

Jean Baptiste Beaulieu. (b. c. 1814)

By Ray Beaumont

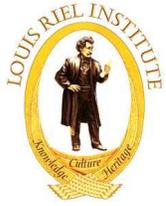
Beaulieu was an old French-Canadian name sometimes spelled Bouillier in the old records. The direct ancestors of the Beaulieu's currently reside at Ebb and Flow and Sandy Bay, Manitoba. Baptiste Beaulieu, Metis, was born sometime before 1800. We do not know much about him, except that he took an Indian wife named Ka-takoa-ko-ia-way and raised at least two sons, both of whom settled on the west side of Lake Manitoba. The elder, Jean Baptiste, was born *circa* 1814 at Lac la Biche, northeast of Edmonton. The younger, François was born *circa* 1822 at Portage la Prairie. The family moved around a great deal because Baptiste was a hunter, and his sons later reported that they lived temporarily at places such as Riding Mountain, Portage la Prairie, and Baie St. Paul, when they were young.

Baie St. Paul is located about half way between Portage la Prairie and Winnipeg on the Assiniboine River. Jean Baptiste said that they were there in "about 1826." Evidently, they returned to that area seasonally for quite a number of years. After Jean Baptiste married Josephite Richard in 1840, his sons Baptiste and Antoine were born at Baie St. Paul or nearby. His brother, François, married in 1844 at St. François Xavier, a Metis community that is only a short distance away.

François had only one child, Marie, who died young. Jean Baptiste, on the other hand, had twelve, several of whom survived childhood. André was born c. 1854, at Lizard Lake (either in the Riding Mountains or at Waywayseecappo which was called Lizard Point), Joseph Pascal born c. 1859 at Gladstone, and Michel and Marie born at Totogan in 1861 and 1862 respectively. Totogan was located north of Westbourne, Manitoba just upstream from the outlet of the White Mud River into Lake Manitoba.

According to Baptiste, his hunting grounds were at Riding Mountain, but Totogan seems to have been the base camp. We do know that the Saulteaux-Metis mixed hunting band at Totogan was called the White Mud Band at one time. In September 1870, his daughter Marie died there, just after they had finished putting up hay. His brother François was further up the lake at Manitoba House (now Kinosota) in 1870. He had perhaps settled there because his second wife was from nearby Ebb and Flow Lake.

When Treaty 2 was signed at Manitoba House in 1871, the Beaulieus were entered on the band lists. François and his wife were part of the Ebb and Flow Band, but later went to reside on the Sandy Bay Reserve, where Baptist's family had settled. Then in 1887, the entire family applied for Metis Scrip. As a result, as of today, some of the Beaulieu's are Treaty Indians and some are Metis. (Contributed by Raymond M. Beaumont (Editor), from *Ebb and Flow Stories*, Winnipeg: Frontier School Division No. 48, 1997: 150-152.)



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