

OLIVER REDDICK

Oliver is one of the children for whom no baptismal record has been found. His cemetery stone records his date of birth as November 18, 1853 which squares away well with his age as it was entered on each census of the Township of Marlborough after 1851.

1861	age	7
1871	age	18
1881	age	28
1891	--	--

It is not known why Oliver was enumerated in Marlborough Township in 1881. Like Erastus, he had been listed in the 1880 census of Minnesota in the previous year. It may be that their location in Aitkin County was for the crop season only and that they returned to the east in the fall, as many did in the early days in (say) Saskatchewan. Unlike Erastus, Oliver was not enumerated in Marlborough Township in 1891.

Oliver's name appeared with Erastus in the 1880 census of Mille Lac Township, Aitkin County. Had his name appeared in 1900 (see below) it is likely that it would have recorded his date of immigration as having been in 1877, as Erastus' was. There were only 27 people enumerated in the township in 1877.

Oliver was the primary individual enumerated; Erastus was identified as a "brother".

	<u>OLIVER</u>	<u>ERASTUS</u>
Census No.	5	5
Age	25	27
Relationship		Brother
Status	Single	Single
Occupation	Farmer	Farmer
Born	Canada	Canada
Father Born	Scotland	Scotland
Mother Born	Scotland	Scotland

It is surprising that the brothers knew so little about the place of birth of their parents. Almost certainly both James and Matilda were born in Ireland. On the other hand there was, at one time, a lack of regard for Irish immigrants and it may have been that they wished to avoid the stigma of having Irish parents. There is, of course, a Scottish connection; Matilda's father, William Gouldie, was from Ayrshire, Scotland, although it was in Ireland that he married her mother, Ellen Logan.

The 1890 Federal census has not survived but Oliver's name does not appear in the 1900 census (although Erastus' does) and he died before the 1910 census was taken.

Nothing has been learned of the reason for Oliver's name not to be listed in the 1900 census; a niece remembers that he and Erastus operated a confectionery store in Aitkin. Erastus' obituary reported in 1906 that he had been cared for during his final illness by his brother, obviously Oliver. The 1900 census listed Erastus (a farmer) and his mother living together; perhaps Oliver was still on the farm in the Mille Lac Lakes area, but his name should have appeared on the soundex index to the census. Still, there is a good chance that he was much a loner, that his farm may have been remote and that he may have been missed in the enumeration.

Oliver died on December 8, 1908 and was buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Aitkin. Like Erastus, Oliver is said to have died from pipe cancer. A search did not turn up an obituary although there must have been one; his sisters would have seen to that.