

Robert Jackson

Robert was the son of Andre C. Jackson and Emilie Munroe (b.c. 1834), the daughter of Hugh Munroe Jr. and Sinouahaha Cree. They were married at Portage la Prairie on January 20, 1850. Robert's father was apparently an American.

Robert Jackson is described as a Pikuni Blackfoot Indian who enlisted as a scout in the 7th Cavalry on December 24, 1875. He was born on August 27, 1856, at Fort Benton, Montana Territory. He was in the Yellowstone expedition in 1873, the Black Hills expedition in 1874, and the Sioux campaign in 1876 and was discharged at Fort A. Lincoln on June 25, 1876. He later resided at Pryor, Montana, joined a wild west show in 1895, and resided in Colorado Springs in 1899.¹

Fur trader, Isaac Cowie notes that Mr. Goldie and Robert Jackson were employed by him in 1871 to go from Prince Albert to the Cypress Hills to negotiate with the Blackfoot. Jackson could speak the language because his grandfather Hugh Munroe and his first wife Sranopa Otokan spoke the language.² Jackson apparently absconded from this mission to Wood Mountain in the company of Metis trader Antoine Ouellette.

Jackson's role in the Resistance is unclear, however, he was leading a Resistance group from Batoche that was in exile in Montana in 1885. On December 16, 1885, Lt. Gov. Dewdney's spy, James Anderson wrote to Dewdney from Eagle Rock, Montana:

There are settled at St. Peter's Mission near the Sun River about 225 Half-breeds, on the creeks and ravines running into the Sun River... there are about 25 families from the south Saskatchewan living in this settlement, about 30 men, 70 women and children, and not more than 30 horses. Among the men are C. Trottier and sons, L Sayers, Robt. Jackson, John Ross Jr., Richilieu (Rocheleau) and a number of others. Robt. Jackson seems to be the leader of the rebels, he is an English Halfbreed, (and) was once a Scout in the employ of the American Government under General Miles, he does not bear a good reputation, and no influence of any kind.



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¹ William Jackson was the younger brother of Robert Jackson. He enlisted as a scout for the third time on December 24, 1875, and was in the valley and hilltop fights on the Little Bighorn River. He died on December 30, 1899, at his homestead on Cutbank Creek, Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana. His story, told by James Willard Schultz, *William Jackson Indian Scout* (Houghton Mifflin Co.: Boston, 1926), is a useful account. A typescript *Account of the Battle of the Little Big Horn by a Scout* as told to Jack Monroe is in the Montana Historical Society Collection. "The Story of Scout Wm. Jackson" is in the *Dupuyer Acantha* [Montana], July 6, 1899 (copy in the Montana State Historical Society Library).

² Isaac Cowie. *The Company of Adventurers, 1867-1874.* Toronto: William Briggs, 1913: 432.