

Ambroise Didyme Lepine. (1840-1923)

Ambroise was born in St. Vital, he was the son the son of Jean Baptiste Berard dit Lepine and Julia Henry (Métisse), he was the brother of Jean Baptiste Lepine (b. 1824) and Maxime Lepine (b. 1837).

Ambroise married Cecile Marion (1842 - 1908) the daughter of Francois Marion and Angelique Deschamps Moreau. Their children were Albert, James, Louis Gonzague, Narcisse, Cleophine, Edmond (George), Marie, Marguerite and adopted son Pierre Cadotte the son of Joseph Cadotte and Mariejean Emma (Cree). Cecile passed away on 22 May 1908 in Forget, Saskatchewan. Ambroise died on June 8, 1923 at St. Boniface.

From the beginning of the Red River Resistance, he was Louis Riel's military lieutenant and chief enforcer. He led the armed party that ordered Lieutenant Governor McDougall out of the settlement in October 1869. He was prominent in the surrenders of the Schultz Canadian party in December 1869 and of the Boulton party in February 1870.

His appearance in 1870 was described by Roderick MacBeath as: "a man of magnificent physique, standing fully six feet three and built in splendid proportion, straight as an arrow, with hair of raven blackness, large aquiline nose and eyes of piercing brilliance; a man of prodigious strength, a skilled roughrider. ..."



Lépine was subsequently arrested and tried for the murder of Thomas Scott in 1874. He was found guilty by a jury, but was granted an amnesty by the Governor-General of Canada with the provision that he lose his civil rights (five years banishment from Her Majesty's Dominions). He died at the St. Boniface General Hospital on 8 June 1923. He

is buried in the churchyard of the St. Boniface Cathedral next to Riel. He is commemorated by Lepine Avenue in Winnipeg.

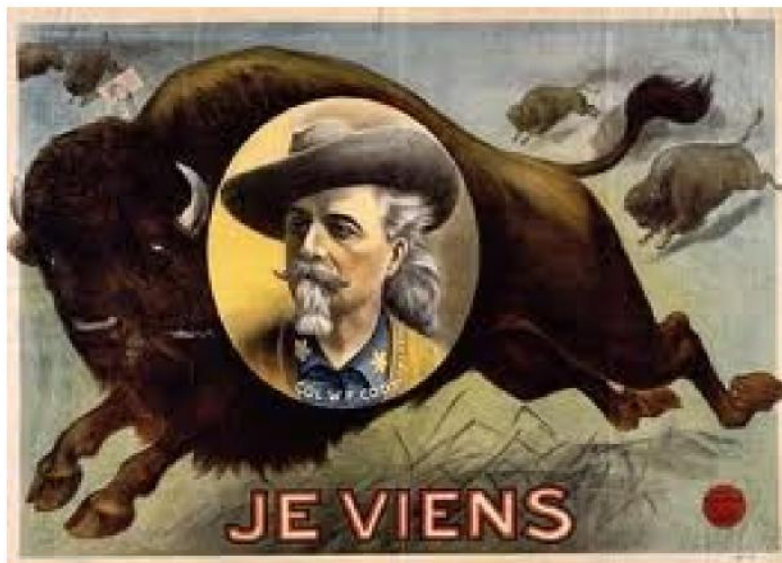
Ambroise received Chippewa Half Breed Scrip, Certificate # 407 under the Red Lake & Pembina Treaty of 1864 (amendment):

Lepine, Ambroise D. [R.L. Scrip #407]
National Archives, RG 75, Entry 363, "List of Persons to Whom Scrip was Issued under Red Lake & Pembina Treaties..." Halfbreed Scrip No. 407 [checked] issued November 4, 1874, under the authority of Secretarial Decision, June 12, 1872, delivered November 4, 1874
National Archives, RG 75, Entry 364, "Treaty of April 12, 1864, Red Lake and Pembina Half-Breeds," Scrip Stubs, Number 407, dated Nov. 4th, 1874, 160 Acres, delivered Nov. 4th, 1874, issued to Ambroise D. Lepine, delivered to Agt. Stowe.

His wife also applied for his Metis scrip as head of family under the Manitoba Act (Section 32).

Scrip affidavit for Lepine, Ambroise; wife: Cecile Lepine (deponent); born: Mar. 18, 1840; father: Jean Baptiste Lepine (French Canadian; mother: Julie Honore (Métis); claim no: 749; scrip no: 5833 to 5840; date of issue: June 26, 1876; amount: \$160

Ambroise Lepine appeared in the 1889 Exposition Universelle (Paris Worlds Fair) with Buffalo Bill Cody. Maxime Goulet, along with Maxime Lepine, Michel Dumas and Jules Marion were presented as French-Canadien trappers with teams of Eskimo sled dogs. Lepine left St. Boniface on March 30, 1889, with Maxime Goulet, Michel Dumas and Jules Marion on the way to the Paris World's Fair to take part in the Wild West Show. They took two Red River Carts, two trains of dogs and a buffalo gun. They built a Metis log cabin at the Fair.



In the finale at the Wild West Show their log cabin was set on fire and they were depicted as trappers under attack by Indians who are rescued by Buffalo Bill and his

men. The Wild West Show took two Metis dog teams, twenty buffalo and 200 horses with them to Paris.



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