



Diaspora Stories

Ancestor's Name: Maurice Kidney
Place of birth (if known): Ballybrasil, Queenstown (Cork) 1849
Your Name: Doreen Chappell
Contact (optional): doreen.1951@outlook.com

Maurice Kidney was born on 1/3/1849. He was the eldest of 10 children. The father David was a farmer, married to Margaret. Brothers included John, Martin and David. Sisters included Kate. Maurice joined the Royal Navy and travelled mainly on troop ships to India, including the Crocodyle. He was invalided out in 1886, but had gained a medal a few years earlier in the Sudan. After that he was a labourer and farmer, dying in 1913.

He lived in Portsmouth following his 1878 marriage to Lydia Newna, born in Dublin of a Irish mother and English father. They had eight children, one dying at 2 months. Francis Augustine, born 1886, was my grand father.

I have no photos of Maurice, but have of my great grandmother Lydia, and a letter written by her in 1922. I have written a novel based on all the information I have and hope to publish it.

Maurice had, by all accounts, an unremarkable life, but he left a legacy of love, honest descendants, and a ~~large~~ small number of those were in the Navy. There must be some Kidneys out there! I keep looking.

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I agree to submit this story for publication by Skibbereen Heritage Centre.

Signed: Doreen Chappell

Date: 25/4/17

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SKIBBEREEN HERITAGE CENTRE
Old Gas Works Building,
Upper Bridge Street, Skibbereen,
West Cork, Ireland, P81WK06
T: (353) 28 40900
E: info@skibberheritage.com
W: www.skibberheritage.com