

11							13						
Tameside							Cheshire						
Parish or Township of <u>Newton, Manx</u>							Parish or Township of <u>Newton, Manx</u>						
PLACE	HOUSES	NAMES	AGE		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	PLACE	HOUSES	NAMES	AGE		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born
			Males	Females						Males	Females		
Plain Pitt Cottage	1	George Aldridge	3			Manx	Bottom of Moor	1	William Dearden	50		Wolton	
		Lidia	8			Manx			Elyabeth	20		Manx	
		John Callaghan	20		Callan	Manx			Joseph	19		Callan	
		John Turner	18		Landholder	Manx			Annah	17		Callan	
		Elyabeth	13			Manx			William	11		Callan	
		Charles	10		Workshopman	Manx			John Lewis	20		Callan	
		Mary	5			Manx			Mary	4		Manx	
		John Walker	10		Callan	Manx			Richard	9		Manx	
		John	38			Manx			Pretty Moss	25		Callan	
		Mary	14			Manx			Henry Wilde	57		Manx	
do		John	10			Manx		John	54		Manx		
		Elyabeth	10			Manx		John	20		Callan		
		William	3			Manx		John	17		Callan		
		John	1			Manx		Edward	10		Callan		
		James Gowerd	81		Workshopman	Manx		Isabel	8		53		
		Benjamin	60		Farmer	Manx		William	1		Manx		
		Sally	45			Manx		Lucretia Bennett	65		Workshopman		
		Isabel	37		Callan	Manx		Martilda	30		Manx		
		John	25		do do	Manx		Thomas	20		Manx		
		Peter	21		Workshopman	Manx		Isaac Smith	85		Widow		
do		Mary	18		Callan	Manx		John Franklin Bennett	19		Widow		
		Annah	14		do do	Manx		John Wilde	79		Workshopman		
		John Hargley	47		Labourer	Manx							
		Mary Smith	21		Callan	Manx							
		Richard	10			Manx							
						Manx							
						Manx							
						Manx							
						Manx							
						Manx							

do	1	Lucretia Bennett	65		Workshopman	Manx
		Martilda	30			Manx
		Thomas	20			Manx
		Isaac Smith	85		Widow	Manx
		John Franklin Bennett	19		Widow	Manx
do	1	John Wilde	79		Workshopman	Manx

As you can see the 1841 Census contains far less information than later censuses, but there are still lots of clues. MINERVA BENNETT married three times great grandfather ROBERT NEWTON 26 December 1825 at St John's Church, Manchester and this is where I found her birth family 1841. There are no relationships to head of household and no marital status, but you can work on a hypothesis and then set out to try and prove it.

Guessing that LUCRETIA BENNETT is a widow and that ISAAC SMITH is her widowed father. With a possible surname of SMITH, lucky she has a less common forename.

The family are living in the Township of Newton, which is one of the townships of Mottram in Longdendale, Cheshire:

I found a marriage between Lucretia SMITH and Thomas BENNETT 11 July 1796 at Mottram in Longdendale Parish Church and the baptism of Lucretia SMITH daughter of Thomas and Mary baptised 11 December 1774 at Old chapel in Dukinfield.

Lucretia's parents had married just five months before on 13 July 1774. Strangely Mary was also a SMITH and she was 17 years older than Isaac. Isaac was 21 when Mary produced Lucretia aged 38.

Thomas and Mary went on to have two more children William in 1777 and Sylvia in 1779.

Most of these dates and ages were worked out from Gravestone Inscriptions in Old Chapel, Dukinfield. I do have a genuine brickwall in that according to this gravestone Isaac was born circa 1755 and I can go no further back. The records for Old Chapel in Dukinfield are missing (totally and forever) between the years 1712/13 and 1764.

I also found more about Lucretia's business from Pigot & Co's 1834 Trade Directory for Hyde. Lucretia BENNETT and Son at Newton Moor Corn Dealer and Grocers and Tea Dealer. Her son Alfred was trading as a Chymist and Druggist on Muslin Street (Now Talbot road) and right next to his mother's property.

Lucretia left a Will, and in the Newton Tith Map she occupied several fields along what was then Old Lane, but is now Bennett Street.

Her business went to her son Alfred who married Hannah HOWARTH in 1833 at Stockport St Mary's Church.

Although not a direct link Hannah HOWARTH's line led to some interesting discoveries. Her brother Franklyn married Elizabeth HOLLAND daughter of Peter HOLLAND Surgeon of Knutsford (1766-1855). Peter HOLLAND's sister Elizabeth married William STEPHENSON and their daughter Elizabeth Cleghorn STEVENSON, went on to marry William GASKELL minister of Cross Street Chapel in Manchester, and to write various best sellers as Mrs GASKELL.

The GASKELLS were very much linked to the Literary Community at Cairo Street Chapel in Warrington. Within the HOWARTH Family were many Unitarian Ministers and Hannah HOWARTH's grandmother was an ARMITAGE whose family history goes back to Godfrey ARMYTAGE who bought Kirklees Abbey after the Reformation, whose descendant together with Oliver Heywood formed Lydgate Chapel.

In 1671 Oliver HEYWOOD visited Lydgate, and preached at John ARMITAGE's house. This was across the road from the present chapel. It had spy windows so people could watch for the 'King's Men'- remember, all non Anglican worship was illegal, until the 1689 Toleration Act was passed by William and Mary. This allowed non-Anglican (but not Catholic) worship.

In 1689 John ARMITAGE's house was licensed for Worship.

Going back to Peter HOLLAND, Peter's two younger brothers were Samuel HOLLAND, who established a business trading between Liverpool and South America and Swinton Colthurst HOLLAND, who became a partner in Barings.

The last name in the household was John Franklyn BENNETT aged 12 MS (Male Servant) birthplace F. This meant born in Foreign Parts. I do know that an older generation of BENNETTs had emigrated to America circa 1797, but I've not been able to fit young John Franklyn into the tree of the émigrés. Two of the BENNETT family members married into CHEETHAM émigrés from Newton. The CHEETHAMs who remained went on to become millowners and philanthropists in Stalybridge. John Frederick CHEETHAM married Beatrice ASTLEY daughter of the local lord of the manor and the chain continues.

WHERE TO STOP? This information has been gathered by revisiting it over many years and a great proportion is through links I have made over the years with:

Michael Coffey, Professor of Plant Phytology at UCLA – GASKELL Family
Sally Reichart – USA - BENNETT and CHEETHAM Families
Mary Robinson – Hollywood, Northern Ireland - HOWARTH/ARMITAGE Family
Craig Thornber's paper (on-line) on Peter HOLLAND Surgeon of Knutsford

Conclusion: With patience and with some lucky links to other researchers, one rather unprepossessing entry in the 1841 census can lead you on a rewarding journey; conversely it can also become a dead end. You never know so don't give up at the first hurdle.