

Part IV: Generation Four Myrtie's Great Grandparents

**Richard Arnold CRABB/CRABTREE and Mary GIGGEY
Elijah Harris CRABB/CRABTREE and
Priscilla Isabella Sutton SHARP
Unknown HIGGINSON
John DONALDSON and Mary JOHNSON**



Myrtie's Crabtree great grandparents were born in New Brunswick.

El-a-noy Folk Song

Then move your family westward,
Bring all your girls and boys
And cross at Shawnee Ferry
To the State of El-a-noy.

Chapter 1

Richard Arnold Crabb and Mary Giggey

Richard Arnold Crabb, Myrtie's Great Grandfather, was the eleventh child of John and Elizabeth Crabb. Richard, quite possibly named for his grandfathers, Richard Crabb and Arnold Bassett, was born in 1789, in New Brunswick, Canada. Five years earlier, his Loyalist parents and five siblings had sailed from New York to what was then Nova Scotia, where they had found refuge in English-owned land.

Most of Richard's youth was probably spent in Greenwich Parish, or Long Reach, in Kings County, where Richard's father, John Crabb, was established on the east side of the Kennebecasis River. (See map on page 149.)

Mary Giggey

Mary Giggey, Myrtie's Great Grandmother, was born in Kings County, New Brunswick, November of 1788. Mary was the daughter of John Giggey, also a Loyalist who had moved to New Brunswick from the colonies in 1883.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Arnold Crabb

Richard Arnold Crabb married Mary Giggey in New Brunswick on December 25, 1808. Richard and Mary's ten children were born in New Brunswick.

Most of Richard and Mary Crabb's children and their families

migrated to the United States. Daughter Sarah Crabb Kinney and her husband, John Kinney, stayed in New Brunswick, and settled in Carleton County.

Richard and Mary Crabb may have moved to Lodi, Kane County, Illinois, United States, when their son Arnold and his wife Rachel (my great great grandparents) moved there in 1849. By May of 1849, Richard and Mary were in Kane County for their daughter Margaret's marriage to Eliphalet Reed. (The Illinois Crabb families changed their name to Crabtree about 1850.)

Richard worked as a farm hand in Illinois, and remained in Kane County. As I mentioned in Part III, Richard and Mary lived two houses away from the Edward Higginson family in 1860.

Mary Crabtree died in 1863, and Richard died four years later. They are buried in the Van Vlack Cemetery two or three miles east of Maple Park (Lodi), Illinois.

Children of Richard and Mary:

Mary Elizabeth Juliette
Hannah Priscilla
James
Frances (Fanny)
Charles William
Sarah
Amelia "Amy"

Richard Arnold Bassett

Margaret
George W. ❀

The New Province of New Brunswick, Canada

In the mid-1700s, most of New Brunswick was a colony of Nova Scotia, called Sunbury County. After the American Revolution, Britain convinced Loyalists from New England to settle in the area by giving them free land. Nova Scotia was split, and the Province of New Brunswick was officially created by Sir Thomas Carleton on August 16, 1784.

New Brunswick was named in honour of Britain's King George III, who was descended from the House of Brunswick. Fredericton, the capital city, was named for George III's second son, Prince Frederick Augustus.

Fredericton was chosen as the capital even though Parrtown, later renamed Saint John, was larger. The reason given: Fredericton's inland location meant it was less prone to enemy (American) attack.

Saint John became Canada's first incorporated city. It was also home to the American traitor, Benedict Arnold. ❀

New Brunswick, Canada



Counties and Main Rivers in New Brunswick, Canada, including the Kennabeccasis River in Kings County where John Crabb and his family lived.

St. John: The Proper Spelling

Q: Is it St. John County or St. Johns County? Is there a St. John City, or is it St. Johns City?

A: If you are referring to New Brunswick, then it would be St. John County.

And yes, there is also the city of Saint John/St. John. Saint John (city) is about an hour drive from Fredericton. And it is in St. John County.

There is often confusion with the name and often even misprints in magazines and tourist information. But St. Johns is a city in Newfoundland, an Atlantic province of Canada.

St. John County, Saint John City, New Brunswick. St. Johns City, Newfoundland.—*New Brunswick Crabb Cousins* ❁

Rivers and Streams in New Brunswick

A majority of the rivers and streams of New Brunswick have native names. Western New Brunswick would be Maliseet; Micmac in some other parts.

I live in the valley of the Becaguimec, which flows into the St. John River at Hartland. The Nashwaak and Keswick heads near here and flows into Fredericton area. The Aroostook flows from Aroostook County, Maine, to the St. John near Perth-Andover, New Brunswick, the Meduxnekeag through Houlton, Maine, to Woodstock, New Brunswick. The Tobique is a major river of Victoria County.—*Lloyd Webber, fifth Crabb cousin* ❁

In New Brunswick We'll Find It by Prof. James DeMille 1833–1880

*Sweet maiden of Passamaquoddy
Shall we seek for communion of souls,
Where the deep Mississippi meanders,
Or the distant Saskatchewan rolls?
Ah, no! In New Brunswick we'll find it,
A sweetly sequestered nook
Where the swift gliding
Skoodawabskooksis
Unites with the Skoodawabskook.*

*Meduxnekeag waters are bluer,
Nepisiguit's pools are more black;
More green is the bright Oromocto,
And browner the Petitcodiac;
But colours more radiant in autumn
I see when I'm casting my hook
In the waves of the Skoodawabskooksis,
Or perhaps in the Skoodawabskook.*

*Let others sing loudly of Saco,
Of Passadunkeag or Moscouche,
Of Kennebecasis or Quaco,
Of Miramichi or Buctouche;
Or boast of the Tobique or Mispic,
The Musquash or dark Memramcook;
There's none like the Skoodawabskooksis,
Excepting the Skoodawabskook.*

*Think not, though the Magaguadavic
Or Bocabec pleases the eye,
Though Chiputneticook is more lovely,
That to either of these we will fly;
No, when in love's union we're plighted
We'll build our log house by a brook
Which flows to the Skoodawabskooksis,
Where it joins with the Skoodawabskook.*

*Then never of Waweig or Chamcook
I'll think, having you in my arms;
We'll reck not of Digdeguash beauties,
We'll care not for Pocologan's charms;
But as emblems of union forever,
Upon two fair rivers we'll look;
While you'll be Skoodawabskooksis,
I'll be the Skoodawabskook. ❁*