

## Joseph Edward Brazeau. (1812-1871)

Joseph Brazeau was born on March 10, 1812 at St. Louis. He married Marguerite Brabant the daughter of Metis leader Augustin Brabant and his wife Angelique Lucier, circa 1845 at Edmonton. Joseph Edward Brazeau was clerk and postmaster for the HBC at Fort Edmonton, Jasper House and Rocky Mountain House. He was of Spanish-French-Indian origin, and he spoke nine languages. He was very helpful to the Palliser Expedition as their interpreter.

In February, 1859, Captain John Palliser recorded these notes as his expedition included a visit with the chief trader at Rocky Mountain House:

"Mr. [Joseph] Brazeau had been for many years in the American fur trade; was a wonderful Indian linguist, and spoke Stoney, Sioux, Salteau, Cree, Blackfoot, and Crow, - six languages, five of which are totally distinct from one another. Being of an old Spanish family, and educated in the United States, he also spoke English, French, and Spanish fluently."

NAME: BRAZEAU, Joseph Edward      PARISH: St. Louis, U.S.A.      ENTERED SERVICE: 15 June 1846      DATES: b. 10 March 1812  
(B.239/u/1, #188, 200)      d. 1 Sept. 1871

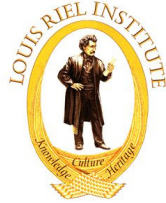
Appointments & Service				
Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference
*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May				
1846-1847	appointed postmaster actually sent	disposable Carlton	Columbia Saskatchewan	B.239/k/2 p. 392 D.4/68, pp. 241-242
1847-1850	postmaster in charge	Fort Assiniboine	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/2, p. 404, 427, 456
1850-1855	postmaster	Jaspers House	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/2, p. 479; B.239/k/3, p. 6, 30, 50, 75
1855-1858	postmaster	Rocky Mountain House	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/3, p. 102, 124, 144
1858-1861	clerk in charge	Rocky Mountain House	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/3, p. 165, 185, 205
1861-1862	clerk	Jaspers House	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/3, p. 224
1862-1864	clerk	Edmonton	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/3, p. 225, 245, 267
1864-1869	clerk	Rocky Mountain House	Saskatchewan	B.239/k/3, p. 289-90, 311-2, 332, 354; B.239/x/8a, fo.11
1869-1870	freeman			B.239/g/109, 110; B.60/a/36, 37

Wife: Marguerite Brabant dit Salois (1815-1885), daughter of Augustin and Angelique (Lucier), m. 1831 in Fort Edmonton (Gail Morin, *Métis Families: A Genealogical Compendium*).

Children: George Washington (1845-1880); Mary Genevieve (1846-1896); Marguerite Julie (b.1848); Sophie (b.1849); John Horace Nelson (b.1850); Adelaide Louise (b.1854); Joseph Edward (b.1855); Maria Anne (b.1860) (Gail Morin, *Métis Families: A Genealogical Compendium*).



Braszeau's son, John Horace Nelson Brazeau was a scout, guide and interpreter for the North West Mounted Police at both Fort Saskatchewan and Calgary. John was born at Fort Assiniboine in 1850.



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