

6. James Isbester was married to Anna Marie Fraser at Quebec in the year 1875. At that time he would have been 36 years of age. The Isbester's first child, Colin James Fraser Isbester, was born at Quebec in the year 1877. This was probably during the period that James Isbester's construction work on the Intercolonial Railway was in progress in the vicinity of Rimouski, Quebec. I can remember my Father, Alexander John Isbester, saying that his Father, James Isbester, had carried out construction work for the Intercolonial Railway along the Matapedia River valley into New Brunswick.

7. I can also remember my Father, Alexander John Isbester, talking about the summer home that the Isbester family had near Riviere du Loupe, or possibly it was near Rimouski or Matane, in Quebec. Since my Father was born at Ottawa in the year 1879 such a summer home must have been maintained for a number of years after the Isbester family moved to Ottawa.

8. When I was quite young living in Port Arthur (now part of the City of Thunder Bay) I can remember going to town with my Father and passing a group of "old-timers" sitting on the steps of Benger's Grocery Store which was located on the south side of Arthur Street and just west of Cumberland Street. One of these old-timers was a man by the name of Cox. I don't believe I ever did know his other name or his initials. I think that he lived somewhere out along the Oliver Road not too far from Riverside Cemetery. He had a heavy walrus-like mustache, and being an inveterate tobacco chewer, his grey mustache was stained a permanent yellowish-brown colour. Mr. Cox would stop my Father every time that he saw him and proceed to tell my Father about when he (Cox) was engineer on a wood burning locomotive for James Isbester (my Grandfather) when a spark from the wood burning locomotive set fire to my Grandmother's bustle on the railway station platform at Riviere du Loupe. Mr. Cox always got a great kick out of telling the story and would laugh and laugh and laugh during the telling. I can remember hearing the story several times.