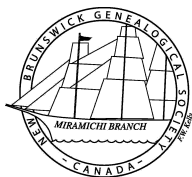


NBGS MIRAMICHI BRANCH NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY 2010



Volume V, Issue No. 1

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last week, we in New Brunswick celebrated Heritage Week, a week that always brings our roots and history to the forefront. Various components help us better understand how we arrived at this period in time: immigration and emigration, economic and industrial development, along with cultural and religious influences. The struggle to survive has created new communities around the world.

How do you see yourself? Have you considered the various aspects of your family history? What factors influenced your ancestors? the Expulsion of the Acadians? the Irish Potato famine? the search for opportunity? the fight for religious freedom? the search for adventure?

As each of us works on our family history, we need to focus on more than dates and places. We need to discover the stories of our ancestors and what gave their lives purpose and direction. Local histories and personal stories should be interwoven with genealogy to enrich the pictures we create. By combining stories and facts, we emphasize the value of our heritage and the importance of passing it onto the next generation. The future is enriched by sharing the past. Appreciation is the key, as we genealogists certainly know.

Carolyn Harris

BRANCH NEWS

Dianne Mullin

Dianne Mullin was born in Newcastle to Sinclair Matchett and Althea Dunnnett of Sunny Corner. She has two sisters and one brother. Her paternal grandparents were: Hubert L Matchett and Nellie Mae Mullin of

Sunny Corner and her maternal grandparents were Norman Keays Dunnnett and Carcilla Mae Sinclair of Whitney.

She attended the Meadows and NSER High School in Sunny Corner and NBCC Moncton. In 1975 she moved to Saint John and worked for Barnes Hopkins Printing. The same year, she married John Thomas Mullin of Red Bank, son of Lawrence B Mullin and Anna L Hayden and they moved to South Esk. Jackie and Dianne now reside in Cassilis and they have two daughters and one grandson.

Dianne has worked in various positions from a cook at a local restaurant to an accounts receivable clerk in Miramichi to a receptionist for the Law Department of the City of Calgary; and for the past 15 years she is employed at Canada Post-Red Bank. Over the years she has volunteered with several organizations which include being North'ld County campaign co-coordinator for four years for the NB Arthritis Society, a director on their Provincial Board, to various positions at NSER Home & School, Miramichi's Arthritis Support Group, and at present is the vice president of the Alumni and Friends of NSER.

She was invited by member Villa Matchett to join the Miramichi branch of NBGS in 1999. She has held various positions from Vice President, Treasurer, Summer Student Co-coordinator and now she fills the role of Secretary. She carried on the role of the late Avadene Connolly with the completion of the Cemetery Transcriptions. She also manages the book sales for our branch.

Her only hobby is genealogy. She has been working on the families of North & South Esk parishes since 1978. Her main interests are the surnames Matchett, Mullin, Somers, Sinclair, Dunnnett, and Johnston but admits she dabbles in many other family trees. With over 113,000

names in her Family Tree Maker database, I am sure she can relate to someone you are researching.

THANK-YOU

NBGS Miramichi would like to thank **Wahneta Dahlgren** of Maine for the lovely gift of two books for our “cupboard”. She gave us a copy of the Alswick Parish, Northumberland County census which has the collection for the years 1851 to 1881 inclusive as well as The New Brunswick Militia Commissioned Officers List 1787 to 1867, written by David R. Foley Crowther.

In addition to the two books, she gave us a collection of obituaries of former NB folks who have passed away in Maine. We are currently transcribing them, Wahneta, so that they can be added to our website collection and be included in any future books we print. Thank you very much, Wahneta and we hope you had a pleasant vacation in New Brunswick this summer!

We are always delighted to receive collections of newspaper clippings of obituaries, marriages etc of former Northumberland County N.B. people who left the area. If you have some you would like to donate or to lend us for copying, please don't hesitate. If they are to be returned to you, please make that clear when you send them, or have them photocopied.

Submitted by Judy Vautour

A big **thank-you** goes out to **Irma Dunnett** who donated to NBGS Miramichi Branch an old family Bible.

Irma says it has been in the family a long time although she is not sure who the original owners were. It was found in her father's old trunk after his death in 2006. It came from his mother's home and may have been the property of relatives named McLenaghan in the Chatham area.

Irma's father was Hugh Frederick Beattie who was born and lived all his life in Rexton, Kent County. Hugh's father was George Robert Beattie and he was born in Rexton also, although his parents, and some of his siblings came from England. George's wife was Jean Orr (1890-1975) who came from Jardineville. They married in 1908. Her parents were John and Jane Orr. The owners of the Bible were related to the Orrs in some way.

She further reports that it may have been her uncle, Walker Robert Beattie who put the Bible away in the trunk for safekeeping. In spite of that, it is in delicate condition but certainly a treasure. Irma hopes the Bible will find its way back to its proper family in time.

Submitted by Judy Vautour

Heritage Day in Doaktown:

As an endeavor of Heritage week, NBGS Miramichi Branch members were invited to participate in the Heritage Day at the Doaktown Community Library. Five members attended and participated in various ways. We spoke to the Junior High students who will complete a Heritage project as a school requirement in April and the Zoomers/Bloomers group which meet after school in the library.

Dianne Mullin spoke on various ways to display your heritage project and the many resources available to assist students with their research. John Fogan showed and explained his granddaughter's project she had completed on her ancestor, William Davidson of Miramichi. Bill Donald showed the students his genealogy on his laptop and explained computer programs that are available to assist the serious researcher. Marshall Gaston showed them his family history and several photos of homes, etc in the Doaktown area.

At the Zoomers/Bloomers session Judy Vautour displayed her Matheson quilt and explained the different generations on the quilt and how she came about researching this family. Dianne showed the group her photo album explaining how to do research with pictures; along with various generation reports one can do with a computer program. The young people in this group were anxious to see if Bill Donald had their names in his database and to his surprise and theirs, he was able to come up with several of them.

In closing, our visit was fun, interesting, successful and productive and seemed to be enjoyed by all. We thank Librarians, Belva and Bonnie, for inviting us to their community and we hope to be able to work with them again on other genealogy related projects.

Submitted by Dianne Mullin

A REMINDER --to anyone who has not yet renewed membership for 2010 that access to Website will be cut off at the end of February.

SPECIAL INTEREST

Local Newspapers on Microfilm reels at Chatham Public Library: Miramichi

For those of you who are seeking information from old newspapers the following are available on microfilm at the Chatham Library, 24 King Street, Miramichi.

Tel: (506) 773-6274

Fax: (506) 773-6963 email: chathmpl@gnb.ca

Mercury	1828-1829
Gleaner	1829-1880
Union Advocate	1874-1911
North Shore Leader	1906-1969
Chatham Gazette	1910-1961
Miramichi Press	1977
Miramichi Leader	Jan 1979-present
Miramichi Weekend	June 1979-present
Northumberland News	May 1979-March 1991

PEN PAL CLUB

To All NBGS Members;

At our last meeting, a general discussion revolved around the topic of how to get all of our members more involved in coming up with timely items of interest for our Newsletter. One suggestion would be to develop a system whereby local members would be put in contact with members that are some distance from personal contact with our local Society. This would involve putting our mailing addresses and / or e-mail addresses up for public viewing for selected members to contact each other. This would have the potential for a “nbgsmiramichi” Pen Pal relationship to evolve and allow for the exchange of ideas and stories, and thus be submitted to the Newsletter for publication.

Earlier in our short history we were producing a master list with the names and address of members showing the family names that each member was researching. This list was shared with our members so they could contact the member with a family name that they were researching. This process slowly fell by the wayside as our provincial society was producing the same list.

The proposed effort this time would be to have the list and ask each local member to pick an “away member” for contact and develop a relationship that will foster information that can be put in our newsletter publication. This could be in the form of a personal biography or why they have joined our society. Other ideas could be in the form of how they have a connection with our society and how they have gotten where they are now. The ideas are endless and require a first start.

What are your feelings about this idea? Is it good or bad – does it need another approach? We need your input – good or bad – so please respond. You can mail your response to our mailing address or to our NBGS mailing address in our website.

Yours in Genealogy
President’s Delegate

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATIONS

It has been decided that in future, Branch Newsletters will be published three times a year, i.e. February, May and October. Deadlines for submissions to the newsletters have been set for May issue as May 5 and October issue October 12. The newsletters will be accessible on the website shortly after the fourth Tuesday of same month.



OUR FAMILY TREE

Submitted by Dianne Mullin

Black Sheep in your Family?

There is hardly a family tree that, if shaken thoroughly, would not yield an abandoned child, a petty thief, or an undesirable person of some sort. Some families deny any connection to them, even to the extreme of changing their surnames so they won’t be so easily connected to these individuals.

Recording these colorful characters--all lies in the hands of the researcher. Most researchers are overjoyed to find a link to famous actresses, a president, or a king. The stories told about them by their descendants are filled with delight and glory of being linked to such a person.

While, on the other hand, most of us will not claim links to murderers, child molesters, and rapists.

There are also many other circumstances, one being the soldier overseas who met “the love of his life” and disappeared from the face of the earth, as far as his wife and children in Canada were concerned. Then there is the young person who appears on the Canadian doorstep telling the WW II vet that he is her father. After twenty years, this would upset my applegart!! Which branch of the family tree will they be placed on –or will they be ignored?

How do you record an ancestor of church leader and patriarch Winston Blackmore of Bountiful, BC, who has at least 20 wives and over 100 children? I come from a small community and seem to be related to everybody here; but not that close—I hope!!

I wonder if my Blackmore relatives have traced themselves to Winston?? With same sex marriages now being legal in Canada and some states in the US, more same sex couples are “coming out of the closet” and this challenges researchers also. My computer program, Family Tree Maker does not compensate how to enter these couples. Who is the father and who is the mother? I am assuming future editions will call these people partners.

Regardless of the situation, we all have to be cautious how we approach this subject. My elders know the details and most times do not wish to reveal the information as they know I am going to record it. I recently told my dear 85 year old Dad that I was going to write everything down in my “little black book” for future reference. Some days he can deal with that; other days, he tells me nothing. My feeling is that, if we do not seek out this information, we may never be able to reveal the true details and the source. Every researcher has a “brick wall” somewhere along the way. I have several in my family. I wish you all Good Luck.

Book Review

Kagi (pronounced KAY GUY): *The Trappers’ Miramichi Treasure* by Louis J. Robichaud. Miradie Publishing, Dieppe, NB, Copyright 2002.

If your genealogical research includes such names as Robichaud, Aube, Patlas or even Fenwick, you may want to read a short (136 pages) but interesting book

published recently on Edmond Robichaud (Kagi) of Nelson and Jane Street, Miramichi. If you are looking for snippets of early 20th Century Rogersville, Nelson, Newcastle and the Bald Mountain region of NB, you will find this book worthwhile. If you enjoy stories of natives in this area and their love of Mother Earth, you will be fascinated by this tale.

The book, written after Edmond’s death, is a tribute by Louis J. Robichaud to his father. Louis spent the last year of Edmond’s life with him learning many things he had not previously known. (Perhaps, like most children, he heard but didn’t heed until much later). These insights, plus those of his brother and sister and local journalists and authors combine to make this an interesting read for genealogists. This is the type of story most of us would like to write on one or more of our family members.

Submitted by Marilyn Creamer-Fowler

Who Do You Think You Are?

Ancestry.com and NBC are sponsoring “Who Do You Think You Are?”. Beginning on Friday, March 5, 2010 at 8/7Central on NBC brings you seven exciting stories that will inspire you to discover yours.

“Who Do You Think You Are?” also shares ideas and research strategies that could help you to make breakthroughs and help people everywhere to understand what they could discover about their own family stories.

LOCAL NEWS



OBITUARIES

Submitted by Dianne Mullin

Veronica "Vera" M. Kingston 1932-2008

Veronica “Vera” M. Kingston, 76, of Camden Court, Moncton and formerly of Harrisville, with her family at her side, passed away peacefully at the Moncton Hospital on Tuesday, December 9, 2008. Born in Laketon, she was the daughter of the late Peter and Pearl (Carter) Mazerolle. Vera was a loving wife, mother,

sister and friend to all. She was a member of Harrisville United Protestant Church, former member of the UPCW and in past years, was active with the Cubs & Scouts Ladies Auxiliary and a member of Peoples Park Tower Seniors Group. An avid knitter, she had done over 100 pairs of mittens for homeless people. She enjoyed reading, listening to music, gardening and birdwatching, but first and foremost was time spent with her family.

Vera will be sadly missed by her daughter, Shelley (Bryon Anderson), Windsor, NS; son, Garth, Dartmouth, NS; sister, Leona Vautour, Moncton; three nieces; one nephew; special great nephew, Kyle Vye. In addition to her parents, predeceased by her husband, Donald Kingston (January 2006).

COMMUNITY PLACE NAMES IN NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA

Extractions with permission of Robert F. Fellows

Busby: Railway point, 5 mi. N of Beaver Brook Station, on Canadian National Railway line to Bartibog Station: Newcastle Parish, Northumberland County.

Bushville: Settlement, 3 mi. SW of Chatham, on road to Chatham Head: Chatham Parish, Northumberland County: named for stone house built by Thomas H. Peters before the great fire of 1825: today Bushville is part of the city of Miramichi.

Busridge: Former station, 4 mi. N of Beaver Brook Station: Newcastle Parish, Northumberland County.

Cains Point: Settlement on the N side of Tabusintac River, 1 mi. E of Tabusintac Indian Reserve #9 and 5 mi. W of Tabusintac: Alnwick Parish, Northumberland County: was probably named for an Indian chief (Etienne): PO *Cains Point* 1927-1948: today Cains Point is a dispersed community.

Cains River: Former settlement on the N side of Southwest Miramichi River, 1 mi. S of Howard, on road to Upper Blackville: Blackville Parish, Northumberland County: PO 1873-1918: in 1871 the community had a population of 100: in 1898 Cains River was a farming, fishing and lumbering community with 1 post office and a population of 100: Cains River became part of the settlement of Howard.

STRAYS FROM AWAY

Northumberland County Strays from Around New Brunswick

Extractions from Westmorland County, N.B. Marriage Register, Part 2: 1857-1888. Compiled by Ken Kanner & Bing Geldart, 1986.

Marriage #C-207-4769 – Oct. 18, 1859 Robert A. CHAPMAN Dorchester, West. Co. & Mary E. FROST Miramichi, North. Co.

Marriage #C-473-6304 – Apr. 12, 1872 Daniel LEWIS Miramichi, North. Co. & Mary Ann CORMIER same place.

Marriage #D-074-6689 – Sep. 22, 1876 Richard KEENAN Chatham & Maud ST. CLAIR Portsmouth, England.

Marriage #D-110-6737 – Jun. 7, 1877 Francis P. TOBIN Chatham & Mary DUNCAN Shediac.

Marriage #D-113-6745 – Apr. 24, 1876 Charles MILES Town of Moncton & Maria Banbury Newcastle, Miramichi.

NEWS FROM EARLIER TIMES

Coming to Canada:

In 1940 Uilke “Jeep” Bosma and Moestsche “Maudie” Van Digglen were married in Friesland, Holland in the small town of Grouw.

Jeep, a young aspiring baker was working near the village of Hartwerd when he attended a small party. At the annual outside social gathering, a party game was played when the young women and men would stand in a circle and choose someone from the opposite sex to step into the circle with them. Jeep says Maudie picked him but she said no, he picked her. Though after some discussion they agreed they picked each other. In a happy ending, three and a half years later, Jeep and Maudie picked each other for life in marriage.

Jeep continued to take courses and find work in the pastry and bread baking industry up until the Second World War hit Holland in 1940.

During the five years in which the Germans occupied Holland, Jeep worked in the town's only operating bake shop, making bread and pastries during a period when food was scarce.

Although the war was tough for many Dutch citizens, Jeep said ordinary German soldiers didn't really want to be there. Like many back in Holland, Jeep is extremely appreciative of the Canadian soldiers who helped liberate his homeland.

With 14 bake shops resurfacing in the town of Groux after the war, employment opportunities were still low. For a time the Bosmas lived with his relatives and even in a houseboat. Jeep also worked in the lumber yards to earn income for his young family. They had four children: Tineke, Atje "Alice", Johannes and Mieke "Maria".

After an immigration officer in New Brunswick sent Jeep a letter stating there was a baker's job opening in Newcastle, they decided to come. Within days they were packed. With four children, despite a vicious storm at sea, the Bosma family left on April 1, 1955 on the *SS Waterman* for Halifax Pier 1, Nova Scotia, Canada. Jeep began working at Delano's Bakery in Newcastle, who had built a house for the Dutch family. The people on the Miramichi were very good to them. After years of living on George Street and working at Delano's Bakery, Jeep then supported his family by driving a truck and delivering bread and pastries door-to-door.

From 1960 to 1973 the Bosmas worked at Miramichi Golf and Country Club. Jeep also worked at the Newcastle Curling Club until his retirement in 1982.

They were members of the St. James and St. Johns United Church and later at St. Andrews United Church. Jeep was a prize-winning gardener and continued to bake bread and pastries at home until 2003.

The Bosmas have been back to visit their family several times but the Miramichi is now their home. Jeep passed away on April 16, 2005 at the age of 87. His obituary states he was the only son of Johannes BOSMA and Atje LOOYINGA. We thank the Bosma family for sharing their story with us.

Source: Miramichi Leader – April 26, 2005 (obituary), "Good to be Home" by Johannes Bosma, "Our Canada", October 2009

Call and Millet Brought the First Phones to the Miramichi

On October 1878, two Newcastle men, Messers Call and Millet, leased an exchange from the Bell telephone company of Canada, through their Saint John agents. They proposed running eight hand telephones for a private line from their office in Newcastle to their mill at Millerton on the southwest branch of the Miramichi River.

After the incorporation of the Chatham Light Company and Miramichi telephone exchange in 1888, this company ran a direct grounded circuit from Chatham to Newcastle and installed a small telephone exchange in Newcastle.

This switchboard was known as the law system and was installed in the residence of Dr. F. L. Pedolin on Pleasant Street.

A year later, the Chatham Electric Light Company and Miramichi telephone exchange sold to Dr. F. L. Pedolin, Mary I. Davidson, John M. Davidson, and Allan A. Davidson, all of Newcastle, the Newcastle exchange together with all branch lines. A. A. Davidson became manager of the Newcastle telephone exchange and later the position was taken over by Dr. Pedolin.

Source: February 2, 1947 issue of Telephone News

The website president is always looking for ways to improve our website at nbgsmiramichi.org. One addition he would like to add is a section called "People Profiles".

LORD BEAVERBROOK

William Maxwell Aitken was a son of William C. Aitken and Jane Noble.

Born on May 25, 1879 in Maple, Ontario, Max grew up in the town of Newcastle, here on the Miramichi where his father was the minister of St. James Presbyterian Church.

As a young boy, he delivered newspapers and worked as a clerk at a local drug store. He quit school at a young

age and at age seventeen he joined the law firm of Lemeul Tweedie at Chatham as a law clerk.

In 1897 he enrolled in law school where he failed the first semester. He moved to Calgary, Alberta where he managed Richard Bennett's political campaign.

In 1910 he moved to England where he played a role in British politics for more than 50 years. Aitken was one of only three British cabinet members to serve in both world wars.

In 1916-17 he was recognized for his achievements with a seat in the House of Lords and was appointed the title First Baron Beaverbrook of Beaverbrook, NB (*a place he used to go fishing*) and Cherkley, England.

Aitken went on to own two successful British newspapers, the Evening Standard and the Daily Express, which were widely read.

Aitken started the Beaverbrook Foundation in 1954. He donated large amounts of money, much of it to the province of New Brunswick. He set up the Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton and was a chancellor at the University of NB to which funds were given for scholarships, many given to Miramichi students.

He gave the Enclosure Park at Derby Junction to the province, Sinclair Rink to Newcastle, Lord Beaverbrook Rink to the town of Chatham, Town Hall—known as the Beaverbrook Centre.

He purchased his childhood home in 1952 from the Presbyterian Church and renovated it before donating the building to Newcastle for the area's first public library. Since a new library opened in 1992, the house has been used as an historical building. Today the Newcastle Public Library on Fountainhead Lane holds a collection of Max Aitken's books in its historical room.

Beaverbrook also influenced the preservation of local songs, which led to the formation of the Miramichi Folksong Festival, an event which takes place each summer.

In 1957 a bronze statue of Lord Beaverbrook was erected at the center of Officer's Square in Fredericton was paid for with money raised by children throughout the province.

A bust created by Oscar Nemon was placed in Queen Elizabeth Park in the former Newcastle (Miramichi West). A street, Aitken Avenue has been named in his memory.

Beaverbrook married twice, and he and his first wife had three children. He passed away at the age of eighty five on June 9, 1964, and his ashes were entombed in the plinth of his bust in Miramichi.

Submitted by Dianne Mullin

ANN MONAGHAN BRACKEN KING

Ann Monaghan (1817-August 09, 1895) and James Bracken (Dec. 1847) were married in Ireland, probably in Westmeath, and later moved to Monaghan. In 1847 they, along with their two young sons, Michael and Sylvester, left Ireland aboard the 600 ton barque, the Looshtauk.

The story is of thousands and thousands of pioneers who set out to create better lives for themselves in the new world as the potato famine had hit hard in Ireland by 1847. One cannot conceive of their dangers, their deprivations, their sufferings, their hardships, and the toil that faced those pioneers in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The ill-fated ship, Looshtauk, was riddled with disease on the fifth day out of port. Before the voyage was over, 117 passengers and crew members died, one being James Bracken. Typhoid fever and scarlet fever claimed their lives. The passengers and crew alike became ill and died, 117 died on the voyage with another 94 dying on Middle Island, their quarantine station. The ship had been bound for Quebec, but Captain Thane had to seek help in the Miramichi Bay on June 03, 1847. Thus, after a lengthy discussion with Chatham town officials, a make-shift shelter and quarantine station was set up on Middle Island before the remaining passengers were landed on the Island. It has been recorded that many (over 100) corpses were still onboard the ship and were buried in a mass grave on Middle Island. It is not known whether James Bracken was buried at sea or on Middle Island. As recorded, only the first dozen or so who died on board were committed to the sea. I hold the belief that James, my great-great grandfather, was buried on Middle Island.

Ann, Michael, and Sylvester Bracken were among the survivors. Ann chose to remain in Chatham with her sons instead of continuing the voyage to Quebec City. She found employment as a housekeeper with Father Michael Egan in Nelson where she remained for nearly five years until her marriage to Thomas King on March 04, 1851. Ann and Thomas had a daughter, Mary Ann, and a son, Thomas. The 1871 census records Ann (Bracken) King was a widow living in Chatham with her four children.

Michael was born in 1835 in Ireland, remained single, and died in a railway accident en route from Chatham to Nelson on July 24/25, 1882. Sylvester, born in Ireland in 1839, married Johanna Maher in 1875. He had a farm on the south side of the Douglasfield-Brown Road corner. They had one son, William, and three daughters, Alice (Hartery), Mary Ann (King) and Annie (Fernandez). The last survivor of the Looshtauk, Sylvester died in 1929 and is buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Nelson, N.B. He was my great-grandfather.

Mary Ann King married John Moran and lived in Wellfield, N.B. Thomas King married Ann Nobel Baldwin and lived in Douglasfield, N.B.

Ann (Bracken) King died August 09, 1895 in Chatham at the age of 78 years. She is held dear in my heart as a very courageous lady who left her homeland and overcame many disasters during her life; she had lost two husbands and a son.

Through her marriages to James and Thomas, descendants number in the thousands. Many still live in the beautiful Miramichi; others are scattered across the province, across Canada, the United States, and various other countries. Today there are only TWO remaining with the last name of BRACKEN--John and his son, Leigh, both of Miramichi.

Resources: Miramichi Gleaner, Chatham, June 8.1847.

Middle Island Before and After the Tragedy
by Caroline Daley and Ann Springer.

My Family History
by Maureen (King) English
Miramichi, N.B.

Submitted by Maureen English

The Miramichi Fire as Told in Verse
Published in Bangor Commercial.

The following is an account of the famous Miramichi Fire which occurred in 1825, written in verse by Thos. M. Jordan. The poem was found printed on a separate sheet of paper, now yellowed with age by John N. Merrill of this city, while searching an old trunk in a house at Olamon recently. The poem, it is said, gives a good description of that terrible calamity.

This is the truth what I now tell you,
For mine eyes in part did see,
What did happen to the people
On the banks of the Miramichi.

The seventh evening of October
Eighteen hundred twenty-five,
Two hundred people fell by fire
It scoured those that did survive.

Some said it was because the people's
Sins did rise like mountains high,
Which did ascend up to Jehovah,
He would not see and justify.

In order to destroy their lumber,
And the country distress,
He sent the fire in a whirlwind
From the howling wilderness.

'Twas on the nor'west first discovered,
Twenty-two men there did die
When it had swept o'er the meadows,
To Newcastle it did fly.

While the people were asleeping,
Fire seized upon the town
Tho' fine and handsome was the village
It soon tumbled to the ground.

It burnt three vessels that were building,
And two more at anchor lay,
Many that did see the fire
Thought it was the Judgment Day.

Twelve more men were burnt by fire
In the compass of that town,
Twenty-five more in the water
In a scow upset and drown.

A family below Newcastle
Were destroyed among the rest,

Father, mother and three children,
One an infant at the breast.

Thirteen families were residing
Just out back of Gretna Green,
All of them were burnt by fire
Only one alive was seen.

Then it passed to Black River,
Where it did burn sixty more;
So it forc'd its way with fury
Till it reached the briny shore.

Forty-two miles by one hundred,
This great fire did extend,
All was done within eight hours,
Not exceeding over ten.

As I have spoke of things collective,
Now I intend to personate,
And speak of some of my acquaintance
With whom I was an intimate.

A lady was drove to the water
Where she stood both wet and cold,
Notwithstanding her late illness,
Had a babe but three days old.

Six young men both smart and active,
Were to work on the nor'west,
When they saw the fire coming,
To escape it, tried their best.

About two miles from where their camp stood,
There we found each one of them
But to paint their sad experience,
I cannot with pen or tongue.

To see these fine, these blooming young men,
All lay dead upon the ground,
And their brothers standing mourning,
Spread a dismal scene around.

Then we dug a grave and buried
Those whom did the fire burn;
Then each of us that were aliving,
To our dwellings did return.

I heard the sighs, the cries and groanings,
Saw the falling of the tears;
By me this will not be forgotten

Should I live a hundred years.
Sisters weeping for their brothers,
Father crying for his son,
And with bitter heartfelt sorrow
Said the mother I'm undone.

It killed the wild beasts of the forest,
In the river, all the fish,
Such another horrid fire
See again, I do not wish.

Source: courtesy the collection of Velna Dickson

KENT CO. MARRIAGES 1845 – 1862
(Film 1247, Vol. 1, couples by male names)
Submitted by Dollypearle Drysdale-Martin

COUPLE	DATE
ARMSTRONG, John & DELINDY, Ann	Sept. 20, 1859
ARSENAULT, VICTOR & GALLANT, Cresence	Nov. 22, 1858
BARNES, Thomas & PUSHAR, Priscilla	June 11, 1860
BARNES, Joseph & STEWART, Sarah Jane	Aug. 23, 1860
CARTER, Allan & MCDONALD, Isabella	Apr. 22, 1851
CARTER, James & QUILTY, Anna	June 26, 1857
DALE, Andrew & MCARTHUR, Amelia	Nov. 22, 1852
DAVID, Jean (John) & ROBICHAUD, Mary Ann	April 15, 1861
FITZGERALD, Wm. & HICKEY, Honora	July 29, 1848
FITZGERALD, Wm. & MURRAY, Catherine	Oct. 21, 1861
GATANE, Wm. & BEERS, Anna	Sept. 13, 1858
GAUTREAU, Paulim & (Shediac) LEBLANC, Domilite	Nov. 25, 1846
HAYDEN, Wm. & SUTHERLAND, Mary Ann	Aug. 17, 1861
JOILLET, Peter & GIROUARD, Blanche	Aug. 05, 1844
JONES, Robert & MAYBERRY, Harriet	Dec. 27, 1859

KENNEDY, Wm. & Dec. 05, 1848
GEDDES, Catherine
KESWICK, John & June 20, 1859
MCDUGALD, Jane
LAWSON, Robert & Oct. 09, 1860
CAIL, Ruth
LAWSON, John & Nov. 18, 1851
HUDSON, Elizabeth
MAILLET, Ambroise & Nov. 10, 1845
RICHARD, Barbe
MAILLET, Urbin & Feb. 03, 1850
RICHARD, Maria Heneritta
NEALES, James & Oct. 02, 1849
KARTRIGHT, Julia Helen
Nembard
NICHOLSON, Thomas & May 03, 1860
SIMPSON, Sarah
OGYDEN, James Priestly & Nov. 03, 1852
HOWLETTI, Catherine
O'LEARY, Keady & Nov. 02, 1851
MOORE, Catherine

UNION ADVOCATE
1874-1893

Submitted by Dollypearle Drysdale-Martin

Adams, Deacon, son of Honourable M. Adams, died in Newcastle on Jan 21, 1890. He was 10 years old.

Adams, Herbert J., formerly of Campbellton, living in Wash., DC, married Annie Morell of Newcastle, d/o James, on July 7, 1890, by Rev. Mr. Dillworth at Wash., DC.

Adams, Ida Mary May, d/o Hon. M. Adams, died in Newcastle Apr. 8, 1884, aged 11 years & 10 months, eldest daughter.

Adams, John, of N.Y., is here visiting his brother, the Hon. M. Adams.

Adams, Kate, w/o the Hon. M. Adams, died suddenly in Newcastle on Mon., Feb 14, 1881, aged 33 years.

Adams, Mary, of Newcastle, w/o James, died in Newcastle on Fri., Apr. 21, 1876 after a lingering illness. She was 62 years old.

Adams, Miss Elizabeth, 2nd d/o James Adams of Glenelg, was married to David McGinnis of Glenelg at the Newcastle Manse, on July 21, 1888 by Rev. Wm. Aitken.

Adams, George, of Carleton Co., was married to Miss Jane Bruce of Blackville on Aug. 16, 1877 at the residence of Christopher Parker, Esq., Derby, by Rev. A.R.B. Shrewsbury.

Adams, Mr. A., Esq., of Alnwick was married to Miss Annie Perley, Chatham, at Moncton, Dec. 20, 1884, by Rev. T.J. Deinstadt.

Adams, Robert, was married to Miss Jane Buie, 2nd d/o the late Wm. Buie, Esq., Newcastle, at the residence of the bride's mother on Mar. 5, 1884.

Adams, John M., formerly of Miramichi was married to Miss Ariana P. Baker on June 22, 1893 at the residence of the bride's father, James U. Baker, Melrose, Mass. by Rev. C. E. Davis.

Adams, Sherman Marland of Metapedia was married to Miss Maggie Russell Wheller of Runnymede, at Runnymede, Sept. 19, 1893, by Rev. Geo. Millar, B.A.

Adams, Mrs. Samuel, died Apr. 23, 1874. She was 56 years old.

Adams, R.B., at Nelson, was married to Miss Mabel Agnew, Fredericton, at Nelson, Feb. 20, 1882 by Rev. Father Egan.

Alexander, John, eldest s/o Thomas & Ann Alexander, Chatham, died (drowned) Nov. 10, 1874 at age 27 in Florida.

Alexander, John, Douglstown, married Maggie Anderson, Douglstown, Mar. 11, 1890, at Chatham by Rev. Joseph Mccoy, M.A.

Alexander, Miss, has taken a job at the Model School in Fredericton. Dec. 9, 1874.

Web Site:
2010 QUERIES

For those who have not seen the "phorum" part of our website, the following are some of the queries that have been posted. There are answers posted as well and if you don't have a computer, ask your public librarian to help to find this.

To submit your query on a Northumberland County family:

Email dmullin@nbnet.nb.ca

And I will post it on the Miramichi genealogy website at www.nbgsmiramichi.org

Come to one of our genealogy meetings. Every second month we have a guest speaker. NBGS Miramichi meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at Chatham Library, King Street, Miramichi from 6-8 pm. Bring a friend. *no meeting the month of December.

The History of "APRONS"

I don't think our kids know what an apron is. The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few, it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven. It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids. And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms. Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER: Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from grandma's apron.

Author: unknown

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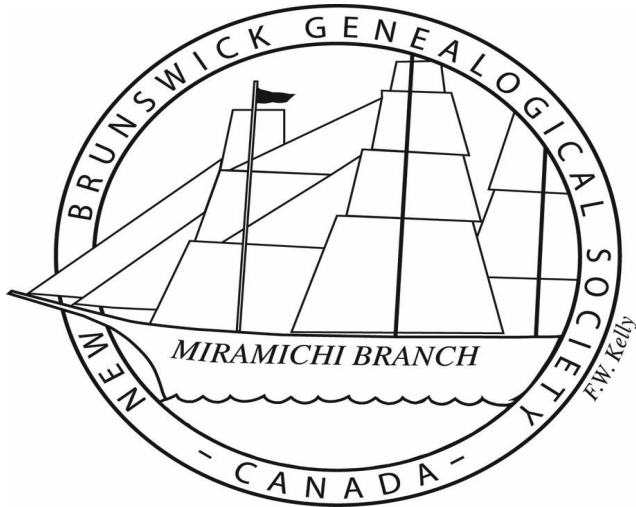
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Meeting every 4th Tuesday of the month at the Chatham library at 6:00 pm. Guests are Welcome.



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