Cook, Charles (c.1810-1881)

Charles Cook was born somewhere between about 1805 and 1810 in the Nelson River District, son of Englishman William Hemmings Cook (1768-1846) and one of his Indian wives, either Kahnapawanakan or Mary Agathas Cocking. His father became the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) Chief Factor at York Factory. In the spring of 1819 Charles' father resigned and the Cook family settled in St Paul Parish, Middlechurch. On Mar 5, 1836 Charles married at St Andrews to Mary Ann Lyons (b. 1818), the daughter of Margaret Kipling and John Lyons (1786-1875). On Mar 3, 1844, Charles re-married to Catherine Anderson in St Andrews, daughter of Mary Demoran (Saulteaux) and James Anderson (1775-1856), an HBC Tailor from the Orkneys of Scotland.

In the 1870 census Charles was recorded in St Peters Parish. No children were shown in the entry. In the Census of 1881 Charles Cook, age 75 (born c1806 in Nelson River district), a widower, is living with his son-in-law, Andrew Spence (b.1837) in Burnside/ Marquette, west of Portage la Prairie. On July 20, 1881, when Charles Cook died he was a resident of Burnside district.

Children with Mary Ann Lyons:

- John, born March 19, 1837, died at age 15.
- Letitia, born November 13, 1838, she married Andrew Frederick Spence.

Children with Catherine Anderson:

- Catherine, born c. 1845. She married William Slater.
- Christina, born c. 1846, at Poplar Point, she married John "Jock" Inkster.
- Annie, born September 11, 1849, she married Joseph Paul.
- Wilhemina, born August 16, 1854.
- William Hemmings, born June 5, 1858, in St Paul.

Scrip affidavit for Cook, Wilhemina; born: 16 August 1854; father: Charles Cook; mother: Catherine Anderson.

Scrip affidavit for Cook, Joseph H.; born: 5 June 1858; father: Charles Cook; mother: Catherine Anderson.

Scrip affidavit for Inkster, Christiana, wife of John Inkster; father: Charles Cook (Métis); mother: Catherine Anderson (Métis); claim no: 2106; date of issue: October 2, 1876; born: 1846.

Scrip affidavit for Paul, Annie; born: September 11, 1849; husband: Joseph Paul; father: Charles Cook (Métis); mother: Catherine Anderson (Métis); claim no: 2243; scrip no: 11111; date of issue: October 2, 1876; amount: \$160.



Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell Coordinator of Métis Heritage and History Research Louis Riel Institute