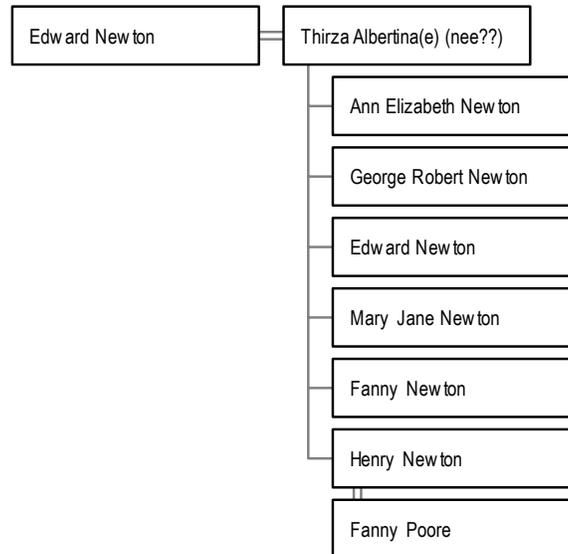


Edward Newton



Edward was for some time something of a mystery as I had not been able to locate any definite record of him. We know from the Talbot Trust deed that he was dead by 1889. He does not appear in the family listing for the 1841 census.ⁱ However, an IGI Family Group record has him listed as having been born on 3rd December 1811 at Leeds and another IGI reference records him being baptised at St. Peter's, Leeds, on 13th January 1812.ⁱⁱ It was not until I obtained the copy of the death certificate of his father that some more clues about Edward were found. He was present at the death of his father John on 28th July 1849, and on the certificate gave his address as East Retford.

Based on this flimsy information I ran a search on the 1841 census, but could find no trace of him. However, there was success with the 1851 census. Edward is located living at 120 Wellington Place, East Retford with his wife and 5 children.ⁱⁱⁱ

Edward Newton	39	Rail Contractors Agent	Leeds
Thirza Albertina Newton	38		Cullompton, Devonshire
Ann Elizabeth Newton	17		Leeds
George Robert Newton	15	Linen Draper's Apprentice	Leeds
Edward Newton	5		
Mary Jane Newton	2		East Retford, Nottinghamshire
Fanny Newton	2 mo		East Retford, Nottinghamshire

No record has been found yet for Thirza Albertina, so her provenance is unknown, apart from the fact that she was born in Devon. Mary and Fanny were the only children born in East Retford, which means that Edward and Thirza would have located to East Retford some time after the birth on Edward (whose birthplace is not given) in about 1846. We know, from John Newton's death certificate that Edward and family would have been there by mid 1849. It is interesting to speculate whether Edward was an agent for James Kitson, the locomotive engineer, and Edward's brother-in-law.

The 1861 census finds Thirza a widow. The family is now living at Carolgate, East Retford. Since the previous census another child had been born – Henry Newton. Like so many of the Fretwell clan, Thirza is running a grocery shop.^{iv}

Thirza Albertina Newton	48	Grocer	Cullompton, Devonshire
Ann Elizabeth Newton	27		Leeds
Mary Jane Newton	12		Retford, Nottinghamshire
Henry	6		Retford, Nottinghamshire

Absent from the household are sons George Robert and Edward, who would have been around 25 and 15 respectively. Also not listed is Fanny Newton. A search of the 1861 census has not found these three children, but there is a Fanny Newton and a George Newton listed in the FreeBMD list of death registrations for the Apr-Jun and Jan-March quarters respectively for East Retford in 1854 (but no ages are shown on the records).^v These two records have proved to be correctly identified. Within 6 months of each other George and Fanny had died which must have been shattering for the family.

George had moved away from home and was apparently living in Fledborough, a small town south and not far from Retford, where he died of consumption on 21st January 1854. The occupation given on his death certificate was Tailor, which tallies with the 1851 census listing for him as Draper's Assistant. The person who was in attendance and who reported the death 2 days later was one Eliza Picken.^v It is interesting to note that Edward Newton had been able to travel to Leeds to be with his father at his death, but for some reason was not present when his own son died. It may be that George was lodging with widow Eliza Picken, or at least was well known to her. She has been located in Fledborough for the 1851 census and appears to have been fairly well off, as a Farmer of 239 Acres, employing 2 labourers and with 4 domestic servants to look after her and her two teenage children.^{vi}

Fanny, daughter of Edward Newton, Inspector, was killed accidentally, run over by the wheel of a cart on 28th June 1854 at Ordsall, an outer area of Retford. She was only 3 at the time. A coronial inquiry was conducted by C.L. Hughes, Deputy Coroner, Newark after which the death was registered on 30th June 1854.^{vii}

Also recorded in the same listing is the death registration in the Jan-Mar quarter of 1860, in East Retford, of an Edward Newton. Again, no age is given, so this might be either Edward Newton (father or son). However, my guess would be for the father (confirmed by the 1871 census), which would have had Thirza widowed just before the 1861 census was taken.

Indeed Edward did die in 1860, another of the family to meet his end by an accident. The death certificate shows that he died on 13th January 1860, accidentally killed on a railway, presumably at work. Again an inquest was required and while this was held on the same day by Charles S. Bursally(?), Coroner for Nottinghamshire, the death was not formally registered until the 17th.^x Edward was only 48 years old, leaving Thirza to carry on with 4 children.

Thirza was a little difficult to locate in the 1871 census as her name was transcribed as Hurza. However, she was found living now in Islington, at 17 Havelock Avenue. With her are three of her children, including Edward who now reappears, and this time his place of birth is given. Ann Elizabeth is no longer at home, and she may have married by now.^x

Hurza [sic] A Newton	58		Cullompton, Devonshire
Edward Newton	25	Railway Clerk	Dawlish, Devon
Mary Jane Newton	22		Retford, Nottinghamshire
Henry Newton	16	Railway Clerk	Retford, Nottinghamshire

Thirza died before the next census. A registration of death is recorded for the Oct-Dec quarter of 1878 of a Thirza Albertine Newton at age 66.^x It was registered at Barnet and, as we will see in the next generation notes, this is where her youngest son, Henry, was living for the 1881 census. Either the whole family moved there between 1861 and 1878, or Henry moved to Barnet and his mother was living with the family or close by. Having subsequently obtained the certificate for this registration it proved to be for Thirza Newton, 66 year old widow of Edward Newton, Contractor, who died on 26th December 1878 at Victoria Road, East Barnet. The cause of death was recorded by John D Day, MB Lond, as Scirrrosis [sic] of Uterus and General Dropsy. 2 days later the death was registered by one James Poore who had been present at the death and whose address was given as New Barnett. If we needed further confirmation that this was 'our' Thirza, the informant provides this. As we will see, James Poore was the father of son Henry's wife.^{xii}

No further reference has been found at this time for daughter Mary Jane, who may have married, or for son Edward.

ⁱ HO107/1346/6/pp5-6.

ⁱⁱ IGI Individual Record Batch No C009627.

ⁱⁱⁱ HO107/2121/pp31-32.

^{iv} RG9/2415/p15.

^v List on file.

^{vi} Certified copy of Death Certificate DYB427539.

^{vii} HO 107/2121/p15

^{viii} Certified copy of Death Certificate DYB427540.

^{ix} Certified copy of Death Certificate DYB427548.

^x RG10/264/p5.

^{xi} FreeBMD Death Index.

^{xii} Certified copy of Death Certificate DYB427915.