

William Gilbert Bird. (1847-1942)

William Bird was born on July 25, 1848, the son of Frederick Adolphus Bird and Ann Garrioch. William's father was the first M.L.A. from Portage la Prairie. He married Harriet Cummings, the daughter of Robert Cummings and Jane Monkman (b. 1853) on September 15, 1870 in St. Paul's, Middlechurch. They had ten children and later moved to the Prince Albert region.

William Bird, like his father, was an opponent of Louis Riel during the Red River Resistance. He was a member of the "Portage Gang" captured and imprisoned by Riel's troops in February of 1870. Bird is described as a Metis trader; and in the 1881 Canada Census is listed as a teamster.



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