsons of Frederick Parbury, the other founder. A branch office of this new proprietary concern has been opened at Parbury House, Eagle Street, Brisbane. The headquarters of the firm, which conducts a large import and export business in a variety of products, are in Melbourne, and the other branches are in Sydney, London, and Kobe.

Mr. Henty died on the 27th of June, 1938.

Tuesday, 5th July, 1938 - Sydney Morning Herald

MR. G. W. HENTY.

Mr. Gilbert Waldegrave Henty, who died at his residence, Rose Bay, last week, was a descendant of the founder of Portland, Victoria. He was the third son of Henry Henty of Melbourne who was the eldest son of James Henty. At Melbourne Grammar School Mr. Henty distinguished himself in the sporting sphere, and after leaving school, he entered the business of James Henty and Co., later being transferred to the Sydney firm of Parbury, Henty, and Co., of which he became a partner, and of which, at the time of his death, he was a director. Mr. Henty joined the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron in 1902. Before coming to Sydney he represented Victoria on several occasions in the Sayonara Cup races, and was honorary secretary of the Royal Melbourne Yacht Club. Mrs. Henty survives him.

August, 2015