

Joseph Newton
Born Sleaford 26.02.1824 Died Kensington 12.01.1906

Joseph Newton was born in Sleaford Lincs the son of John Newton a Brewer and Ann Newton nee Dansby of Metheringham. He had one sister Mary Ann Newton who married Thomas Bird on 27th June 1850. This is the point that the Newton connection began in the Bird family.

Before 1860 Joseph moved to London as on the 1861 Census he was living with his wife Mary in 30 Eastbourne Terrace Paddington. Arthur Bird aged 11yrs was staying with them at the time.

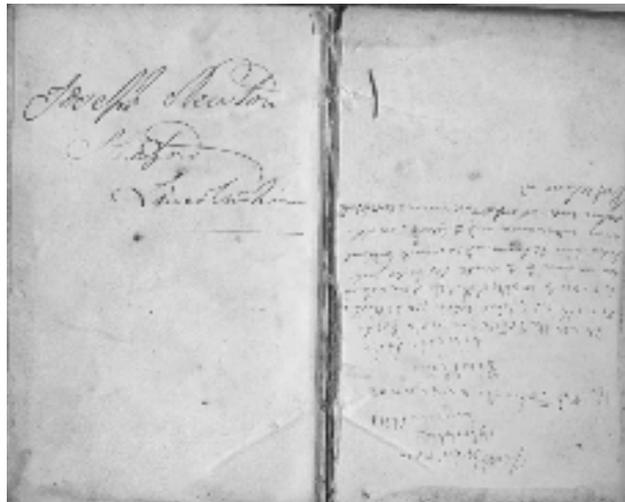
Joseph was a Landscape Gardener. His wife Mary was eight years his senior and was born in Stawnton (Staunton) Notts. Stawnton was a few miles west of Sleaford just on the Notts border



Stawnton Parish Church

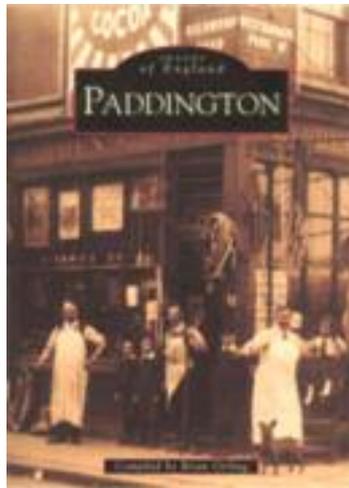
A search has been made between 1840 and 1860 for a marriage between Joseph and Mary but none has been found either in Sleaford or Stawnton. A marriage of a Joseph Newton took place in Kensington in December 1850 still to be checked out. Also it is uncertain whether the couple had any children. Thirty eight births of Newtons were recorded in Sleaford between 1842 and 1859 many with names used frequently by our family eg Mary Ann, John, Thomas, Elizabeth, William, George and Ann , too numerous to check out. However by the 1861 Census no children were registered as living with them apart from Arthur Bird their nephew from Sleaford. Later records show a Miss Newton living at 49 Eastbourne Terrace.

Joseph was still in Sleaford in 1842 as a book in the family possessions shows his signature.



Joseph appeared rather affluent in 1861 as he had a cook a parlour maid and a housemaid living in. The house at that time was possibly rented as a William Cuffe esq Barrister was registered as the owner.

Nearly all the area from Westbourne Terrace to Inverness Terrace was wealthy c. 1890, although Leinster Place and Terrace and Craven Terrace were merely well-to-do, as were Eastbourne Terrace to the east and Queen's Road to the west. Prince's, Leinster, and Kensington Gardens squares were also wealthy. The only mixed areas were mews alleys, as in Tyburnia, and around Moscow Road. In the smartest parts, the less affluent were mainly caretakers, policemen, and shopkeepers. Older property near Moscow Road was let for high rents to shopkeepers, artisans, and clerks, most of whom were 'pretty comfortable' Lancaster Gate East and West wards, created in 1901, had only 2.15 per cent and 2.58 of their inhabitants overcrowded, compared with 32.76 per cent in Church ward around Paddington green, and death rates were low at 7.67 and 9.08 per cent.



By 1867 Joseph was registered as having two houses in succession 30 Eastbourne Terrace and 74 Oxford Terrace Paddington.

In 1871 he was registered as a Seed Merchant, there was a firm called Newton John Elijah of 7 Crown Office Row EC Landscape Gardeners it is unknown if there is a connection.

Joseph did not appear on the 1881 or 1891 Census but by 1901 he was a patient in St Mary Abbots Infirmary Kensington he was a Widower aged 77.

He possibly never returned to live on his own. He was transferred to Bognor Regis.

His great nephew Harry Bird set up a Newsagent, Stationers and Book Sellers business in Praed Street in 1903 just at the end of Eastbourne Terrace in front of Paddington Station. In 1902 he had also bought a Pastry shop and Confectioners.



Joseph was a resident in Scotts Memorial Home Belmont Road Bognor Regis built 1880. The home had views across a grassy area and had a large conservatory along one side. It was a private home and the fees were quite expensive.



Joseph died in 1906 in the Kensington Infirmary of heart failure having been transferred from Scotts.



If he had no children he may have left any monies to his sister's family, perhaps this is how Harry Bird was able to buy businesses at such an early age. This of course is pure speculation. This is where our connection with the Newtons ended although the name continues in the family today, perhaps in tribute to Joseph.