

John Johnson Leveille (1852-1909)

John was born on November 16, 1852 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Pierre dit Trouch Leveille and Julie MacKenzie. Pierre was a white settler from Quebec. Pierre was a soldier in Napoleon Bonaparte's army, fought with Napoleon in the Battle of Waterloo. He settled in Red River country in 1817 and married Julie MacKenzie, daughter of Sir Alexander MacKenzie the Canadian explorer and his Inuit wife. They were married on September 6, 1873 at SFX. John married Eliza Breland (b. 1842), the daughter of Maria Grant and Pascal Breland. His brother was Pierre Leveille Jr.¹ In 1873, Pierre was one of the Metis scouts for the North West Mounted Police trek west to Fort Walsh. They tell of him being a big man, over six feet, weighing about 300 pounds. He was legendary for being one of the best scouts and leader, speaking three native languages besides English. Pierre played a major role in getting the police out west in their March to Cypress Hills in 1873.

The children of Eliza Breland and John Leveille are:

- Marie Rose Leveille, b. January 06, 1878; d. December 08, 1952, Kennedy, Sask.
- Marie Elsie Priscille Leveille, b. June 01, 1874.
- John James Leveille, b. May 10, 1876.
- Victor Napoleon Leveille, b. December 15, 1879.
- Rose de-Lima Leveille, b. June 25, 1882.
- Jean Robert Leveille, b. October 26, 1883.
- Marie Justine Leveille, b. December 17, 1884.
- Marie Virginie Leveille, b. September 25, 1885.
- Alfred J. Leveille, b. October 03, 1887.
- John Joseph Leveille, b. 1888.
- Gabriel Leveille, b. 1889.
- Marie Louise Leveille, b. November 02, 1891.
- Helene Leveille, b. September 10, 1895.



Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell
Coordinator of Metis Heritage and History Research
Louis Riel Institute

¹ Pierre Jr., b. January 14, 1829; d. February 16, 1884; m. Genevieve Fagnant; b. 1834; d. 1841.

