

## COLE/BARNUM/WHITLOCK IN BETHEL, CT

In his letter of May 18, 2004, Arthur Whitlock Cole details several Cole, Barnum and Whitlock connections in Bethel, Connecticut. It is a perfect example of how researching a collateral family, in this case the Cole family, can provide the clues you were looking for for your Whitlock family. Arthur writes:

“Edith May Whitlock is my grandmother who married Orrin S. Barnum. George M. Cole was a nephew of Zalmon [Whitlock]. His parents were Hiram & Mary (Gilbert) Cole. Mary was sister to Eunice [Gilbert who married Zalmon Whitlock in 1839]. George was part owner of the Cole & Ambler hat shop in Bethel [Ct] where Zalmon set up shop, even well into his retirement years. He started out in the hat trade as a young boy apprentice, worked in several of the small shops. It was during this early period as a young boy that he became acquainted with P.T. Barnum. By the middle 1800's, there were near a dozen large hat shops in Bethel and is said that near every family had a “Hatter”. Young girls and women as Sarah Jane Whitlock were mostly employed as “hat trimmers”. William F. Cole a brother to George married Theresa Whitlock, daughter of Ebenezer Whitlock (bro. of Zalmon). Another brother Andrew Cole married Sallie Adams, daughter of Bradley & Olive (Whitlock) Adams. Olive was an older sister to Zalmon. Another brother Hiram M. Cole served with Addison Myron Whitlock during the American Civil War. I have a photo of the two cousins in uniform. Addison was the father of Edith May and died in 1881. My mother was named Sally Adams Barnum after Sallie Adams Cole. As fate would have she too married a “Cole”, John Roberts Cole son of George Edwin Cole. George was from nearby Putnam County, New York. Three sons here: Robert Barnum Cole, George Edwin Cole and myself Arthur Whitlock Cole.

“I'll also mention that of Myron Cole Whitlock (1883-1933), who is buried in Bethel. He was acquainted with the family - son of William and Mary (Cole) Whitlock of nearby Brookfield.

“My grandfather, Orrin S. Barnum is in line from Elijah Barnum who married [1760] Hannah Whitlock, daughter of John & 1<sup>st</sup> wife Mary (Lee) Whitlock [married 1737].”

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This family is detailed on our WHITLOCK09 chart, The Whitlocks of Connecticut. Arthur's letter connected several families together. We did not know that Zalmon, Ebenezer and Olive were all children of Ezekiel Whitlock (1777-1838). We look forward to hearing more about the Connecticut families from Arthur.

Source:X5230