

CHARLOTTE BARTLEY

Charlotte was born on July 22, 1850, a twin sister of Jane Ann and the daughter of Jared (I) Bartley and Mary Jane Johnston. Her father died in 1870. Under his will she received "... the large red cow for her own use and benefit to be taken possession of when she leaves home or is married. Also one good bed and bedding and household furniture of the value of not less than twenty dollars...".

Charlotte was at home for the 1851, 1861 and 1871 census' but not in 1881. On March 20, 1872 she had married William Cooke at St. Stephen's Church on Dalhousie Street in Montreal. William was born in Eastington, Gloucestershire, England on November 18, 1852.

Five children were born to William and Charlotte.

Jared Bartley Cooke	25/12/1872	Waterloo, Quebec
Mary Jane Cooke	18/12/1875	"
Lizzie Frances Cooke	13/05/1877	(place of birth unknown)
Miles Ernest Cooke	14/02/1879	Montreal, Quebec
Harry Malburn Cooke	12/03/1881	"

According to his obituary William came to Canada at the age of eighteen, i.e. about 1870. In 1882 the family moved to Plattsburgh, New York where William was in charge of the conservatories and landscape gardening for Hon. Smith M. Weed on Cumberland Avenue. William was said to have stayed with Mr. Weed for over six years and then went into business for himself on South Peru Street. By 1902/03 that he was shown in the Plattsburgh City Directory to be operating "Plattsburgh Floral Nurseries" although in 1900/01 there was an indication of a business on Johnson Avenue. Only in one directory, that of 1900/01, did Charlotte's name appear with William's.

Beginning in 1904 Miles and Harry were reported by the city directory to be working in the nursery. For Harry, this continued throughout his lifetime but Miles left the business in 1920 and did not return to it until 1928; he left it again in 1932.

Charlotte died on August 6, 1913 at the age of sixty-three. Both she and William had been active in community and lodge activities and there was a large funeral. "...members of Lakeside Encampment and McDonough Lodge and visiting Odd Fellows attended in a body marching from the house to the church and, after the services there, acted as escort to the grave. Members of the Champlain Valley Rebekah Lodge and visiting sisters also attended. A delegation of the Uniform Ranks K.O.T.M. were in attendance. The Rebekah Lodge funeral services were conducted at the grave.". (K.O.T.M. refers to the Knights of the Machabees)

Charlotte was survived by her husband, a daughter, Minnie J. Frazier, two sons, Miles and Harry of Plattsburgh and a brother, Jared (II) Bartley of Kemptville, Ontario. Among those who attended from other places were: members of the Davis family from Montreal

(the family of William's sister), Mrs. Annie Phillips of Ottawa and Mrs. William Mackey and Jared Bartley of Kemptville. The funeral was from Trinity Episcopal Church to Riverside Cemetery. Annie Phillips and Mary Mackey were the daughters of Ellen (Bartley) Bennett, Charlotte's oldest sister.

William died on December 16, 1915 and was buried from Trinity Episcopal Church to Riverside Cemetery. The survivors were: a daughter, Mrs. F.J. Frazier; two sons, Harry M. and Miles E., all of Plattsburgh; and a sister, Mrs. Joseph Davis of Montreal. From his obituary:

"..(he)...ranked among the most prominent officials in the Order of Odd Fellows in Northern New York. He was Past District Deputy Grand Master of McDonough Lodge No. 546 and was Past District Grand Patriarch of Lakeside Encampment No. 143. He was also a member of the Canton Lodge, the highest branch of Odd Fellowship and a member of the Order of the Maccabees in this city. For six years he served on the city board as alderman in the most acceptable manner.....not only successful as a florist but because of his kindly and friendly disposition was highly regarded and esteemed by all who knew him."

After William's death, his sons continued the florist business with Harry apparently the senior member.

Charlotte's mother, Mary Jane (Johnston) Bartley lived in Kemptville until soon before her death in 1903. On several occasions the Kemptville Advance reported visits between the two families. There is a reference on December 1, 1892, when Charlotte's sister, Ellen, died, to floral tributes from Plattsburgh, N.Y. but there was no mention of Charlotte attending. In September 1894 there was a report that Mr. and Mrs. Cooke who had been visiting "..... our aged citizen Mrs. Bartley" were returning to Plattsburgh. In November 1895 there was a report that "...One of our aged citizens, Mrs. M.J. Bartley, will leave this week for Plattsville (sic) N.Y. where she will spend a portion of the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Cooke...", and at the beginning of February, 1896, a note that after spending two months with her daughter in Plattsburgh, she was returning home. In January 1903, Ella Bennett returned "...from Plattsburgh, N.Y. where she has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. William Cooke...". Ella Bennett was a daughter of Ellen Bartley who died in 1892; she had returned from California to visit her family and soon returned there to be married.

Mary J.(Minnie) Cook

Minnie was born in Montreal on December 18, 1875. In 1901 she married J. Frank Frazier who was born in Plattsburgh on September 18, 1870, the son of Joseph and Ellen Frazier. There was one child, a daughter Doris who was born on April 29, 1905 in Plattsburgh.

Frank was extremely active in community affairs and a member of several lodges. He was an alderman for three consecutive terms and at the time of his death on August 4, 1930, he was acting mayor of the city. The survivors were: the widow; his mother; a daughter, Mrs. Charles (Doris) Silver; a granddaughter, Charlotte Silver; three brothers and one sister. Frank was buried in Riverside Cemetery.

Minnie lived in the family home until 1933. Her daughter Doris had married Charles Silver on August 24, 1927. From 1933 Minnie lived with Charles and Doris until Harry had a stroke in 1940 when she returned to Plattsburgh to care for him. After his death in 1944 she returned to live with Charles and Doris until she died in Rutland, Vermont on May 14, 1961. She is buried with Frank in Riverside Cemetery in Plattsburgh.

Lizzie Frances Cooke

Lizzie was born on May 13, 1877, probably in Montreal. She died in Plattsburgh on October 25, 1891 at the age of fourteen years and six months. She is buried in Riverside Cemetery in Plattsburgh in her parent's plot.

Miles Ernest Cooke

Miles was born in Montreal on February 14, 1879. From 1904 until at least 1915 he worked with his brother, Harry, in the nursery operation which his father had established in Plattsburgh. For the next ten years Miles' name appeared in the city directory fairly regularly although he was listed as having had a variety of positions. From 1928 to 1932 he seems to have returned to the family florist business but in 1933 his name did not appear nor did it reappear thereafter.

On February 20, 1902 Miles married Lorency Mildred Mitchel. There may have been a son, William Andrew, of this marriage since Harry's obituary reported that he was survived by, among others, a nephew William A. Cooke. A family record reports that on October 18, 1924 there was a marriage of William Andrew Cooke, born on August 1, 1903, to Viola Runnings in Fargo, North Dakota. It is only speculation but it seems likely that Miles had a son and that this was his marriage. Nothing more is known of him nor of his wife.

On November 7, 1923 Miles married Ruth Hannah Sutherland. They worked for many years with a family at Poughkeepsie, New York, he as a caretaker and she as a housekeeper.

The Kemptville Advance of August 24, 1899 reported that "Miles E. Cook, Plattsburgh, N.Y., while on an extended trip through Ontario is now visiting at the home of his cousins Mrs. Wm. Mackey and Mrs. Wm. Thompson". In the issue of September 9, 1920 it reported that he was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mackey.

In the October 17, 1941 issue of the Plattsburgh Press appeared the notice of Miles' death on October 16 at Poughkeepsie. The Trinity Church register in Plattsburgh recorded his age as 62, his last residence as Poughkeepsie, his death as on October 16, 1941 and his burial as on October 17. There was little information in the notice, only that he would be

buried in the West Plattsburgh Union Cemetery in nearby Morrisonville The grave marker records only the following name and dates:

Miles E. Cooke, 1879-1941.

On an adjacent stone is the following:

Ruth Sutherland/Cooke, 1893-.

It is thought that Ruth's home was at Morrisonville and that she retired there and died about 1960.

Harry Malburn Cooke

Harry, who was born in Montreal on March 12, 1881, was an infant when his parents moved to Plattsburgh. He attended both public and high school in Plattsburgh and worked in his father's florist business, taking it over when William died in 1915. In 1914 Harry married Alphonsie Phillips of Plattsburgh.

The Kemptville Advance of July 8, 1920 reported that Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cook of Plattsburgh, N.Y. motored to Kemptville on Monday and called on Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mackey and other friends. And in the same edition, it was noted that they were accompanied by Mr and Mrs. Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Brashaw (sic) of Ogdensburg and that they called on their cousins Mrs. Wm. Mackey and Mrs. Wm. Thompson and other old friends.

Harry was a Democrat, an alderman for twelve years before 1924 and a member of the Board of Supervisors for six years thereafter. He was also a member of the Board of Education for a number of years and its president for six years.

Harry's name first appeared in the Plattsburgh City Directory in connection with the nursery in 1904 and remained there until 1943. In 1928 and 1929 he was also president of the Pyper Coal Company; in 1931 he was president of the Plattsburgh Coach Lines; and from 1932 until 1940 he was president of the Clinton County Agricultural Society. In 1940 he was also reported to be carrying on the business of Cookes Sales Stables ("Cattle and Horses").

Harry died on July 27, 1944; he was said to have been ill since December 1940. The Trinity Church register notes that he was buried on July 30. His wife had died in 1939 and his survivors were: his sister, Mary J. Frazier of Plattsburgh, a nephew, William A. Cooke; and a niece, Mrs. Charles Silver of Glens Falls. That is, Harry had no children of his own but Minnie had a daughter and it seems that Miles had a son. He was buried in Riverside Cemetery.