

## Downing Register Report

Captain Caleb Downing is currently a frustrating dead-end. He may or may not be the child of Caleb Downing & Mary Gould who were married on 2 March 1726/7 in Salem, Essex co., MA. Endless searches of the Massachusetts vital records for Caleb have proved fruitless. It could be that Caleb was from Maine or New Hampshire or that he was from the branch of the Downing family that returned to England in the early 1630s. If he was from the Maine/New Hampshire seacoast border area, that could explain how Sarah Coates could have met her "other husband". Caleb does appear to be an update of the name "Calybute"; which was a family name of long standing. "Captain" is meant in its maritime meaning, not as a military officer.

Caleb's wife Sarah Coates is no easier, since it appears that she was married to two men in my family tree at roughly the same time -- Caleb and John Neal of New Castle, Rockingham co., NH. \*SIGH\*. Research crawls along... Be sure to see the Coates Family Report to further explain.

The only thing that **is** proven is that Caleb Downing and Sarah Coates were married and had a family in Lynn, Essex co., MA.

The family is of Scottish descent and surname variations include: Douing, Dowing, Downeing, Downeing, Downen, Downin, Downind, Downing and Downinge.

### First Generation

---

**1. Captain Caleb<sup>1</sup> DOWNING.** On 16 May 1751 Caleb married **Sarah COATES**, possibly the daughter of **Samuel COATES & Ruth<sup>2</sup> HARTT**, in Lynn, Essex co., MA.

They had the following children:

- |           |           |               |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>2</b>  | <b>i.</b> | <b>Michal</b> |
| <b>3</b>  | ii.       | Elisabeth     |
| <b>4</b>  | iii.      | John          |
| <b>5</b>  | iv.       | Samuell       |
| <b>6</b>  | v.        | Susanna       |
| <b>7</b>  | vi.       | James         |
| <b>8</b>  | vii.      | Ruth          |
| <b>9</b>  | viii.     | Sarah         |
| <b>10</b> | ix.       | Thomas        |

Generation: G5 Grandparents

Person Numbers: 230/231

### Second Generation

---

#### Family of Captain Caleb DOWNING (1) & Sarah COATES

**2. Michal<sup>2</sup> DOWNING** (*Caleb<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 31 August 1755 in Lynn, Essex co., MA<sup>[1]</sup> and died in Lynn, Essex co., MA on 9 April 1821; she was 65<sup>[1]</sup>. She is buried in the graveyard of the First Congregational Church, Lynn, Essex co., MA.

On 17 November 1774 when Michal was 19, she married **Jedediah NEWHALL<sup>[1]</sup>**, son of **Joseph NEWHALL & Elizabeth HODGMAN**, in Lynn, Essex co., MA<sup>[1,3]</sup>. An intention for them was also filed in Lynn, Essex co., MA.

They had the following children (*surnamed NEWHALL*):

- |           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| <b>i.</b> | <b>Michal</b> |
| ii.       | Sally         |
| iii.      | Thomas        |

## Downing Register Report

- iv. Nabby
- v. Ruth
- vi. Betsy
- vii. Charlotte
- viii. Jedidiah
- ix. Aaron

Generation: G4 Grandparents  
Person Numbers: 114/115

**3. Elisabeth DOWNING** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 20 January 1752 in Lynn, Essex co., MA<sup>[4]</sup> and died on 1 April 0183 in Lyndeborough, NH<sup>[4]</sup>. On 25 September 1777 when Elisabeth was 25, she married **Jonathan WHITTEMORE**, in Lyndeborough, NH<sup>[4]</sup>. He was born on 12 February 1753 in Danvers, Essex co., MA<sup>[4]</sup> and died in Lyndeborough, NH on 1 January 1825; he was 71<sup>[4]</sup>.

**4. John DOWNING.** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) We currently know nothing more about this child.

**5. Samuell DOWNING.** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) We currently know nothing more about this child.

**6. Susanna DOWNING.** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) We currently know nothing more about this child.

**7. James DOWNING.** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) We currently know nothing more about this child.

**8. Ruth DOWNING** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 22 November 1758 in Lynn, Essex co., MA<sup>[4]</sup> and died in New Boston, NH on 12 July 1834; she was 75<sup>[4]</sup>. In 1786 when Ruth was 27, she married **Aaron WHITTEMORE**, in Lyndeborough, NH<sup>[4]</sup>. He was born on 28 February 1755 in Danvers, Essex co., MA<sup>[4]</sup> and died in Lyndeborough, NH on 1 January 1825; he was 69<sup>[4]</sup>.

**9. Sarah DOWNING.** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) We currently know nothing more about this child.

**10. Thomas DOWNING.** (*Caleb*<sup>1</sup>) We currently know nothing more about this child.

## Sources

1. "Lynn, Essex co., MA Vital Records," [LynnVR].
2. Waters, Henry F., *The Newhall Family*, (Salem: Essex Institute, 1882; repr., Rutland, VT: Tuttle Antiquarian Books), [Newhall(1882)], #490; 48:219-220.
3. Ibid. 78.
4. *New England Historic and Genealogical Register. Vols. 1+*, (Boston: New England Historic and Genealogical Register, 1845+), [NEHGR or Reg.], 108:165.