
Chapter 5

Crabtree Family Timeline

by Cal Bivens

- 1741 John Crabb/Crabtree is born in Dutchess County, New York.
- 1765 About this time John marries Elizabeth, daughter of Arnold and Elizabeth Bassett. Nine children were born in New York: Stephen (1766), William (1767, died before 1782), John (1770), Elizabeth (1771), Mary (1773), Nancy (1775), Priscilla (1777), Charity (1779) and William (1782).
- 1776–1783
The War for Independence and exile in Canada. The Crabtrees were Loyalists, driven from their land in New York, and flee to New Brunswick, Canada, after the war. Other Loyalists came, some of whom have links to the Crabtrees: Samuel Sharp and family, John Giggy & family, the Ogdens, Wallaces, Bassetts, and Fillmores. It remains unclear whether these were Loyalist refugees or early settlers of Nova Scotia/New Brunswick. The Beechams, Dobsons, and Polleys also have links to the Crabb/Crabtree family.
- 1784 Sam Sharp settles approximately at this time, near St. John and then moves to Millstream, some 20 miles upstream in Queens County. He settles on the west side of the Kennebecasis River; John Crabb/Crabtree lives on the east side.
- 1785 John Crabtree signs a petition for land for Thomas Horsfield in Queens County, New Brunswick. (This could be the Irish John Crabtree, but a Horsfield from Canada moved to Illinois and would seem to make the link to our John.) As the family grows and spreads out, members are found also in Carleton County and Westmoreland County. Giggy family members are found in these areas also.
- 1786 By April, John Ogden, and wife Ann settle along the St. John River on Colonel Spray's Land in Westmoreland County; 6.66 acres improved, four cattle. John draws a pension for service with Loyalist forces in the Revolutionary War beginning in 1839. Robert Ogden's wife Mary, was from Kings County. Robert died by 1841; Mary draws a pension for his Loyalist service. Lt. Benjamin Ogden, Prince of Wales American Regiment, British service. These Ogden Loyalists seem to be Hannah Ogden's family, though their exact relationship remains unknown.
- 1786 Frances A. Crabtree (John and Elizabeth's daughter) is born in New Brunswick.
- 1787–1832
Probates in Westmoreland Co., New Brunswick: George Dobson, Richard Dobson, Jr., John Filmore, Elizabeth Read, Eliphath Read, William Reid, Duncan Reed, James Reed, Gilford Reed, Otho Reed, John Wallace. These names appear in the probate records of the area and help place these people here during this time frame.
- 1787 Mary Giggey, daughter of John, is born in New Brunswick. Elements of the Giggey family appear in Kings County and Carleton County over the years.
- 1789 Richard Arnold Crabtree is born in New Brunswick.
- 1792 Elijah Harris Crabtree is born in New Brunswick.
- 1790 Michael Ogden mentioned in probate in Hampstead, Queens County, New Brunswick.
- 1804 Petition for land by John Giggey, Kings County, New Brunswick. He had served in the Loyal American Regiment, Maj. Thomas Barclay's company.
- 1808 Richard Crabtree marries Mary Giggey, daughter of John Giggey, in New Brunswick.
- 1809 Richard and Mary Crabtree's children born in Kings County, New Brunswick: Mary Elizabeth (1809), Hannah (1811), James (1813), Fanny Crabtree (1815) Charles William (1817) Sarah (1820), Amelia "Amy" (1823), Richard Arnold Bassett (1826), Margaret (1828), George W. (1830).
- 1811 Frances Crabtree marries John Wallace.
- 1819 Elijah Crabtree marries Priscilla Isabella Sutton Sharp in Westfield, Kings County, New Brunswick. She is the daughter of Joseph Sharp and Hannah
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- Ogden from New Jersey. Their children are all born in New Brunswick: William Henry, Joseph Sutton (1821), John (1823), Rachel (1825), Sarah Miranda (1833), Jonathan (1839).
- 1835 Charles William Crabtree, son of Richard, marries Charlotte Fillmore in New Brunswick. Sarah, his sister, marries John S. Kinney in New Brunswick. John and Sarah remain in Canada.
- 1835 Families in school census of North Esk Parish, Northumberland County, New Brunswick: Richard Crabb, John Fillmore, Kinney.
- 1836 Fanny Crabtree marries Edmond Hay Wallace in New Brunswick, Canada.
- 1838 Amy Crabtree, daughter of Richard, marries Thomas Beacham in New Brunswick.
- 1846 Elijah and Priscilla sell land in Hampstead, Queens County, New Brunswick.
- 1846 Joseph S. Crabtree, son of Elijah, marries Sarah Giggey in New Brunswick.
- 1847 Arnold Crabtree marries his cousin Rachel in New Brunswick and they return to the United States.
- 1848 Some of the the Crabtree family return to the US via Portland, Maine. Arnold and Rachel Crabtree's children: Amy Jane (1849 IL), Charles William (1850 IL), Arnold Jerome (1852 IL), Arthur Elijah (1853 IL), John G. L. (1855 IL), Truman Orlando (1857 IL), Charles William Henry (1859 IL), Rachel Lilly (1862 IL), Hiram Oakley (1864 IL), Haskell (1867 IL), Amanda A. (1869 IA).
- 1849 James, son of Richard Crabtree Sr., marries Mary Jane Darragh in New Brunswick; Margaret, daughter of Richard, marries Eliphalet Reed in Illinois.
- 1851 George W. Crabtree marries Sara Jane Fillmore in Illinois.
- 1852 Charles William Crabtree dies in Chicago; James Crabtree moves to Amboy, Illinois.
- 1854 Sarah M. Crabtree, daughter of Elijah, marries Leonard Francis Gill in Portland, Maine.
- 1855 Joseph Sharp, Sr.'s (Priscilla Crabtree's father), will, Hampstead Parish, Queens County; John George Lewis Crabtree born at Lodi, Illinois; Edward and Mary Higginson's first child John is also born in Lodi, Illinois.
- 1861–1865 The Civil War
Leonard Gill: Co F, 13th Maine Inf, KIA 1864; James Crabtree: Co A, 10th Mich Cav; disabled; Arnold Bassett Wallace: Co A, 8th IL Cav, Virgil Twp., Lodi, Pvt-corp Sep. 18, 1861–17 Jul. 1865; re-enlisted as vet Jan. 1, 1864; David Horace Fillmore: Co A, 8 IL CAV, Virgil twp., Sep. 18, 1861 to Sep. 17, 1864;
- James Beecham: Co A 52 Illinois Inf., 1861–1865; Edward Higginson: enlists in 1862 as a private in Company A, 23rd regiment Illinois Volunteers. His wife Mary and their children possibly stay with the Crabtrees; Edward is wounded in 1864.
- 1861 Fanny Crabtree Wallace dies in Illinois.
- 1863 Mary Giggey Crabtree dies in Illinois.
- 1867 Priscilla Sharp Crabtree dies in Illinois(?). Richard Arnold Crabtree dies in Illinois.
- 1868 Arnold, Elijah and family move to Iowa about this time. George Crabtree and George Giggey also move there.
- 1870s George Giggey moves from Iowa to Colorado.
- 1871 Frances Crabtree Wallace dies in Freeman, Maine.
- 1872 Arnold Wallace moves to Iowa; Arnold Crabtree dies in Iowa; Sarah Fillmore Crabtree, George's wife, dies in Iowa; Charles William Crabtree dies in Iowa.
- 1875 Arthur Elijah Crabtree dies in Iowa; Truman Orlando Crabtree dies in Iowa.
- 1877 Laura Gill marries Robert Grainger in DuPage County, Illinois.
- 1878 Silas Crabtree, George's son, dies in Iowa. His wife, Dora, returns to Illinois.
- 1880 George Crabtree lives in Minnesota; Rachel and her family live in Iowa; Sarah and her family live in Chicago; Dora Crabtree marries Newton Sheldon and later moves to Oregon; Cephass Crabtree, George's son, lives in Iowa; Billy Crabtree lives in Chicago.
- 1881 Rachel Crabtree and her surviving family return to Illinois and settles in Chicago.
- 1882 Elijah Crabtree and Edmund Wallace die in Illinois.
- 1883 Arnold Jerome Crabtree dies in Chicago.
- 1884 John L. Crabtree, his mother, sisters and brother go west to homestead Nebraska.
- 1885 Arnold B. Wallace dies in Iowa; Rachel Lilly Crabtree marries Jim Walker in Nebraska; John L. Crabtree lives near Darnall, Nebraska.
- 1887 John L. Crabtree, mother, sisters, and brother transfer their church membership officially. Mary Jane Crabtree, wife of James, dies in Michigan.
- 1889 George Crabtree moves to Whatcom County in Washington State. His son Byron moves there separately. Amanda (Mandy) Crabtree marries Stephen Kuntz in Nebraska.
- 1890 John L. Crabtree marries Ida Emily Higginson in Sanford, Keya Paha County, Nebraska.
- 1891 Amanda (Mandy) Crabtree Kuntz dies in Nebraska; Amanda Myrtie Crabtree is born in Nebraska.

- 1892 John and Ida Crabtree and daughter, Myrtie; Jim and Rachel Crabtree Walker move to South Dakota. James Crabtree, (son of Richard, brother of Arnold, uncle of John L. Crabtree) dies in Michigan.
- 1893 George Crabtree (son of Richard, brother of Arnold, uncle of John L. Crabtree) dies in Washington.
- 1896 Rachel Crabtree Walker dies in South Dakota.
- 1899 Charles Lewis Crabtree (son of James, cousin of John L. Crabtree) dies in Michigan.
- 1900 John Abel Crabtree is born in South Dakota.
- 1903 LeRoy Crabtree is born in South Dakota.
- 1904 John L. Crabtree moves his family to an Iowa farm.
- 1906 Mary Crabtree is born in Mondamin, Iowa.
- 1908 John L. Crabtree buys a homestead in Pine Glen, Nebraska; Rachel Crabtree dies that November in Nebraska.
- 1910 Johnnie and LeRoy attend Miss Elsie Murray's class in the Brown County, Nebraska school. Their uncle, Ed Higginson, is an official of the school district.
- 1916 Mary Higginson Shattuck, Ida Crabtree's mother dies, probably at Pine Glen.
- 1917 About this time John L. Crabtree moves his family into Ainsworth, Nebraska.
- 1918 World War I
Clyde M. Crabtree, (son of Charles, grandson of James) is killed in action in France; Harry Irwin Briggs serves with the AEF in France.
- 1919 Amanda Myrtie Crabtree marries Harry Irwin Briggs in Ainsworth, Nebraska.
- 1920 Johnnie Crabtree graduates from high school; John and Ida Crabtree moves to Long Pine, Nebraska; Cephas Herman Crabtree (son of George, cousin of John L. Crabtree) dies in Cabool, Missouri.
- 1925 Myrtie and Irwin Briggs and three daughters leave Nebraska for New Jersey.
- 1927 John L. Crabtree dies at Long Pine, Nebraska.
- 1932 LeRoy Crabtree marries Olive McElroy at Bassett, Nebraska; Fremont A. Crabtree (son of James, cousin of John L. Crabtree) dies at Sandpoint, Idaho.
- 1934 LeRoy and Olive Crabtree, with Olive's parents, brothers and sisters move to Oregon; LeRoy and Olive settle in Springfield.
- 1937 Ida and Mary Crabtree move to Oregon.
- 1941 Johnnie Abel Crabtree marries Bernice Eleanor Miles Cissna in Omaha, Nebraska.
- 1942 LeRoy Crabtree moves his family to Portland, Oregon.
- 1943 Johnnie and Bernice Crabtree live in Council Bluffs, Iowa; LeRoy Crabtree and family move back to Springfield, Oregon.
- 1946 Johnnie and Bernice Crabtree move to Oregon from Sterling, Colorado; LeRoy and family go on a trip back to Nebraska, and visit family and friends.
- 1948 Ida Emily Crabtree, wife of John L., dies in Springfield, Oregon; Franklin J. Crabtree (son of James, cousin of John L. Crabtree), dies at Sandpoint, Idaho.
- 1949 LeRoy and Olive live at Goshen, Oregon
- 1951 LeRoy and Olive Crabtree and Johnnie and Bernice Crabtree move to California.
- 1955 LeRoy and Olive Crabtree move back to Goshen, Oregon (same house).
- 1958 Harry Irwin Briggs (Myrtie Crabtree's husband) dies in Missouri.
- 1962 LeRoy and Olive Crabtree move to Potlatch, Idaho.
- 1963 LeRoy and Olive Crabtree move to Yoncalla, Oregon.
- 1974 Bernice Crabtree, wife of Johnnie, dies in California.
- 1980 LeRoy Crabtree dies at Yoncalla, Oregon.
- 1983 Myrtie Crabtree Briggs dies in Michigan.
- 1987 Johnnie Abel Crabtree dies in California.
- 1988 Olive McElroy Crabtree, wife of LeRoy, dies at Cottage Grove, Oregon.
- 1998 Mary Ida Crabtree dies in Eugene, Oregon.
- 2004 Louise Smith, granddaughter of Amanda Myrtie Crabtree Briggs, gathers information about her grandmother and meets many of the Crabtree and Higginson cousins by phone and through email.
- 2007 *Grandma and Me* published. ❀
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