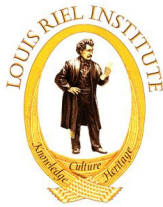


Marie-Madeleine Pelletier, (Lafontaine) (b. 1845).

Marie was the daughter of Pierre Pelletier and Angelique Contois. She married Louis Lafontaine (1842-1939) sometime before 1868. They had ten children. Like most buffalo hunters he and his wife Marie had children born at Qu'Appelle, Lebret, Cypress Hills, Wood Mountain and Batoche. In 1878, Louis and other Metis buffalo hunters at Cypress Hills wrote a petition asking for a special Metis reserve of land. In 1885 he was living at Batoche. He was a member of Captain Ambroise Champagne's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance at Batoche. Louis and Marie-Madeleine moved to Belcourt, North Dakota after the Resistance.

Like many of the Metis women who went through the deprivations of the Metis Resistance of 1885 Marie became ill. She died shortly after they got to Belcourt. Louis then married Emelie Desjarlais (Kookum Siinpiins) sometime after 1889.

Louis was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. His father had received Half Breed Scrip (#452) issued under the Red Lake and Pembina Treaty of April 12, 1864. After the fighting at Batoche Louis and his family moved to the Turtle Mountain Reserve and he appears as #236 on the voters list of those who signed the amended Turtle Mountain Treaty of April 21, 1904. He had three children with his second wife. Their grandson Louis F. Lafontaine served on the Turtle Mountain Tribal Council from 1959 to 1961.



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