
Chapter 2

Children of Arnold and Rachel Crabtree



Rachel Lilly Crabtree and her brother, John, my great grandpa.

1. Amy/Emma Jane (1849–1855)

Emma was born in Virgil, Illinois, and died there six years later.

2. Charles William (1850–1855)

Charles was also born in Virgil, Illinois, and died five years later.

3. Arnold Jerome (1852–1883)

Jerome was born in Virgil, Illinois, and went to Iowa with the family. He remained in the household through 1880. By June of 1883, he had returned to Chicago with other members of the family. While there he had a studio portrait made at the Robinson Studio on Lake Street. Arnold Jerome's address seems to be downtown. The doctor's office and Robinson's Photo Studio is just down the street at 631 W. Lake. Jerome was 31 when he died of tuberculosis November 3, 1883, in Chicago.—*Cal Bivens*

He had been sick for a long time.—Mary Crabtree, niece

4. Arthur Elijah (1853–1875)

Arthur also was born in Virgil, Illinois. When the family lived in Iowa, Arthur worked as a laborer. He died in Story County, Iowa, two years after his dad, and was buried in the Sheffield Cemetery. He was 21 years old.

5. John George Lewis (1855–1927)

John George Lewis was born in Lodi, Kane County, Illinois. He was my great grandfather and had many adventures before dying in Lone Pine, Nebraska, at the age of 72. Great Grandpa John's story is in Part II of this book.

6. Truman Orlando (1857–1875)

Truman was also born in Lodi, Kane County, Illinois. Two years after his father died and some three months after his brother Arthur died, Truman died in Iowa, at the age of 18. He is buried in the Sheffield Cemetery in Story County, Iowa.

7. Charles William Henry (1859–1872)

Charles was born in Lodi, Illinois. Charles appears to have died at age 13, if the date is correct. I find him in the 1870 census. I haven't found a marked grave for him, but think he died in Story County, Iowa, as he died the same year as his father.—*Cal Bivens*

8. Rachel Lilly (1862–1896)

Rachel Lilly, a favorite aunt of Grandma Myrtie, was born in Lodi, Kane County, Illinois.

Rachel reportedly worked in Bob Grainger's print shop before going to Nebraska. Rachel moved to Nebraska with the other family members. The 1885 state census shows Rachel as the owner of the homestead on which she, Hiram, and Mandy lived.

Rachel Lilly Crabtree married James R. Walker November 21, 1885, in Nebraska, five years before her brother John married Ida Higginson.

Jim Walker, born in Canada in 1859, seems to have come to Nebraska earlier than the others. In 1885, Jim, was a farmer and had 20 acres of his place tilled, 140 acres remained unimproved. His "houses, fences, buildings" were valued at \$825. He also had \$25 into farm implements, \$150 in livestock. Jim produced 10 tons of hay off of 5 acres of ground. They lived at Darnall, a

Haemoptysis/hemoptysis

Haemoptysis is the spitting of blood derived from the lungs or bronchial tubes as a result of pulmonary or bronchial hemorrhage.

Tuberculosis is the most common cause of hemoptysis, though there are several other causes including bronchitis, lung cancer, pneumonia, and pulmonary embolism.—*From the Antiquus Morbus: A glossary of Archaic Medical Terms, Diseases, and Causes of Death*

This is a symptom of advanced consumption. I was familiar with the symptom from the Merck's Manual I scoured at the nurse's station when I worked Special Care. I had never seen this word before though.

Arnold Jerome's death certificate indicates they shipped his body back to Nevada, Iowa, which suggests there was a family plot there.

—*Cal Bivens*

PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.—Issued by State Board of Health. *3193*

State of Illinois, COOK COUNTY, CITY BOARD OF HEALTH. *3193*

1. Name *Arnold Jerome Crabtree*

2. Sex *Male* Color _____

3. Age *31* years, *10* months, *9* days.

4. Occupation *Farmer*

5. Date of death *Nov. 3, 1882*

6. *Single, Married, Widower, Widowed. _____

7. Nationality and place where born *American Chicago, Ill.*

8. How long resident in this State *Five Months*

9. Place of death *77 W. Lake St. Chicago* Word or Term _____

10. Cause of death *Consumption, Haemoptysis* Complications _____

11. Duration of disease *Eighteen Months*

12. Place of burial *Nevada Iowa*

13. Name of Undertaker *Chicago, Ill. Nov 4, 1882*

14. Date of _____ 1882 _____ M. D.

Residence *77 W. Lake St. Chicago, Ill.*

Death Certificate of Arnold Jerome. Haemoptysis was the cause of death.



Arnold Jerome and Truman Orlando.



Arnold Jerome Crabtree.

few miles from Springview, in 1890.—*Cal Bivens*

Jim and Rachel Lilly may have moved to Bonesteel, South Dakota, when John and Ida Crabtree did in 1892.

In Bonesteel, Jim had a barber shop which kept him busy all day, but he had a horse and buggy for Rachel and she could go any time. Then too, Rachel liked to stop by the barber shop. She would laugh and talk with his customers.

When Uncle Jim was at our place when I was 14 years, he told Mama that he knew that Rachel wasn't happy as she thought she would be. She didn't live many years; probably her lungs were poor, for there was tuberculosis in the family.—Mary Crabtree (Rachel Lilly's niece, the daughter of Rachel's brother John.)

Rachel Lilly died of tuberculosis May 11, 1896, at Bonesteel, South Dakota. She was 33 years old.

Jim Walker remained in Bonesteel for some time. In 1909, he operated a livery there. Years later, Uncle Jim visited Myrtie Crabtree Brigg's family in New York. I (Louise) was excited to see the photo of him that is in Part I.

9. Hiram Oakley Crabtree (1864–1889)

Hiram, too, was born in Lodi, Kane County, Illinois.

Hiram married Ursa H. Akers who was born in Iowa in 1871. Ursie was the daughter of William H. Akers, born in Ohio about 1832. The Akers had a homestead near the Crabtrees in Nebraska which William farmed.

Hiram and Ursie's son, Arnold, died of whooping cough when he was young.

Hiram transferred the deed of the Nevada, Iowa, place to Jacob Jacobson, February 20, 1886, in



Hiram in Omaha.

Story County, Iowa, for \$1400.

Of Hiram, it is interesting that he was listed in the 1890 farmers' list in the Nebraska Gazetteer. He is supposed to have moved to Omaha and worked in a meat packing plant and died of pneumonia in 1889. Yet I find him in the Keya Paha County Farmers' Directory for 1890–91 as H. O. Crabtree, of Springview. And there is a photo said to be of Ursie and her second husband, but the man looks very much like Hiram.—*Cal Bivens*

Ursie maintained contact with the Crabtrees for some time afterward. She later married a man by the name of Kline.

10. Haskell Crabtree (1867–1867)

Haskell was born in Lodi, Illinois, but lived less than two weeks.



Amanda (Mandy) Crabtree.

11. Amanda Antonia (Mandy) Crabtree (1869–1891)

Amanda was born in Story County, Iowa. She also is said to have worked in Bob Grainger's printshop before the move west.

Mandy, as she was called, married Stephen W. Kuntz on April 15, 1889.

Stephen, and his father, Philip, both born in Ohio, lived near the Crabtrees in Nebraska. They had 14 acres of their homestead tilled, another 50 acres were grasslands.

Stephen and Mandy moved to Johnstown, 14 miles from Ainsworth in northeast Brown County, where Stephen was the postmaster in 1890–91.

Mandy and Stephen's son Johnnie died of whooping cough when he was six weeks old.

Mandy, age 22, died of tuberculosis on December 17, 1891, in Nebraska, one month after Grandma Myrtie was born. ❀