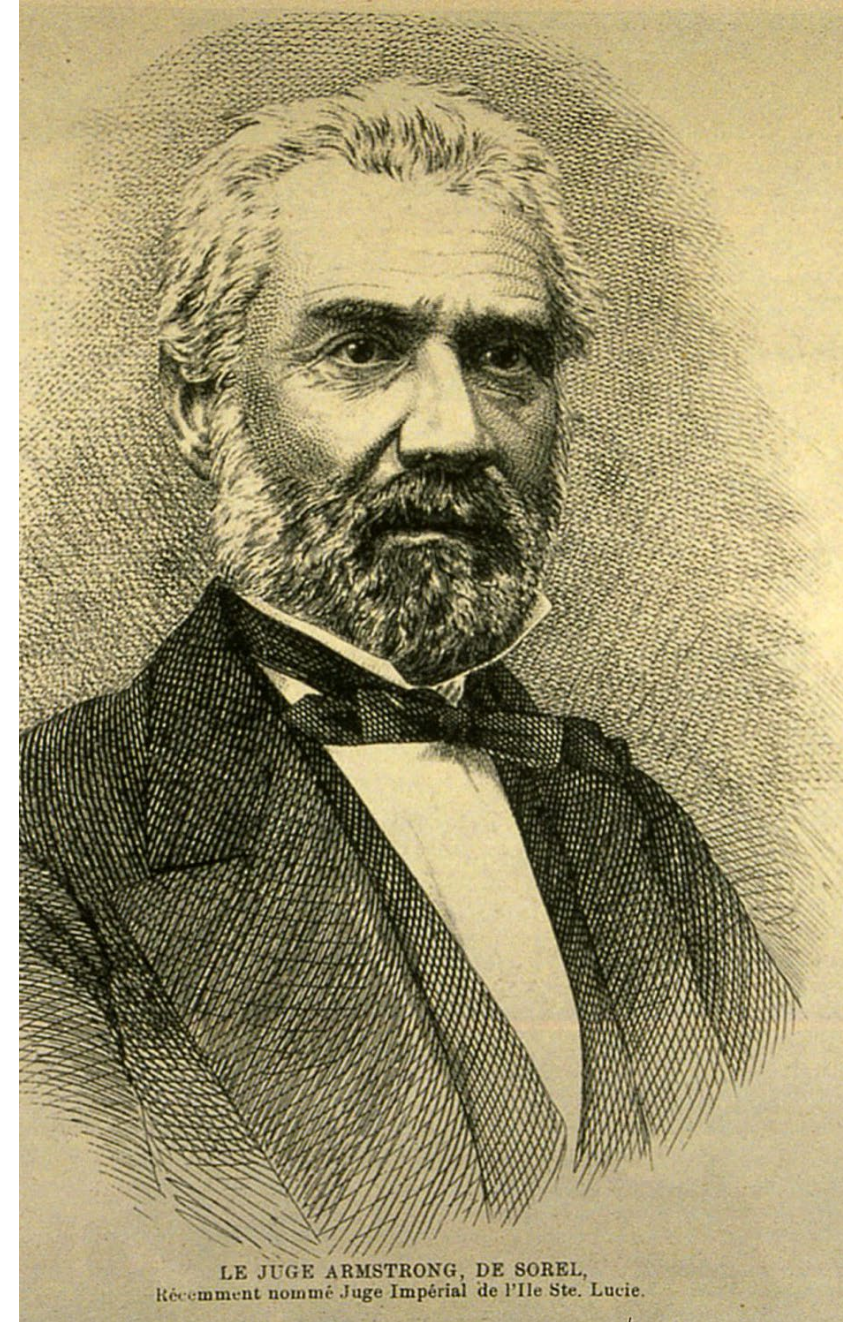


# Persistent Identifiers for People in the Past

Jim Clifford and Matthew Kunkel, Saskatchewan  
Susan Brown and Sarah Roger, Guelph  
Natalie Hervieux, Alberta





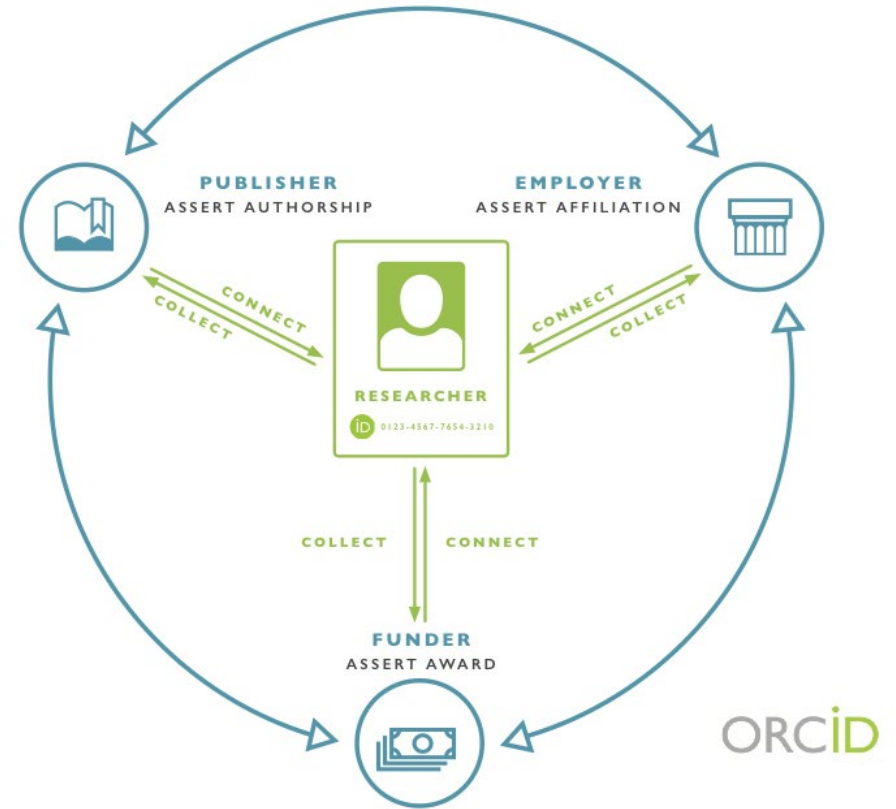
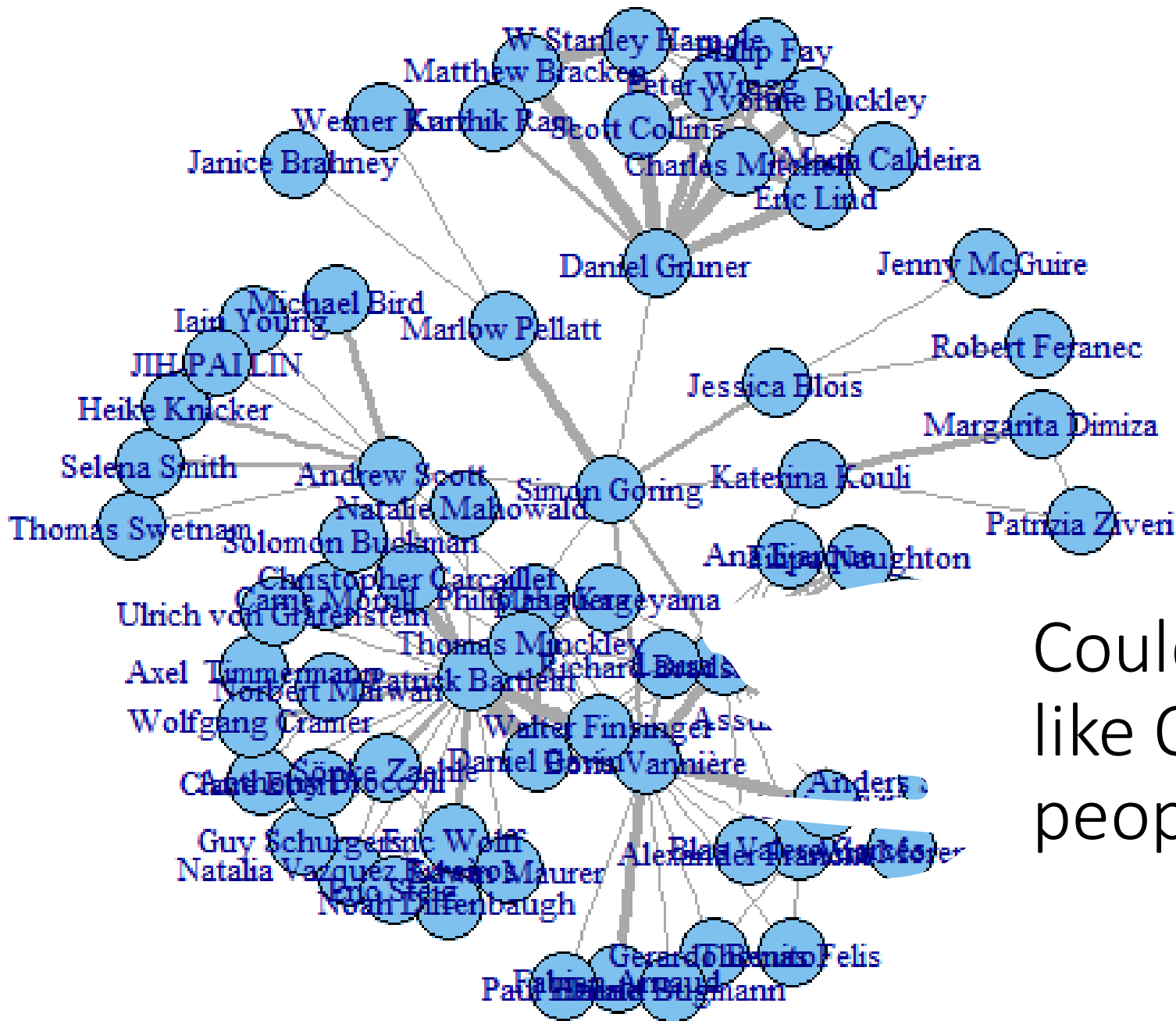
## Three James Armstrongs

- Which James Armstrong worked for the Department of Indian Affairs?
- It probably wasn't the guy who made the stoves.



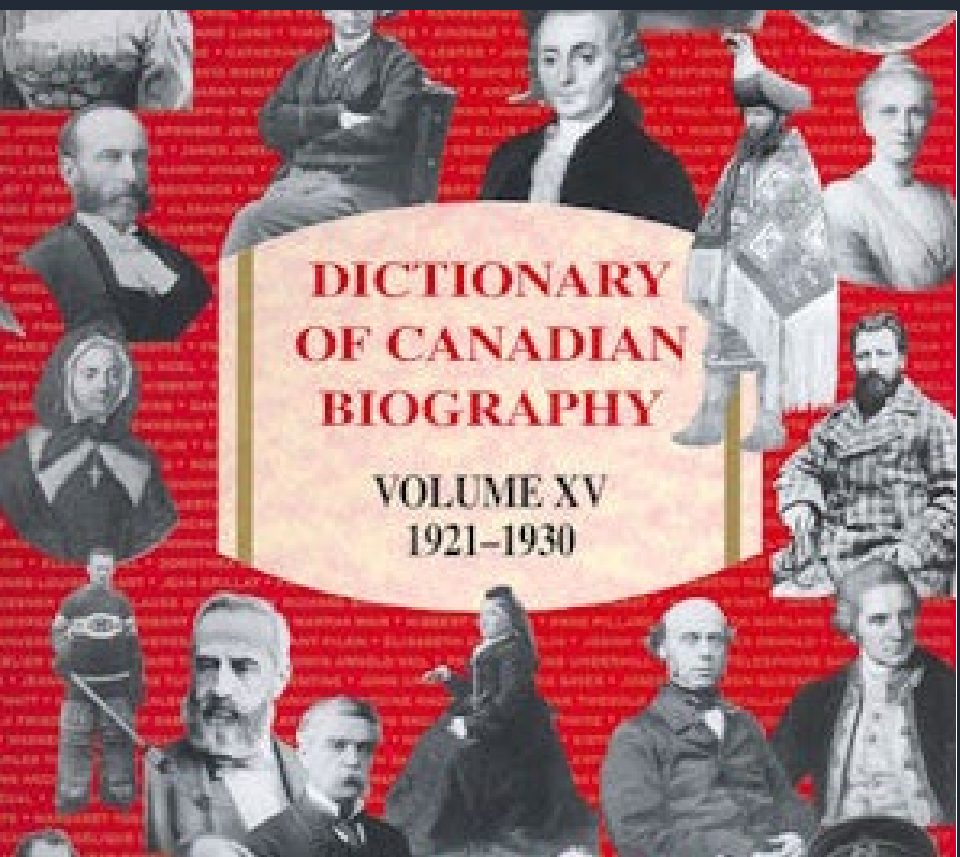
One person, Multiple Names

- Esther Brandeau or Jacques La Fargue
- Thayendanegea, Thayendanegen, Thayeadanegea, Joseph Thayendanegea, or Joseph Brant
- Félicité Angers or Laure Conan
- Hilda Doris Buck or Doris Hilda Anderson

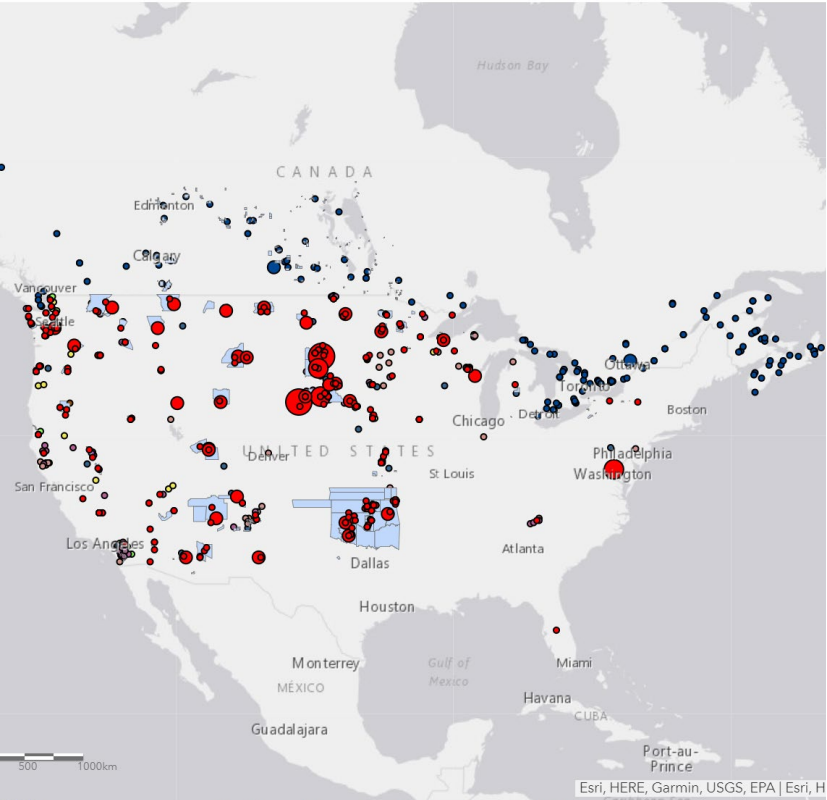


Could we create something like ORCID for historical people?

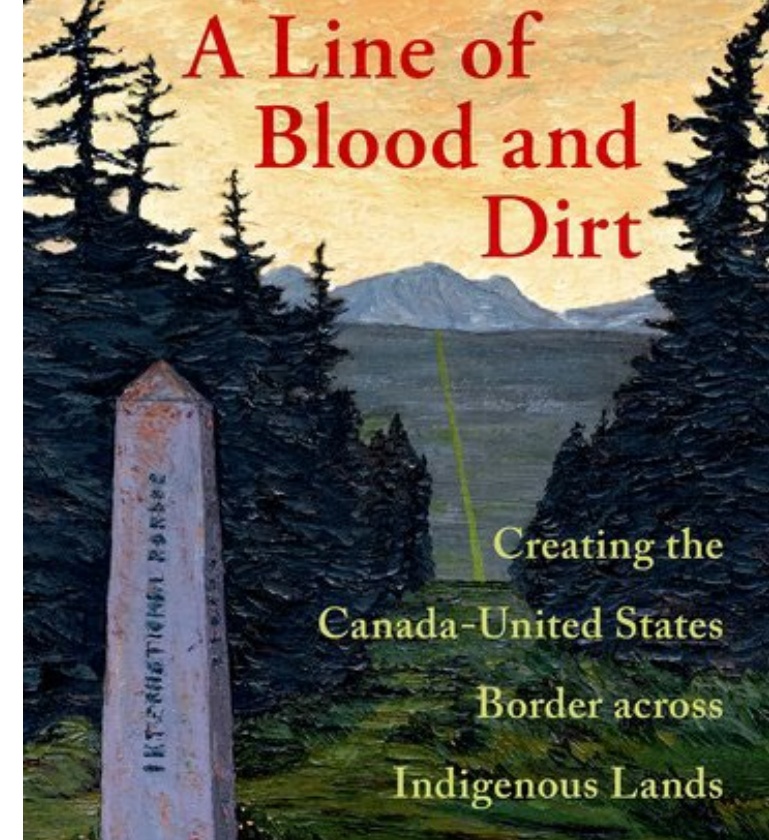
Where to start?



- Dictionary of Canadian Biography
- The project started in 1959
- 8000+ biographies published in French and English
- Focused on elite men of European decent but working hard to correct that legacy
- Planning to launch a new version of the website in 2024



Indian Agents, Schools, and Reserves



## Ben Hoy's Department of Indian Affairs Employee Data

- Hoy created a database of Department of Indian Affairs employees' locations in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- The database includes **limited** biographical information: names, occupation, location and years employed by the DIA.
- The individuals and their correspondence are an important part of the historical record of settler colonialism in Canada.
- Opportunity to test creating PIDs for people without full biographies.

# Key objectives and principals

1

Start by reconciling data against existing PIDs

2

Use names, dates, places, and occupations to disambiguate individuals

3

Avoid creating certainty from uncertainty when parsing text into data points

4

Avoid duplicating the use of offensive terms in dated reference materials

## Identifiable Properties

- Names
- Occupations
- Birth date/place
- Family connections
- Death date/place

## Utilize existing DCB structures

Existing  
Categorizations



Browse by Region of Birth  
Browse by Region of Activities  
Browse by Occupations and Other Identifiers  
Browse by Name of Subject A-Z

Leverage  
Formulaic  
Structure



**BOURASSA, FRANÇOIS**, farmer, Patriote, militia officer, and politician; b. 5 June 1813 in Sainte-Marguerite-de-Blairfindie (L'Acadie), Lower Canada, eldest son of François Bourassa, its first mayor, and Geneviève Patenaude; brother of Napoléon Bourassa\* and uncle of Henri Bourassa\*; d. 13 May 1898 in Saint-Valentin, Que.



## DCB Name Extraction

**McKENZIE, JAMES**, fur trader, JP, and businessman; b. c. 1777 near Inverness, Scotland, son of Alexander Mackenzie and his wife Catherine; d. 18 July 1849 at Quebec.

---

**BAUDRY (Beaudry), dit Saint-Martin (Baudry Desbuttes, Baudry Soulard), JEAN-BAPTISTE**, gunsmith; baptized 3 July 1684 at Trois-Rivières, son of Guillaume Baudry\*, *dit* Des Butes, gunsmith and silversmith, and Jeanne Soullard; m. on 8 Oct. 1721 Marie-Louise, daughter of the armourer Nicolas Doyon, in Quebec; d. 20 Nov. 1755 at Detroit.

In using numerous surnames Jean-Baptiste Baudry, it seems, wanted to distinguish himself from a namesake who lived at the same period and who also practised the armourer's craft. Through his father, mother, and wife he belonged

---

**OGIMAUH-BINAESSIH (Okemapenese**, meaning “chief little bird”;  
**Wageezhegome, Wakeshogomy, Weggishgomin**, meaning “who is like the day”; **John Cameron, Captain John**), Mississauga Ojibwa chief, member of the eagle clan, and farmer; b. May 1764 at the Credit River (Ont.); d. 30 Sept. 1828 at the Credit Mission (Mississauga), Upper Canada.

# Uncertainty options

- Leave out uncertain information
- Include uncertain information (and deal with it later)
- Add additional modelling to denote that something is uncertain

Birth Excerpt Date and Location	Birth Date	Birth Date_Exact_Star	Birth Date_Exact_End	Birth Date_Uncertain
b. about 1855 in Baffin Island (Nunavut), possibly	about 1855	1855	1855	Uncertain
b. apparently in the 1670s in Portugal, probably	apparently in the 1670s	1670-01-01	1679-12-31	Uncertain
b. c. 1805 or c. 1808, probably in Brooklyn, N.Y.	c. 1805 or c. 1808	1805-01-01	1808-12-31	Uncertain
b. in all likelihood in 1789 in Italy, probably in Rome	1789	1789	1789	Uncertain
b. most probably in January 1799 in Trois-Rivières	January 1799	1799-01-01	1799-01-31	Uncertain
b. possibly c. 1770, probably in a Shawnee village	possibly c. 1770	1770-01-01	1770-12-31	Uncertain
b. possibly in Bay de Verde, Newfoundland, about 1680	about 1680	1680	1680	Uncertain
b. probably during the late 1830s, likely in the Republic of Ireland	probably during the late 1830s	1836	1839	Uncertain
b. probably in 1683, perhaps in London, England	probably in 1683	1683	1683	Uncertain
b. probably in 1757, possibly in Kilgraston, Scotland	probably in 1757	1757	1757	Uncertain
b. probably in 1768, perhaps at Arbre Croche (Haiti)	probably in 1768	1768	1768	Uncertain
b. probably in Écully, France, around 1646–48	around 1646	1646	1648	Uncertain
b. probably in France about 1625	about 1625	1625	1625	Uncertain

**Name(s) / Label(s)**  
Date of birth of Louis O'Soup

**Type(s)**  
[medium certainty](#)  
[medium precision](#)

**Date Begins** 1836-1-1  
**Date Ends** 1839-12-31  
**Date Occurred Within** probably during the late 1830s

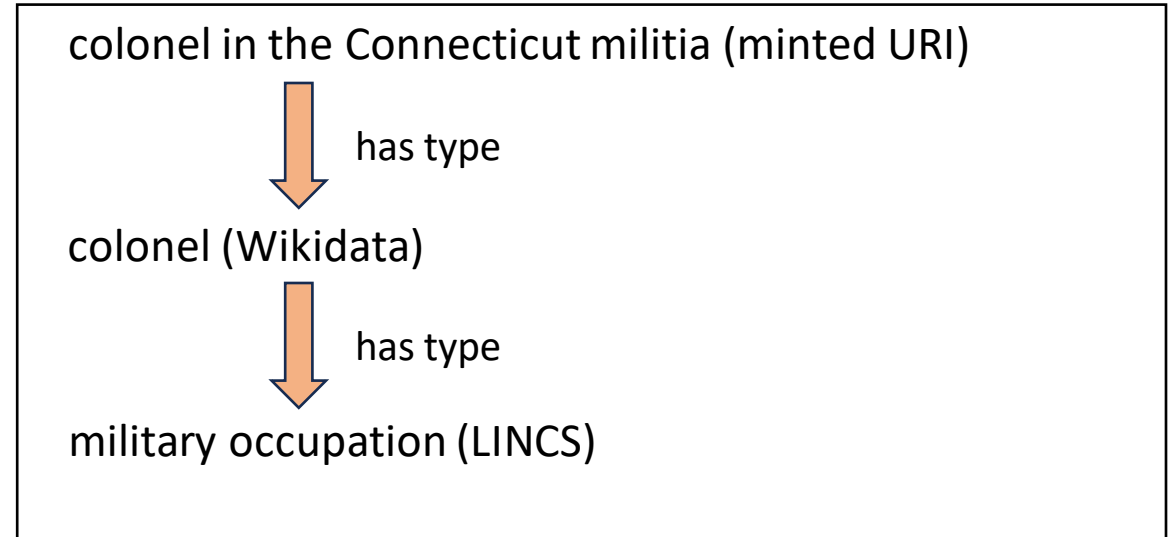
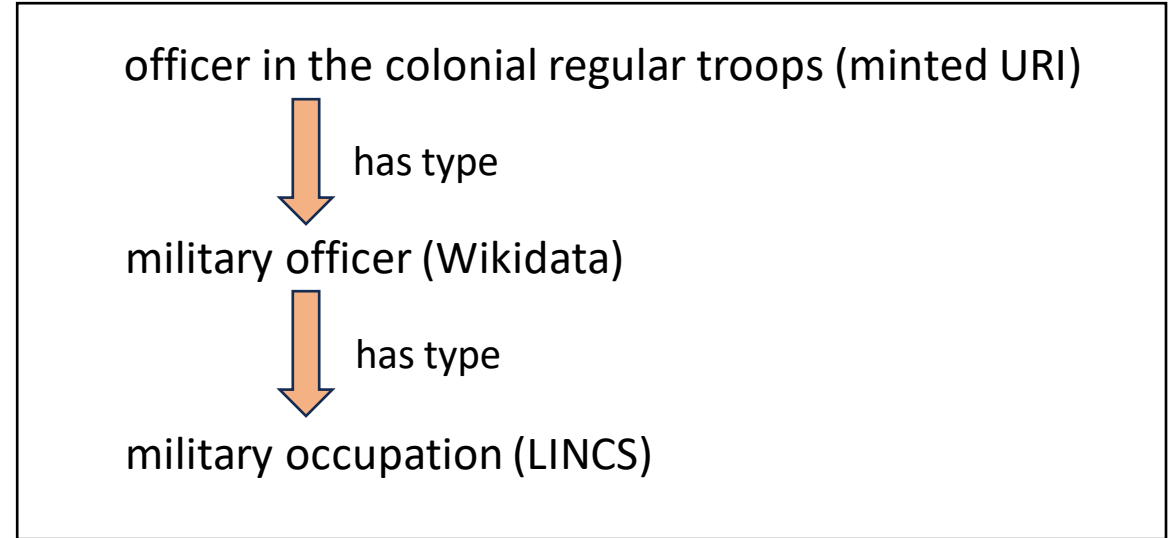
# Location Reconciliation

Ireland, apparently in County Tipperary	Uncertain place - went up a level	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q27">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q27</a>
Ireland, possibly in County Kilkenny	Uncertain place - went up a level	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q27">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q27</a>
Ireland, probably in Clonmel (Republic of Ireland)	Uncertain place - went up a level	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q27">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q27</a>
Ivedon Penn, near Honiton, England	Place too specific - went up a level	<a href="https://www.geonames.org/2646658/honiton.html">https://www.geonames.org/2646658/honiton.html</a>
Ivor House in Buckinghamshire, England	Place too specific - went up a level	<a href="https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q67285329">https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q67285329</a>
Juniper Bank, near Walkerburn, Scotland	Place too specific - went up a level	<a href="https://www.geonames.org/2634885/walkerburn.html">https://www.geonames.org/2634885/walkerburn.html</a>



# Occupation Reconciliation

PREFERRED TERM	<b>military occupation</b> 
TYPE	crm:E55_Type
BROADER CONCEPT	<a href="#">occupation</a>
NARROWER CONCEPTS	<a href="#">airman</a> <a href="#">coastguard</a>
ALTERNATIVE LABELS	artillery gunner artillery officer captain of militia colonel deputy lieutenant lieutenant lieutenant general major general military military communications military driver military escort military leadership military officer militia captain <a href="#">[show all 19 values]</a>
URI	<a href="http://id.lincspjroject.ca/occupation/militaryOccupation">http://id.lincspjroject.ca/occupation/militaryOccupation</a> 



# Indian Affairs Data Identity Reconciliation

person_id	person_name	Loc_Mer_original	loc_mer
48	Tye, Alice W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, Alice W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, Alice W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, Alice W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, A.W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, A.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, A.W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, A.W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, A.W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan
48	Tye, A.W.	BalcarresSaskatchewan	Balcarres, Saskatchewan

person_id	person_name	Sup_Int	Treaty	agency	agency_uri
2538	Ferguson, G.P.	Alberta Inspectorate		Hobbema	<a href="http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema">http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema</a>
2538	Ferguson, G.P.	Alberta Inspectorate		Hobbema	<a href="http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema">http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema</a>
2538	Ferguson, G.P.	Alberta Inspectorate		Hobbema	<a href="http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema">http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema</a>
2538	Ferguson, George P.	Alberta Inspectorate		Hobbema	<a href="http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema">http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema</a>
2538	Ferguson, Geo.	Northwest Superintendency		Hobbema	<a href="http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema">http://temp.lincsproject.ca/agency/hobbema</a>

person_id	person_name	occupation_original_text	is_occupation	occupation1	occupation1_general_approx_match
204	G. Chaffee	Farmer	Yes	Farmer	
204	Geo. Chaffey	Farming Instructor, Farm No 10	Yes	Farming Instructor, Farm No 10	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
204	G. Chaffee	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	Yes	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
204	G. Chaffee	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	Yes	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
204	G. Chaffee	Farming Instructor, Reserves Nos. 102, 103, 104, 105, 106	Yes	Farming Instructor, Reserves Nos. 102, 103	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
204	G. Chaffee	Farming Instructor, Reserves Nos. 102, 103, 104, 105, 106	Yes	Farming Instructor, Reserves Nos. 102, 103	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
204	G. Chaffee	Farming Instructor, Reserves Nos. 102, 103, 104, 105, 106	Yes	Farming Instructor, Reserves Nos. 102, 103	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
205	George Caffey	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	Yes	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
205	George Chaffey	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	Yes	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>
205	George Chaffey	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	Yes	Farming Instructor, Farm No. 10	<a href="http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation">http://id.lincsproject.ca/occupation/farmingOccupation</a>

# PIDs for unnamed people

Wilson Ruffin Abbott

**Type(s)**

Person

**Dataset(s)**

Historical Canadians

**Resource Identifier**

<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q8023196> 

**Birth**

1801-1-1  
North America  
Richmond

**Death**

1876-11-6  
Toronto

**Mother**

a free Black mother

**Father**

a Scotch-Irish father

A Free Black Mother

**Type(s)**

Person

**Dataset(s)**

Historical Canadians

**Resource Identifier**

<http://id.lincsproject.ca/Of8t9BFwEr> 

A Scotch-Irish Father

**Type(s)**

Person

**Dataset(s)**

Historical Canadians

**Resource Identifier**

<http://id.lincsproject.ca/ynUyINVaNOG> 

# A Collection of Historical Canadian PIDs

- Over 11,000 people from the DCB and IA, connected to 16,000 family members
- Participating in over 4,000 unique occupations across over 5,000 locations
- Contextualized by 70,000 quotes from the DCB, each in French and English

# Leveraging PIDs on the Web

## Context Explorer

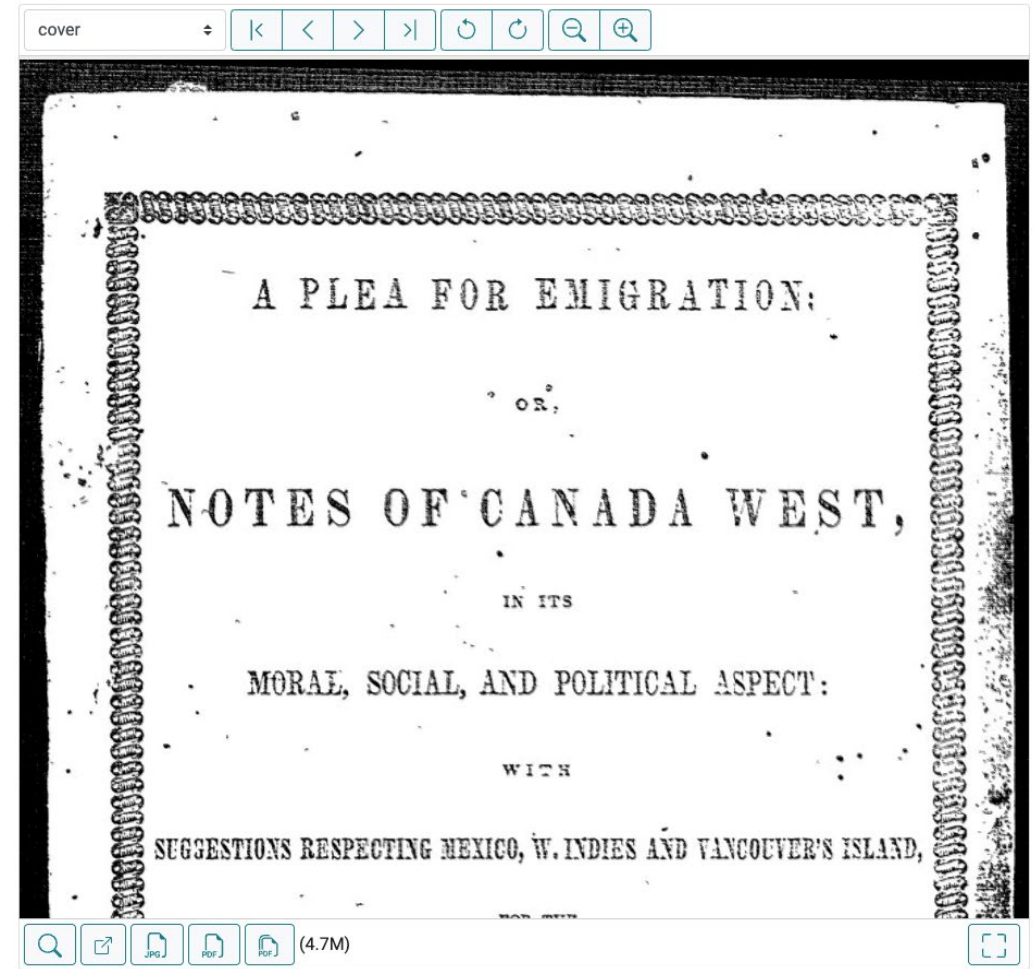
Currently reading  
A plea for emigration, or, Notes of Canada West : -

Filters >

Scan whole page

Scan highlighted

## A plea for emigration, or, Notes of Canada West :



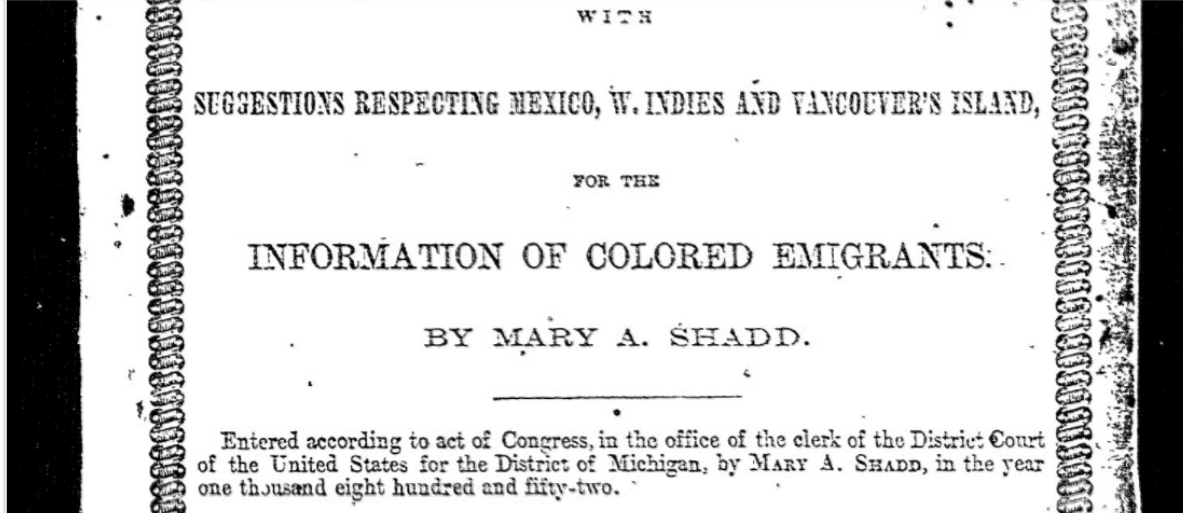
For help and additional download options, please see our [documentation](#)

[Detroit? : publisher not identified], 1852.; 46 images with full-text search

### Document Record

Creator	Shadd, Mary A., 1823-1893., author
Title	A plea for emigration, or, Notes of Canada West : in its moral, social, and political aspect; with suggestions respecting Mexico, West Indies, and Vancouver's Island, for the





For help and additional download options, please see our [documentation](#)

[[Detroit](#)? : publisher not identified], 1852.; 46 images with full-text search

## Document Record

Creator	<a href="#">Shadd, Mary A., 1823-1893.</a> , author
Title	A plea for emigration, or, Notes of <a href="#">Canada West</a> : in its moral, social, and political aspect; with suggestions respecting <a href="#">Mexico</a> , <a href="#">West Indies</a> , and <a href="#">Vancouver's Island</a> , for the information of colored emigrants
Published	[ <a href="#">Detroit</a> ? : publisher not identified], 1852.
Identifier	oocihm.47542 47542
Subject	<a href="#">Agriculture -- Canada.</a> <a href="#">Blacks -- Canada.</a> <a href="#">Noirs -- Canada.</a> <a href="#">Canada -- Description and travel.</a> <a href="#">Canada -- Histoire -- 1763-1867 (Régime anglais)</a> <a href="#">Canada -- History -- 1763-1867.</a> <a href="#">Canada -- Descriptions et voyages.</a>
Document source	Scanned from a CIHM microfiche of the original publication held by <a href="#">the Metropolitan Toronto Library</a> , <a href="#">Canadian History Department</a> .
Notes	Tables. Title from title screen. 44 pages ; 20 cm.
Collection	<a href="#">Monographs</a>
Language	English
URL	<a href="https://www.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.47542">https://www.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.47542</a>

Context Explorer

Entity types: 0 Datasets: 0

20 results found.

Hover over a highlight to view matches

- Facebook
- Canada
- Detroit
- Shadd
- Mary A.,
- Canada
- Mexico
- West Indies
- Vancouver's Island
- Detroit
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- Canada
- the Metropolitan Toronto Library
- Canadian History Department



Context Explorer

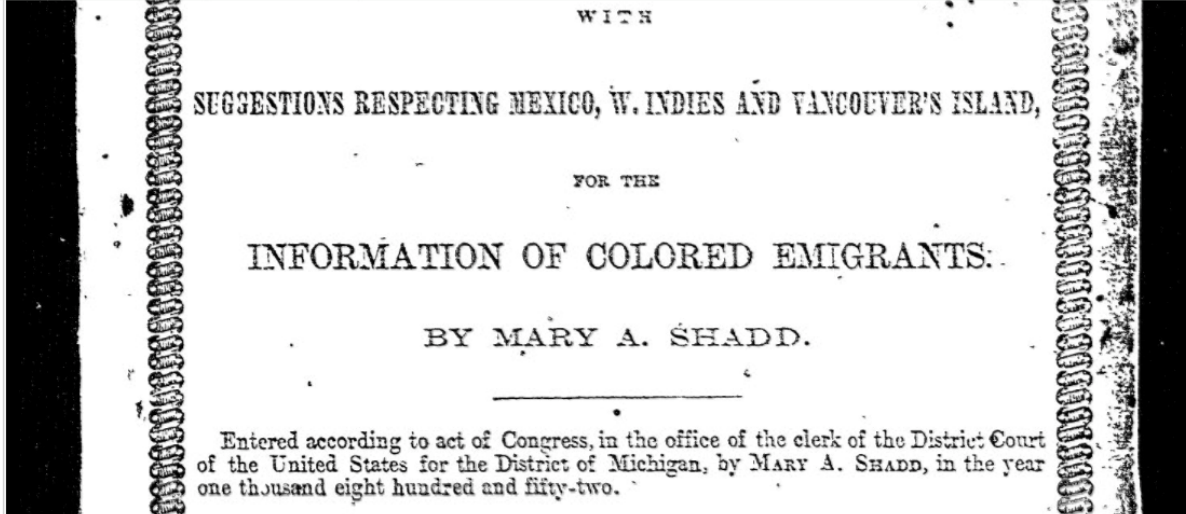
11 entities matching:

"Shadd"

All types

- Mary Ann Shadd Cary**  
<http://viaf.org/viaf/59931033>  
Person · [42](#)
- Garrison Shadd**  
[http://temp.lincspjroject.ca/shadd\\_alfred\\_sc...](http://temp.lincspjroject.ca/shadd_alfred_sc...)  
Person
- A.S. Shadd**  
<http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q56560625>  
Person
- Isaac Shadd**  
<https://commons.cwrc.ca/orlando:4a28721...>  
Person
- Harriet Shadd**  
<https://commons.cwrc.ca/orlando:48b1170...>  
Person · [6](#)
- Shadd: The Life and Times of Mary S...**  
<https://commons.cwrc.ca/orlando:e5527ce...>  
Work
- expression of Shadd: The Life and Ti...**  
<http://www.temp.lincspjroject.ca/e5527ce4...>  
Expression
- Abraham Doras Shadd**  
<http://viaf.org/viaf/56476207>  
Person
- Amelia Freeman Shadd**  
<https://commons.cwrc.ca/orlando:db900c5...>  
Person
- Amelia Shadd Williamson**  
<https://commons.cwrc.ca/orlando:be7f3114...>  
Person
- Abraham Doras Shadd**  
[http://temp.lincspjroject.ca/shadd\\_mary\\_an](http://temp.lincspjroject.ca/shadd_mary_an)

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For help and additional download options, please see our [documentation](#)

[Detroit? : publisher not identified], 1852.; 46 images with full-text search

**Document Record**

**People** **Other**

Shadd, Mary A., 1823-1893., a  
for, Notes on the moral, social, and political aspect; with suggestions  
West Indies, and Vancouver's Island, for the information of colored emigrants

Published  
Identifier

**Categories**  
1 of 1

**Groups** **Places** **Creative Works** **Web References**

Agriculture -- Canada.  
Blacks -- Canada.  
Noirs -- Canada.  
Canada -- Travel.  
Canada -- 1857 (Régime anglais)  
Canada -- 1857.  
Canada -- Voyages.

Document source  
Scanned from a microfiche of the original publication held by the Metropolitan Toronto Library, Canadian History Department.

Notes  
Tables.  
Title from title screen.  
44 pages ; 20 cm.

Collection  
Monographs

Language  
English

URL  
<https://www.canadiana.ca/view/ocihm.47542>

Context Explorer

Back to results

**Mary Ann Shadd Cary**  
Person [Details](#)

Pursuits  
fundraiser; occupation event

Attributes  
gender context: women; gender context: Wom...

Creator of  
A Plea for Emigration; A Plea for Emigration; A ...

Summary  
American abolitionist

Dates  
Birth - 1823-10-09, the United States, possibly in Alabama  
Death - 1893-06-05, Washington, D.C

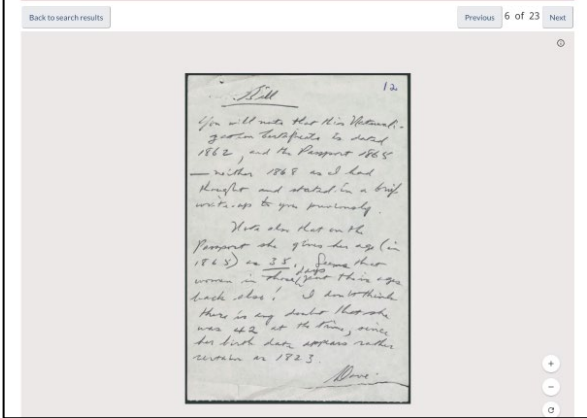
Dataset  
<http://graph.lincspjroject.ca/orlando>

URI  
<http://viaf.org/viaf/59931033>

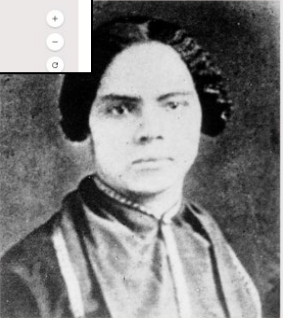
[View more details](#)

- Filter by category
- Creative Works >
  - People >
  - Groups >
  - Places >
  - Other >
  - Web References >

### Rough notes on Mary Ann Shadd Cary's passport and naturalization certificate



### Two letters from Frederick Douglass to Mary Ann Shadd Cary concerning a tour of the Reconstructionist South.



c029977  
Item 1 of 2

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

## Collection search

Canada.ca > Library and Archives Canada > Collection > Search the collections

mary ann shadd

Found in: Archives

Limited to: All Archives Genealogy Library

Found in: Archives (23) Collections and Fonds (23)

Date: 2000-2002 (2) 1990-1992 (3) 1980-1982 (2) 1970-1972 (2)

Type of material: Photographs (3) Sound recordings (2) Textual material (21)

Hierarchical level:

Showing 1 - 23 of 23 filtered results

Portrait of Mary Ann Shadd Cary

Archives / Collections and Fonds Item (linked) Photographs

2 digital object(s)

Date: ca. 1855 - 1864

Source: Private

Reference: Box number: Portrait of Mary Ann Shadd Cary, Cary, project. Credit: Library and Archives Canada

Back to results

Mary Ann Shadd Cary Person Details

Back to categories

Connected Web References

Sort By:

Annotation about Mary Ann Camberton Shadd mentioned in the DCB biography of Henry Walton Bibb

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/bibb\\_henry\\_wal](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/bibb_henry_wal)

<http://graph.lincspjproject.ca/hist-cdns>

Annotation about Mary Ann Camberton Shadd mentioned in the DCB biography of James Francis Jenkins

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/jenkins\\_james\\_f](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/jenkins_james_f)

<http://graph.lincspjproject.ca/hist-cdns>

Annotation about Mary Ann Camberton Shadd mentioned in the DCB biography of William King

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/king\\_william\\_12](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/king_william_12)

<http://graph.lincspjproject.ca/hist-cdns>

Annotation about Mary Ann Camberton Shadd mentioned in the DCB biography of Alfred Schmitz Shadd

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/shadd\\_alfred\\_sc](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/shadd_alfred_sc)

<http://graph.lincspjproject.ca/hist-cdns>

Annotation about Mary Ann Camberton Shadd mentioned in the DCB biography of Samuel Ringgold Ward

[http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/ward\\_samuel\\_r](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/ward_samuel_r)

<http://graph.lincspjproject.ca/hist-cdns>



**WARD, SAMUEL RINGGOLD**, abolitionniste, journaliste et conférencier, né de parents esclaves, Anne (Harper ?) et William T. Harper, à Greenwell, Maryland, le 17 octobre 1816, probablement en 1866.

Les parents de Samuel Ringgold Ward se marièrent à Greenwich, dans le New York, et ils émigrèrent à New York, où ils s'installèrent sous la direction de son père, qui dirigeait des écoles fréquentées par les enfants des esclaves. Ward épousa une demoiselle blanche, et ils eurent six enfants. Ward fut autorisé à prêcher, en 1841, dans le New York, et il devint pasteur de l'Église Congrégationnelle (General) Association et il devint pasteur de l'Église Congrégationnelle (General) Association de Blanches dans l'état de New York, de 1841 à 1851. Entre 1843 et 1846, il étudia la médecine et le droit. Déjà, en 1843, il fut nommé représentant de l'American Anti-Slavery Society.



**JENKINS, JAMES FRANCIS**, labourer, newspaperman, and politician, b. probably 1875 in Forsyth County, Georgia, d. there 6 May 1913. He was the son of Eliza Christian Jenkins and Mary Jane Peeples. He was born on 30 April 1913 at Eliza Christian Jenkins, London, Ont., and they had three daughters; d. there 6 May 1913 at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

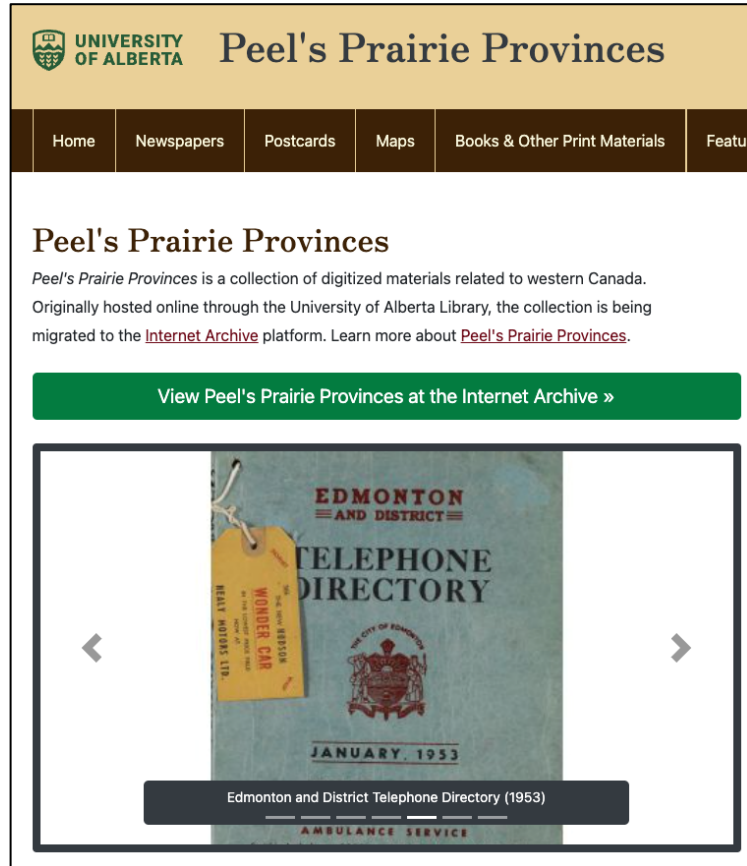
James F. Jenkins grew up in central Georgia during a period of hostility towards Blacks in the South. His father was a grocer, and his household of at least four children included a teenage daughter, that they, as well as a teenage son, received an education. James attended normal school at Atlanta University



**SHADD, ALFRED SCHMITZ**, instituteur, médecin, journaliste, homme politique et fonctionnaire, né en 1870 dans le canton de Raleigh, Ontario, fils de Garrison Shadd et de Harriet Poindexter ; il épousa à Melfort, Saskatchewan, Jeanette Simpson, et ils eurent une fille et un fils ; décédé le 9 mars 1915 à Winnipeg.

Alfred Schmitz Shadd était le petit-fils et le neveu de deux illustres militants de la communauté noire de l'Ontario, Abraham Doras Shadd et Mary Ann Camberton **Shadd**. Il reçut d'abord une formation d'instituteur à Toronto et enseigna au moins un an à Chatham, à l'école pour Noirs où il avait étudié. Il entreprit ensuite des études de médecine à la University of Toronto, mais, faute d'argent, il les abandonna en 1896 et accepta un poste d'instituteur à Kinistino, dans la future province de la

# Next Steps



- Add Peel's Prairie Provinces data
- Consult on and refine the data
  - How can we make it more useful?
  - Should we expand the model?
  - Create bilingual labels for vocabulary terms
- Enhanced PIDs for individuals who are silenced in the archives
  - Unnamed persons (e.g., guides, wives)
  - Named individuals who do not have their own entries
- Consult on inclusion and decolonization
  - Names, locations, professions, etc.