
Chapter 3

Elijah Harris Crabtree and Priscilla Isabella Sutton Sharp

Elijah Harris, Myrtie's other Great Grandfather Crabtree, was the youngest of John and Elizabeth Crabb's 12 children. Elijah was born July 1, 1792, in New Brunswick, English Canada.

Priscilla Isabella Sutton Sharp

Priscilla Isabella Sutton Sharp, named partly for Priscilla Sutton, her grandmother (I assume), was born in Westfield, Kings County, New Brunswick. Priscilla's parents, Joseph Sharp and Hannah Ogden, were Loyalists from New Jersey. Priscilla had seven brothers and five sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Crabb

Elijah Harris Crabb married Priscilla Isabella Sutton Sharp October 1819, in Westfield, Kings County, New Brunswick. Priscilla's brothers, William and Joseph Sharp, were witnesses.

The Anglican Parish of Westfield has records of the baptisms of three of Elijah and Priscilla's children—Joseph Sutton, John, and Rachel. It appears to be the church of Priscilla's family. Many Sharps and some Ogdens who lived at Hampstead, Westfield, and the nearby area belonged to Westfield's Anglican Church.

In 1825, Elijah and Priscilla Crabb's family, the Henry Sharp family, and the Timothy Morrell family, were the only three families that lived in the area called New Jerusalem.—*Those Days Are Gone Away*, by Marion G. Reicher.

Twenty years later, in 1846, Nathaniel Inch bought Elijah and Priscilla's Hampstead land in Queens County, New Brunswick. 1846 is also the year that Elijah and Priscilla's son, Joseph, married Sarah Giggey.

The next year, their daughter Rachel married Arnold Crabb, a son of Elijah's brother Richard and his wife Mary.

The new couple, Arnold and Rachel Crabb, moved first to Portland, Maine. Then, around 1849, Arnold and Rachel moved to Lodi, Kane County, Illinois, where their first child was born. Around the same time, Elijah and Priscilla's son, William married Margaret, and seems to have also moved to Kane County, Illinois. The 1850 census shows that Joseph Crabb also was in Illinois and lived with William and Margaret.

About 1849, Elijah and Priscilla, their son Jonathan and probably daughter Sarah, moved to Portland, Maine. It was ten years before Elijah and Priscilla moved to Illinois.

During those 10 years, Elijah worked as a sawyer or laborer in



Elijah Harris and Priscilla Sharp Crabtree. This photo is in a family album that Grandma Myrtie showed me (Louise) when I visited her in Oregon. Two Crabtree cousins think this couple may be someone else.

Portland, Maine, moving several times. Elijah used the surname Crabbe until about 1851, when he changed it to Crabtree.

Sarah married Leonard Gill in 1854, in Portland, Maine.

By 1860, Elijah, 68, and Priscilla, 65, had moved to Illinois from Maine with their youngest son, Jonathan. Jonathan worked for a farmer. Elijah worked as a carpenter; the rest of the Crabtree men had turned to farming.

Like his brother Richard, Elijah remained in Lodi, Illinois, through 1865. Priscilla died January 1867, probably at Lodi. Later the same year, Elijah's brother Richard died.

Sarah Crabtree Gill and her children moved from Maine to Chicago in 1868. By 1870, Elijah and some other family members had moved to Story County, Iowa, and settled in Nevada township. When Elijah's son-in-law and nephew Arnold Crabtree died there in 1873, Elijah became the head of the household for his daughter Rachel. The family had moved to Milford township, Iowa, by 1880. Elijah was farming then.

Sometime after the 1880 census, the family returned to Chicago, Illinois. Elijah died of old age there on May 4, 1882, at the age of 89. News of his death was reported in the newspaper, *The Globe*, of Saint Johns, New Brunswick. He was buried at Blackberry, or was intended to be. (See the Appendix for Elijah's death certificate.) Blackberry is now called Elburn.—*Information from Cal Bivens and Duane Crabtree.*

Children of Elijah and Priscilla:

Joseph Sutton

John

Rachel

William Henry

Sarah Miranda

Jonathan ❀

People and Places Known to Elijah and Priscilla Crabbe

Nathaniel Inch and Inchby

Nathaniel Inch arrived in New Jerusalem, New Brunswick, in 1825. Twenty-one years later, Nathaniel bought the Hampstead land of Elijah and Priscilla Crabb.

The town of Inchby, possibly named for Nathaniel, was close to New Jerusalem.

The Anglican Parish of Westfield Baptism Records of Elijah and Priscilla's Children's Births

Joseph Sutton: Sept. 16, 1821.

John: April 1823; G. L. Wiggins, Hamstead, acting Rector.

Rachel: July 1824, Hamstead.

Rev. Gilbert L. Wiggins

Mr. Wiggins, a graduate of Windsor College, Nova Scotia, was ordained priest by the Bishop of Nova Scotia, in 1826.

In 1822, Rev. Wiggins was appointed to the Mission of Westfield, Kings County, New Brunswick, where he stayed ten years, and where he would have met Elijah and Priscilla.

New Jerusalem, Queens County, New Brunswick

"One of the first areas to be settled in what is now CFB Gagetown, was New Jerusalem, in the western section of the Parish of Hampstead.



Gagetown, Queens Co., New Brunswick.

It included Inchby, New Jerusalem, and Polleyhurst. The Elisha Crabbe, Timothy Morrell, and Henry Sharp families were already living there (New Jerusalem) when the first immigrants arrived and it is assumed they were of Loyalist descent.

"It is interesting to note that some of the settlers came from Saint John by rowboat up the St. John River and travelled to their grants by a crooked trail from Hampstead. Other routes were also taken and many came on foot carrying their belongings.

"The first school was opened in New Jerusalem in 1826..."—*A Time There Was*, Marion Gilchrist Reicher

By 1898, New Jerusalem, was a farming community of 125 with two churches and two stores.

Note: Because of conflicting information, I am not sure if New Jerusalem was in Hampstead Parish or Petersville Parish or if Hampstead and Hamstead are the same place.

—Louise Smith

Places Elijah and Priscilla lived in Portland, Maine:

1850/51: Vernon Court.

1852: 74 York Street, about 3 years.

1856 to 1859: #8 Dyer's Alley.

Then Elijah and Priscilla moved to Illinois. ❀



Counties of New Brunswick, Canada.