

Jean Baptiste « Boin-ence » Davis II (b. 1822)¹

Jean Baptiste “Boin-ence” Davis was born in 1822 at St. Boniface, the son of Jean Baptiste Davis (b. 1877) and Josephte (Saulteaux/Chippewa). Josephte was Josephte Mijakammikijikok (Mezhekamakuikok) who was first married to fur trader Alexandre Wilkie. Thus Jean Baptiste Davis and Jean Baptiste Wilkie were half-brothers. Jean Baptiste Davis married Julie Desnomme, the daughter of Pierre Desnomme sometime before 1838. This family appears in the 1850 Pembina census as family # 115.² He was a counselor and Headman to Chief Little Shell.³ He signed the Augustin Brabant Metis petition from Lake Qu’Appelle, on 11th September 1874. Baptiste Davis signed as a witness to Treaty Four at Qu’Appelle in 1876. He also signed the 1878 Cypress Hills petition for a Metis Reserve.

His brother, William “Kug-kay-dway-wash-kung” Davis (b. 1823) is also listed on the 1850 Pembina census as a hunter as family #116. William is shown as age 26, his wife Marie Vallee as age 20 and their son William as age six. William was born at Red River, the son of Jean Baptiste Davis and Betsy Josette, La Saulteuse. They moved to Pembina in the late 1840s. He married Marie Enno Heneault, then Marie Vallée at Pembina in 1862. William was also a counsellor for chiefs Little Shell II and III. William was a signatory to Riel’s August 20, 1880 petition to Major General N.A. Miles requesting support for the Montana Half-Breeds. He and his brother Jean Baptiste Jr. were both members of the Turtle Mountain Band. He signed the 1878 Cypress Hills petition for a Metis Reserve. Their son Louis Davis (b. 1869) became one of the members of the Turtle Mountain Police in the early 1900s.

Children of Jean Baptiste Davis and Julie Desnomme:

Helene Davis was born in 1838 at Red River and married Michael Klyne, the son of Michael Klyne Sr. and Madeleine Millet dit Beauchemin.

Jean Baptiste Davis III was born at Red River in 1847, the son of Jean Baptiste Davis II and Julie Desnomme. He married Louise Lafontaine, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Lafontaine and Francoise Martin in 1870 at Lebret. He later married Emerise

¹ References: National Archives, Record Group 75, Special Case 110, Jean Baptiste “Boin-ence” Davis 73 years old [in 1892], who was also a member of the late Chief’s council.

!RG_75, SC_110, 32382-1907, National Archives: Council Meeting 4 Oct 1892, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, his 'x' mark, councilman.

² Lists Baptiste Davis, hunter, age 28, Julie age 25, Helen age 12, Julie age 10, Catherine age 8, Josette age 6, and Baptiste age 4.

³ Counselors for Little Shell III in the 1890s [These men also served as counselors for Little Shell II: Ayse-sense]. Sas Swaine Poitras (67); Kug-kay-dway-wash-kung, William Davis (70), Paydway-walsh-kum, Louis Lenoir; Boin-ence Davis (73); Kar-yence Delorme (50), a son of Auguhk-quay; Sharlo Bottineau (68); Ossaotit, Francois Desmarais (55); Tchee-kee-tarn Parisien (68); Batees-shish Valley (58), son of Norbace Valley; Ahkee-win-nini, Alex Jannott (58); Tcheer-kuhk, Joseph Desmarais (56); Bayriss, Corbet Grant (55); Karn-nar-dah, Antoine Heneault (59); and Jean Batees Gorin (Champagne, 57).

Lavallee, the daughter of Francois Xavier Lavallee and Genevieve Morand. He signed the 1878 Cypress Hills petition for a Metis Reserve. He died before 1938.

Maguerite Davis was born in 1846 at St. Boniface. She married Alexandre Houle, the son of Charles Houle and Catherine Farlardeau.

Lareine Elise Davis was born in 1847 at St. Boniface. She married Moise Vallee, the son of Louis Vallee and Louise Martel.

Alexandre “Pug-un-auck” Davis was born at Pembina in 1852, he was also the son of Jean Baptiste Davis and Julianne Desnommé. His parents were both members of the Turtle Mountain Band.⁴ Alexander was married to Eulalie Gladue, the daughter of Antoine Gladue and Catherine Fagnant.. He signed the 1878 Cypress Hills petition for a Metis Reserve.

Louis Davis was born May 28, 1856, he was also a son of Jean Baptiste Davis and Julianne Desnommé. He married Theresa Desjarlais at St. François Xavier. His father was one of the Metis hunters who had signed the Half-Breed petition from Lake Qu’Appelle in 1874.⁵ Louis was a member of Captain Edouard Dumont’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. His parents were both members of the Turtle Mountain Band. He married Theresa Desjarlais at St. François Xavier. His father was one of the Metis hunters who had signed the Half-Breed petition from Lake Qu’Appelle in 1874. Louis signed the 1878 Cypress Hills petition for a Metis Reserve. Louis was a member of Captain Edouard Dumont’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.



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⁴ Gail Morin. *Turtle Mountain Chippewa, Pembina Band; Annuity Payments and Census*. Quinton Publications, n.d. p. 24.

⁵ Requesting a re-opening of the buffalo hunt between November 14th and February 15th each year and the granting of Metis “reserve” land (A strip of land 150 miles long along the American border beginning where the Pembina River crosses the border. This strip was to be fifty miles from south to north).