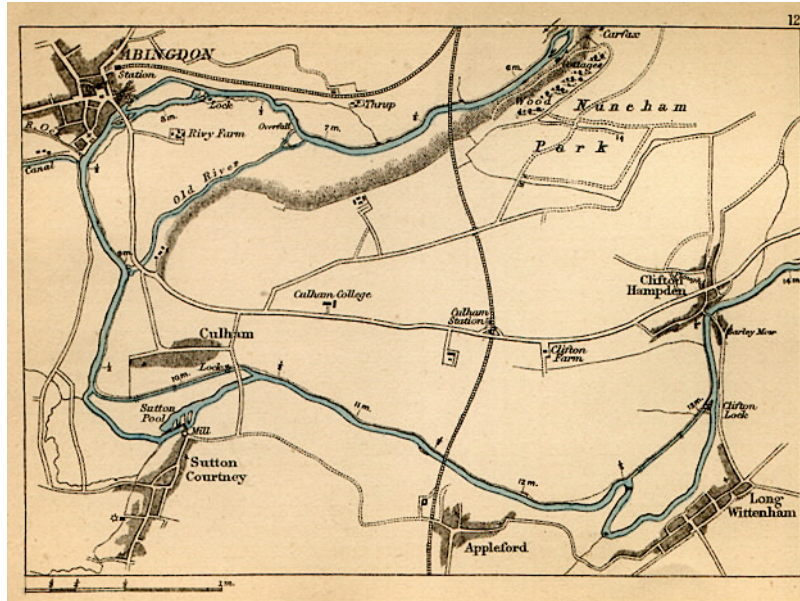


1873

Henry W. Taunt

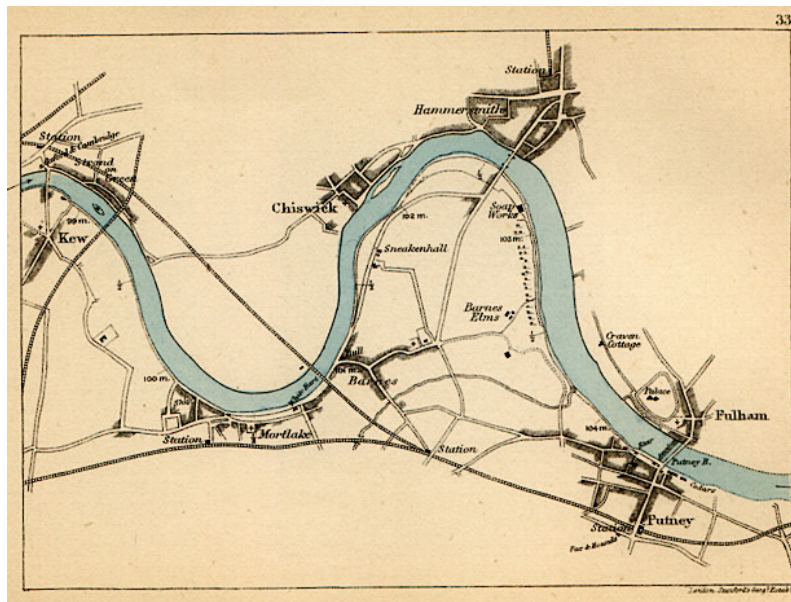
In 1871 an Oxford professional photographer personally surveyed most of the River Thames and published a guide for 'the tourist, the oarsman, and the angler'. It was illustrated with twenty-four maps and many small photographs. This was very popular and six editions appeared between 1872 and 1897. In 1893 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society for his outstanding work.



Henry William Taunt (1842-1922) also published a pocket version with its preface and folding index map both dated 1873. Its twenty-four untitled sectional maps, about 102 x 72 mm., were reproduced photo-lithographically from the original ones on a scale of one inch to the mile. They are mostly bound in pairs, back to back, with the odd numbered ones having a scale bar and the evens with Stanford's imprint: 'London. Stanford's Geogl. Etabt.' These unusual maps are well drawn with the river coloured blue and the text is extremely informative, with the first edition having ninety-five pages including lots of fascinating advertisements.

Another edition of the pocket version, with its preface now dated 1877, was published from his new premises in Broad Street, a photograph of which features on the frontispiece. It has 'new pocket edition' on the front cover but 'fifth thousand' at the head of the title-page, with 115 pages and the preliminaries increased from vi to xiv.

In 1878 Taunt surveyed the higher reaches of the river and then, jointly with a London publisher, issued a revised edition with the photograph on the frontispiece replaced with a printed engraving and the pages increased to 131. Its folding index map is now dated 1879 and it has six extra sectional maps.



These lack both scale and imprint but are otherwise the same and the text relating to them includes some lovely vignettes of the scenery. The new maps are rather oddly numbered 4-9 and the original ones are renumbered 10-33. This final printing has 'fourth edition' at the head of the title-page, but unfortunately the missing one has not yet been traced. They are all quite delightful in their oblong format and dark green embossed cloth covers (see Introduction 7). There were some later imitations but none so charming as the originals.

*Taunt's Map of the River Thames from Oxford to London (pocket edition).* Oxford, Henry W. Taunt, (1873); Henry W. Taunt & Co., (1877).

*Taunt's Map of the River Thames from Lechlade to London (pocket edition).* Oxford, Henry W. Taunt & Co.; London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co., (1879).

