

TEACHERS' NOTES Ebenezer Ford

Stratton Union Workhouse

Baptisms in January 1861 in the parish of Stratton St Margaret include three children whose mothers were in the Stratton Union Workhouse. Ebenezer William Ford was baptised on 6th January and we can trace his life through census records.

N.B—the Thomas Speck whose daughter's baptism is registered on this page is not the Thomas Speck who later marries Hannah!

Census Returns

1861

No.10 Reading Street, Swindon.

Elijah Jones / Head / widower / 48 / Labourer

Mary Jones / daughter / 20 / house servant

Virtue Jones / daughter / 15 / house servant

Samuel Jones / son / 10 / scholar

Sophia Jones / daughter / 11? / scholar

Sarah Jones / daughter / 7 / scholar

Hannah Foord / visitor / 25

Ebenezer Foord / visitor / 3mths

Thomas Speck / 23 / lodger / labourer

Elijah Hancox / 24 / lodger / labourer

1871

No.20 Cambria Place—two families

Thomas Speck / Head / 33 / Labourer

Annie Speck / Wife / 35

Ebenezer W Ford / stepson / 10

Dinah Ford / mother in law / 65

Alfred Speck and his family

1881

No.36 Cambria Place

Ebenezer W Ford / Head / 20 / Engine smith

Emeline Ford / wife / 19

Anna Ford / daughter / 1

Hannah Speck (Ebenezer's mother)

David Ford and James Vines—both working at GWR

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Census returns

1891

No.36 Cambria Place

Ebenezer / 30 / blacksmith

Emeline /wife / 29

5 children: Anna, Mary, Emeline, Thomas & Margaret. 4 are scholars—school pupils.

William Clarke / father-in-law / boiler maker

Catherine Clarke / mother-in-law

1901

No.36 Cambria Place

Ebenezer & his wife Emeline

Children Mary, Emeline, Thomas, Hilda, Robert & Alfred.

Mother-in-law Catherine appears to have changed her name to Priggs.

1911

No.36 Cambria Place

Ebenezer & Emeline married for 32 years. They have had 8 children, 2 of whom died.

The 1911 census makes it clear he works for GWR.

His son Robert is an apprentice blacksmith at GWR. Two daughters are machinists at Cellular Clothing (see photograph). Cellular Clothing pioneered “Aertex” fabric, one of the earliest “breathable” fabrics.

