
RE: Adolph Cook Glassgold

1 message

Peter Glassgold <glassgold@earthlink.net>
To: "Dwight M. Childers" <dmc2@columbia.edu>

Fri, Aug 6, 2021 at 1:26 PM

Dear Dwight:

The dates in Minnie's profile look right to me, and all the birthdates too—but those Glassgold/Rothenberg names! All my now long life I've found them slippery and baffling, let alone pretty odd. In any case, the one that really threw me was Abraham Fritz Rothenberg, my great-grandfather. I was told that he was called Peter Frederick Rothenberg and that I was his namesake—I got this not only from my parents, but from Minnie too. And that's how he signed his name on the inside of the flyleaf of the Hebrew prayerbook he gave my father on his bar mitzvah. From Fritz to Frederick isn't a long stretch (all the more so if his nickname was Fred), but Abraham to Peter is hard to comprehend. (The most common Hebrew/Yiddish name behind "Peter" is "Pinchas.") Minnie also told me that he was an accountant, again a bit of a jump, but if the man in fact ran a kosher deli, so be it (one of my other great-grandfathers, on my mother's said, was a butcher). I'm not choosy about my forebears—I just wish they'd hadn't been so careless about their names.

Best again.--P
