

## **Louison Letendré *dit* Batoche.** (1797-1883)

Louison dit Batoche was born at St. Boniface between 1797 and 1805, the son of Jean-Baptiste Letendré from Quebec and Josephite “Crise” (Cree). Louison’s father and Emmanuel Lussier were among the twelve men who were with David Thompson when he crossed the Rockies to the Columbia River in the winter of 1810-11.

Louison married Marie Julie Hallett at Fort Carlton in 1821. They were living at Red River in 1823, they tried farming and had thirty acres under cultivation. They left Red River after 1829, and spent a number of years following the buffalo hunt and living as traders. They are listed in the 1850 Minnesota Census at Pembina and Louison appears on the Chippewa of Lake Superior and Mississippi treaty list in 1854 and again on the Taylor Falls, Minnesota treaty list of 1870.

Louison was a celebrated buffalo hunter and trader. Sometime during the 1860s, he had established a number of small trading posts on the South Saskatchewan River and permanently settled in what became known as Batoche in 1871. He is shown as part of the original 1871 St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan governing committee. Some of Louison’s uncles and his brother and their families went west to settle around St. Albert and Lac Ste. Anne just north of Edmonton.



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