

### **The Coates Family History Part 3- Family Connections**

Sadly, Adeline passed away around 1902. Her obituary which appeared in *The Amherstburg Echo* on April 6, 1906 says “Mrs. William Coates died Thursday of last week after an attack of inflammation of the lungs. The funeral was held Saturday forenoon at 10 o’clock at Central Grove where services were conducted by Rev. W. Crosby, and interment was in Central Grove cemetery. She was the only daughter of the late Joseph Mulder and lived on the old homestead with her husband. She leaves quite a family and the following brothers: Isaac, Albert and John, the two former in this township and the latter in Colchester North.”

William also married Elsie Golden Thompson (maiden name Golden) on December 19, 1910 in Detroit. In the 1911 Census, it lists William Coates as living with his wife Elsie, along with Oda, Archie, Caud [sic], George and Dora, but also William’s step-children: Enoch Thompson, Andrew, Lorance, Eliza, Elizabeth, Lenny, and Florance. This was in addition to a lodger named Eliza Sheppard and grandson, but the later person’s name is illegible.

William Coates passed away in 1917. His obituary from *The Amherstburg Echo* (May 11, 1917) says “William Coates, who has been receiving treatment at London for some time, died there Sunday. His remains were brought here over the P.M.R.R. Wednesday, and taken to Central Grove, where after services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Ware, interment was made in the cemetery there. Mr. Coates was twice married, first to Miss Mulder, and afterwards to Mrs. Thompson, who survives him, together with three sons; two brother, Milton and Arthur, and one sister, Mrs. John Clay.”

Williams’ sister Georgia, according to her death record, passed away on September 3, 1882 at the age of 19. She died of consumption. Georgia’s brother Milton Jr. is next. He married Mary Elizabeth Taylor, the daughter of Stephen and Mary Ann Simpson, on August 22, 1891 in

Essex County. According to Census records, Milton and Mary Elizabeth had a daughter named Rosa. The 1911 Census lists Milton, Mary and Rosa, along with Rosa's daughter Vera Brice. Rosa's husband is not listed. Milton and Mary Elizabeth may also have had a daughter named Helen. The 1931 Census lists Rosa, age 46, but also Helen, age 13, as the daughters of Milton and Mary Elizabeth. This is a significant age gap between their children. Either Helen is their daughter or the Census taker made a mistake and she is Rosa's daughter.

Milton Coates passed away in 1955. His obituary which appeared in *The Amherstburg Echo* on September 8, 1955 says "Milton Coates Lifelong Resident of Colchester South Died On Monday – Milton Coates, 93? Lifelong resident of Colchester South died at his home on the fourth concession Monday. He had been ailing for some time. Funeral services were held at the J.H. Madill and Company Funeral Home Wednesday afternoon followed by burial in St. Mark's Cemetery, Colchester."

Just a few months later, Mary Elizabeth Coates' obituary appeared in *The Amherstburg Echo* on January 12, 1956. It says "Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Coates Funeral Held On Saturday – Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Coates, widow of the late Milton Coates passed peacefully away last Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1956 at the home of her granddaughter. Mrs. Coates was in her 91<sup>st</sup> year and had lived in Colchester South all her life. Her husband predeceased her on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1955, just four months ago. She left to mourn her loss 1 grandchild, Mrs. Ira Wilson and 13 grandchildren and 10 great great grandchildren. She was a member of Church of God in Christ for years – and was one of those kindly, sympathetic little ladies that makes friends of all the people with whom they come in contact. Funeral services were held for her in the J.H. Madill Funeral Chapel last Sunday, conducted by Elder Morton and internment was in St. Marks

Cemetery, Colchester. Arthur Talbot, Elias Mulder, Harvey Mulder, Jno Bayliss, Melvin Grayer and Burney Day were the pallbearers.”

Milton’s brother Arthur is the next child of Fannie Reynolds and Milton Coates. He married Clara Johnson, the daughter of Francis J.G. Johnson and Francis Pines, in 1899 in Wayne, Michigan. Clara’s death announcement from *The Amherstburg Echo* reports that she passed away on September 5, 1918 at the age of 34. Her obituary from September 13, 1918 shares a few more details. It says “Mrs. Arthur Coates passed away after a lingering illness Thursday of last week, aged 34 years. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon to the B.M.E. church, Harrow, where services were conducted and interment was in Gilgal cemetery. Her maiden name was Leek, and she is survived by her husband, one brother, Simon Peter Leek, and several sisters.”

Following Clara’s passing, Arthur married a second time to Nancy Lewis Hurst, the daughter of Mathew Lewis and Eliza Simpson, on April 5, 1921 in Detroit, Michigan. I could not find any more documents for Arthur, but I did find a death record for his wife Nancy. She passed away on May 9, 1944 in Detroit at the age of 77. Her death record also reveals that she was born in Harrow on January 1, 1867.

**What we publish is not a complete history of any family and is based on the documents that are available. We welcome photos and information to fill in the gaps. See you next week for part 4.**