

12							13						
Tithing of Newton, Manx							City or Borough of Newton, Manx						
PLACE	HOUSES	NAMES	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born	PLACE	HOUSES	NAMES	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born
			Males	Females						Males	Females		
Plain Pitt Cottage	1	George Aldridge	3			4	Bottom of Moor	1	William Dearden	50		Walter	4
		Lidia	8			4			Elyabeth	20			4
		John Callaghan	20		Collar	4			Joseph	19		*Collar	4
		John Turner	18		Landholder	4			Annah	17		Woolweaver	4
		Elyabeth	13			4			William	11		Woolweaver	4
		Walter	16		Woolweaver	4			John Lewis	20		Collar	4
		Mary	5			4			Mary	4			4
		John Walker	16		Collar	4			Richard	2			4
		John	38			4		do	Pretty Moss	25		Cotton Weaver	4
		Mary	14			4		do	Henry Wilde	57			4
	John	10			4		John	34			4		
	Elyabeth	16			4		John	20		Cotton Weaver	4		
	William	3			4		John	17		*Collar	4		
	John	1			4		Edward	10		Woolweaver	4		
do	10	James Gowerd	81		Woolweaver	4	do	Isabel	8		53	4	
	Benjamin	60		Woolweaver	4		William	1			4		
	Sally	45			4		Lucretia Bennett	65		Woolweaver	4		
	Isabel	37		Cotton Weaver	4		Martilda	30			4		
	John	25		do do	4		Thomas	20			4		
	Peter	21		Woolweaver	4		Isaac Smith	85		Widow	Yes		
	Mary	18		Cotton Weaver	4		John Franklin Bennett	12		* M.L.	+ 3		
	Annah	14		do do	4		do	1	John Wilde	79		Woolweaver	4
	John Hargley	47		Labourer	4								
	Mary Smith	21		Cotton Weaver	4								
	Richard	10			4								
TOTAL in Page 10	103		12	13	87	13	TOTAL in Page 20	14		14	11	67	15

do	1	Lucretia Bennett	65		Woolweaver	4
		Martilda	30			4
		Thomas	20			4
		Isaac Smith	85		Widow	Yes
		John Franklin Bennett	12		* M.L.	+ 3
do	1	John Wilde	79		Woolweaver	4

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 mean't 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.

Gay Oliver  
Web Manager: [tamesidefamilyhistory.co.uk](http://tamesidefamilyhistory.co.uk)