

Metis Dictionary of Biography
Volume N to P



Edited By Lawrence J. Barkwell

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Front Cover: Drouillard, Georges. (1775-1810)

Georges was the principle guide and hunter for the Lewis and Clark Expedition, 1804-1806. He was the Metis son of a Canadian Metis father Pierre Drouillard from Sandwich (Ontario)/Detroit (Michigan) and Sandecri Flat Head a Delaware-Shawnee woman. Drouillard's father was a trapper and an interpreter for the Wyandot Indians and had accompanied their delegation to Congress to petition for assistance for a trip they planned to France. Georges was living on the Spanish side of the Mississippi River as part of the dispossessed community known as the Absentee Shawnee when Captain Meriwether Lewis recruited him at Fort Massac for the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. He was employed with them as a hunter and interpreter. The journal records clearly indicate that Drouillard was the best hunter in the group, he was fluent in several Indian languages, English and French as well as a master of the Indian sign language of the plains.

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Introduction and Acknowledgements

The Metis Dictionary of Biography is intended to give the reader an overview of Metis history through the biographies of a very diverse cross section of North America's Metis people. The ancestors of today's Metis Nation were the children of the unions between North American Aboriginal mothers and European fathers. They developed into a distinct people with a group consciousness necessary to promote their collective causes. A Metis was not a French-Canadian, nor a Canadian, nor a Scot. Neither were they First Nations or Inuit. They created for themselves and future generations a unique culture, a group identity and declared themselves a "New Nation." The Metis forged treaties and declared a Bill of Rights that marked this identity as a "New Nation."

Often known as founders of the fur-trade, the Metis of what was to become the Canadian and American Northwest participated as trappers, guides, interpreters, factors, dock and warehouse workers, voyageurs, *coureurs de bois*, canoe and York boat operators, couriers of the first postal services, and Red River cart teamsters. The Metis were essential in commercializing both the fur trade with the invention of the York boat, and the buffalo hunt with the invention of the Red River cart.

Within this volume, well-known Metis personalities as well as the unsung heroes of Metis communities and families are documented. Day-to-day events as well as historical turning points are recounted. Achievements in the arts, sports and literature are included. We also attempt to correct the oversight of previous historical treatments which have failed to document the lives of Metis women. The accounts herein cover the past as well as contemporary Metis figures.

One of the first questions that confronted us was who to include in this compendium of biographies. In this regard we have taken a broad approach by including both people identified by outsiders as Metis or Half-Breed as well as those who self-identify as Metis. We wish to thank Todd Lamirande for providing major treatments of the lives of Annie McDermott, Amelia Connolly, Dr. John Bunn and Elzéar Goulet. These research papers were originally prepared for the Metis Resource Centre and we are indebted to Lorraine Freeman, Executive Director, for allowing these papers to be reprinted here. Lorraine has also been most generous in sharing her ideas and information from the Metis Resource Centre's extensive library.

Heather Hallett has produced a valuable and well-researched Metis genealogy, *Children of the Rivers* (1999). We are most grateful that she has permitted us to use excerpts of her work on the Hallett, Fidler, Letendre, and Bourke families in this compendium.

Heather has also contributed newly researched biographical sketches.

Raymond Beaumont of Frontier School Division #48 has done extensive research on the Metis origins of Reverend Henry Budd. We are grateful that he has provided this research for this compendium. We acknowledge and give credit to Audreen Hourie for suggesting that we attempt to include Metis oral history and traditional Metis story telling wherever possible. As with the first volume of this series Audreen's advice and support has been invaluable.

Kathy Hodgson-Smith has contributed numerous profiles of notable Saskatchewan Metis. These biographies were originally written for *New Breed Magazine* when Kathy served as Editor of that magazine.

Biographies which have appeared in *Batoche 1885: The Militia of the Metis Liberation Movement*¹ are included in this volume

Many unnamed individuals have contributed family stories to this compendium thus much oral history of the Metis people has been incorporated into this book.

The reader should note that "Metis" is the modern form of the word "Métis." The older form along with the word "Michif" refers to the people who began the Metis Nation in the Old Northwest part of North America in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. We have generally used the modern form of spelling "Metis" except where the organization or author uses "Métis".

Brian Cyr, Darren Préfontaine, and Leah Dorion provided considerable editorial support for this volume as well as contributing written biographical pieces.

¹ Lawrence Barkwell, Winnipeg: Manitoba Metis Federation, 2012.

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Nadeau, Pierre. (1833)

Pierre was born in St. Norbert, the son of Joseph Nadeau and Suzanne Bourdon. He married Joseph Cardinal ; they had five children.

Pierre signed a September 19, 1877 Petition from John Munro² and other Metis at Blackfoot Crossing that was presented to Lieutenant-Governor David Laird Lieutenant Governor, N.W.T. They asked for farming implements and seed to begin to settle and till the land. They also requested hunting rights.

Nadeau, Pierre alias Lacorde - Concerning his claim as a head of family - Address, St. Albert P.O. [Post Office] - Born, 1833 at St. Norbert - Father, Joseph Nadeau, (Métis) - Mother, Susanne Bourdon, (Métis) - Married, 1860 at St. François Xavier to Joseph Cardinal - Children living, six (names on declaration) - Children deceased, three - Scrip for \$17.00 and \$143.00 - Claim 1019

Nault, Alfred (b. 1901)

Alfred "Fred" Nault was born on Oct. 22, 1901 in Montana, the son of Napoleon Nault (born 17 Sept. 1858) and Louise Bushie (the daughter of William Bushie and Suzanne Collins. Alfred was raised on Rocky Boy Reservation by his grandfather, William Bushie. Alfred was married to Helen Godin and then to Mary Carolyn Nomee.

The Little Shell Band documentation gives us the following information:³

Fred Nault left a memoire *Fred Nault Montana Metis as Told by Himself.*" In the first chapter of his memoir, titled "How some of us came to be Metis," Fred Nault recounts his family's oral history of the late 1870s and the early 1880s Metis settlements at St Peter's Mission and Lewistown. The St Peter's Mission was the first of the Rocky Mountain Front Range Metis communities.

² Munro was employed as an interpreter for Treaty Seven, negotiated just days prior to this petition: On Monday afternoon, September 17, 1877, Commissioners Laird and Macleod met with the chiefs who were in attendance at the treaty grounds. James Bird, assisted by John Munro and Isidore St. Duval, handled the interpreting for the government. Jean L'Heureux, who lived in Crowfoot's camp, acted for the Indians although his services were paid for by the government.

³ "Supplemental Evidence and Analsis in Support of Federal Acknowledgment of the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana." Compiled by: Dr Robert J. Franklin, Professor (Little Shell member) Dr. Pamela A. Bunte, Professor (Little Shell member) Dept of Anthropology California State Univ. Submitted on Dec 12, 1994. SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON THE LITTLE SHELL CHIPPEWA TRIBE'S FEDERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL CHRONOLOGY OF DOCUMENTS, 1870-1994.

Descendants of the St Peter's colony became the nucleus of the Choteau and Augusta/Gilman Metis enclaves and later the Great Falls and Helena enclaves of Little Shell group. Lewistown was the kernel out of which came the Metis settlements at of the Havre-Wolf Point- Lewistown triangle.

Nault indicates that "a number of the people on the Rocky Boy's Reservation are descended from mixed bloods... Nault states that his father and his father's brother, Napoleon and Andre Nault took part in the second Riel Resistance in 1885.

Nault, however, lived with and was raised by his maternal grandfather, William Boushie (from the Michif pronunciation of Boucher), one of the first permanent Montana Metis settlers. He says:" William Boushie was Cree-French. He moved from Canada to Red Lake, Minnesota, in the late 1870s. From there he led a group of people up the Missouri River. They followed the Missouri because the buffalo were awfully scarce. They lived mostly on elk and deer. Some of them traveled in those two-wheeled carts called Red River carts. Others carried their good on horse travois. According to what my grandfather told me many times they were a large group — mostly mixed bloods—about 10 camps of them." Nault's statement that Boushie had lived at Red Lake indicates that he was affiliated with the Pembina Metis and Chippewa community.

Nault recounts that the Boushie group split from a group that remained with Riel, each settling in a different area. "Shortly after the Boushie party's arrival the party split into two parties. Those remaining with Boushie went to the Snowy Mountains (near Lewistown) to get work. The Riel group continued up the Missouri to Cascade, then to St Peter's Mission. The party that went to the Snowy Mountains, their descendants live at Lewistown. In fact, Lewistown was founded by those Metis. They figured that they did not belong to the Riel group. They went under the name of the Oulette (Ouellette) Band. They had gone under Frank Ouellette in North Dakota on the way here. A "Francois Ouellette" was one of the signatories to the 1880 Riel petition to General Miles. Ben Kline indicated that Frank Ouellette was with Pierre Berger's group.

At Dupuyer, Montana William Bouchie owned the Rigby place up at the mountains. It was once called "Little Chicago" because there were so many tents and little buildings there. This was a predominately Metis settlement in the late 1800s.

Nault, André. (1830-1924)

André Nault was born on April 21, 1830 at Point Douglas. He was the son of Amable Nault and Josette (Josephite) Lagimodière (*dit* La Cyrès) and the grandson of Jean Baptiste Lagimonière and Marie-Anne Gaboury. André married Anastasie Landry, a Métisse, and they had 14 children.

Children:

- Marie Elise, born March 5, 1851, married Edouard Perreault.
- Joseph, born February 23, 1854, married Rosalie Rocheleau.
- Elmire, born May 17, 1856, married Michel Pontbriand dit Sansregret.
- Napoleon, born September 17, 1858, married Melanie Vandal then Hattie Jarvis.
- Andre, born March 12, 1860.
- Elie, born December 28, 1861, married Marie Anne Charette.
- Marie Jean, born August 1, 1863, died September 1865.
- Martin, born May 6, 1865, married Josephine Blondin.

- Marie, born February 9, 1867, married Joseph Gosselin.
- Philomene, born September 14, 1868, died 1869.
- Aime, born May 8, 1870, married Josephine Martel.
- Angélique, born November 17, 1871, married Alfred Carrière.
- Alexandre, born March 1, 1874, married Mathilde Carrière, then Marie Emma Villebrun.
- Philomene, born July 11, 1876, died 1876.

Although André's parents were of French Canadian origin, they had become integrated into the Metis community of the Red River Settlement. As a young man André accompanied his father on buffalo hunts to the Missouri plateau, excelling as a horseman and hunter. He obtained River Lot 12 in St. Vital and farmed there. On May 17, 1849, at age 19, he supported the Metis demand for free trade at the famous Sayer trial by marching with his rifle in the Metis delegation outside of the courthouse.

The first event of Metis resistance to the Canadian government's plan to annex Rupert's Land was the stopping of the surveyors on October 11, 1869. This event took place on the riverlot adjacent to André's property. He is not specifically listed as one of the seven Naults who were present, but the Nault listed as "Nanin" is believed to have been André. On the arrival of the surveyors, he was the one who went for his cousin, Louis Riel, who spoke English. According to Nault, at a Metis meeting on October 21, 1869, Riel (Nault's cousin) ordered him to construct a barrier at St. Norbert to prevent the Lieutenant-Governor designate, William McDougall, from entering Red River or bringing in arms and ammunition. On November 1st, he and his brother Benjamin forced McDougall's representatives to return to Pembina. On the following day, under orders from Riel, he and his men captured Fort Garry. Then from the 4th to 23rd of December, Nault occupied Fort Pembina, just north of the international border, to watch the activities of McDougall. When McDougall headed back east, Nault returned to the Red River Settlement.

As part of the retaliation for the court marshal and execution of Thomas Scott in March of 1870, many Metis suffered reprisals from the troops under the command of Colonel Garnet Wolseley. In February of 1871, Nault was attacked by soldiers at Pembina and left for dead. Later he was to play a role in obtaining information for Riel and the Metis on the movements of William Bernard O'Donoghue, who had asked Metis leaders (Nault included) to support a Fenian raid on Manitoba. The Metis under Riel stayed loyal to Canada and did not join this attempted raid.

In late 1871, Riel suggested the formation of an association of Metis to maintain their influence in the Red River parishes and looked to Nault as one of the principal supporters. Nault was named a councilor of the new organization, the Union Saint-Alexandre (named after Bishop Alexandre Taché). Although amnesty for Resistance leaders had been promised during the Manitoba Act negotiations, He escaped to the United States, returned in 1874 and was tried for Scott's death but not convicted because of a hung jury.

While André was in prison awaiting a second trial, the government of Alexander Mackenzie granted full amnesty to all except Riel, Lépine and O'Donoghue in February of 1875. After his release André returned to his St. Vital farm where he would live until his death at age 94. He did not take part in the Metis Resistance of 1885 in Saskatchewan but three of his sons did. (Contributed by Ruth Swan.)

Nault, André Jr. “Nin Nin.”(b. 1860)

Nin Nin was the son of Riel’s cousin André (above) and Anastasie Landry. He was suspected of being a spy for Riel, and was picked up by the Frog Lake police on March 26, 1885, detained at Fort Pitt and released the following day for lack of evidence. Nault and Abraham Montour were charged with treason-felony for their part in events at Frog Lake and Frenchman’s Butte, however, their hearing was postponed for lack of witnesses and the case was later dropped.

Nault, Derrick M. (PhD.)

Derrick M. Nault (Ph.D., Queen’s University) is a former visiting professor of Seoul National University, Korea and Kwansai Gakuin University, Japan. The founder and former president of the Asia Association for Global Studies (AAGS), Dr. Nault is currently its Director as well as the Editor in Chief of the Asia Journal of Global Studies (AJGS), the association’s official journal. In addition to assuming these duties, Dr. Nault lectures in world history and development studies at the University of Calgary in Calgary, Canada. His recent works include *Development in Asia: Interdisciplinary, Post-neoliberal and Transnational Perspectives* (Ed.) (2008, Brown Walker Press) and *Globalization and Human Rights in the Developing World* (co-ed. with Shawn L. England) (2011, Palgrave Macmillan). Dr. Nault’s main research interests include globalization, development and human rights from a historical perspective, particularly with regard to nations of the Global South.

Derrick reports on his blog:

“ Found at recently that my great-great-grandfather, Andre Nault (1830-1924), was a pallbearer at Metis leader Louis Riel's funeral in 1885. Of the 19 pallbearers at the funeral, 9 were Naults. Andre Nault was Louis Riel's cousin and spent one year in jail for his role in the Red River Resistance (1869-70). The other Naults who served as pallbearers were: Benjamin Nault, Chas. Nault, Elie Nault, Prosper Nault, Roman Nault, Alfred Nault, and Martin Nault. There were so many pallbearers and all were armed as there were rumours members of the Orange Order were going to attack the funeral in retribution for the execution of Thomas Scott. The attack never came, fortunately.”

Coulee des Nault is the name of a waterway in Manitoba that "Flows northwest into Rat River. Probably named after Romain Nault [b. 1838, brother of Andre Nault, Sr.] who homesteaded SE 9-5-4E in 1877." Source: Manitoba Conservation, *Geographical Names of Manitoba*, 2000, p. 188.

Nault (Neault), Leon. (b. 1854)

Leon was the son of Benjamin Nault and Isabelle Hamelin the daughter of Salomon Hamelin and Isabelle Vandal. His paternal grandparents were Amable Nault (b. 1798) and Josephite Lagimodiere b. 1823). He married Christine Sutherland, the daughter of Pierre Sutherland and Suzanne McMillan on January 12, 1875 at St. Norbert. They had the following children : Joseph born 1875 at St. Boniface, Alexander born 1878 at St. Norbert, Patrice born 1881 at Qu’Appelle, Justine born 1883 at Qu’Appelle, Jean Baptiste born 1885 at Lebret, and Ralph born 1886. Leon signed the August 29, 1882 This

petition was sent to Edgar Dewdney, the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories stating that the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land company was dispossessing the Metis of their lands because the surveys that had been done showed some of them to be on railway land. The company told the Metis to either buy the land or move off.

Nault, Napoléon. (1858-1934)

Napoléon was born September 17, 1858, the son of André Nault Sr. and Anastasie Landry and a cousin of Louis Riel. He was the brother of "Nin Nin" listed above. He was married to Mélanie Vandal. They moved from Manitoba to St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan in the late 1870s. He operated a trading post. Napoleon was one of the Metis from St. Antoine de Padoue, who petitioned for their land rights on September 4th, 1882. In 1883, Damase Carrière and Napoleon Nault traveled from Batoche to St. Boniface to attend the wedding of Riel's sister Henriette to Jean Marie Poitras. At this time they discussed the Metis land claims problems in the Saskatchewan valley with Riel.

He was a strong supporter of Riel in 1885 and was active during the 1885 Resistance at both Fish Creek and Batoche. Nault was a member of Captain Isidore Dumont's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. He fought alongside Joseph Delorme at Duck Lake and also participated at Fish Creek. During the battle for Batoche he led the fighters on the west side of the river who were responsible for taking the Northcote out of action. After the fall of Batoche he fled to Montana to avoid prosecution. He married for a second time to Hattie Jarvis in 1908 at Glasgow, Montana.

After the fall of Batoche he fled with his wife Mélanie Vandal and four children to St. John's, North Dakota with his brother Andre. Napoleon often acted as an English language interpreter for Gabriel Dumont. On May 22, 1889, the Fort Benton *River Press* interviewed Gabriel regarding his planned trip to the Paris Exposition and noted:

Mr. Napoleon Nault, a bright young Frenchman, who has been with him since 1885, accompanied Mr. Dumont to this city, and it was through him the *River Press* reporter conducted this interview.

Melanie died in 1898; records indicate that around 1900 Napoleon and the children were living at St. Malo, Manitoba. Nault then moved to Havre, Montana. After Melanie's death he married for a second time to Hattie Jarvis in 1908 at Glasgow, Montana. Between these two marriages Napoleon was married to Louise Boushie in Montana. Napoleon and Louise had two children; Alfred (Fred) Daniel Nault born 1901 in Dupuyer, Montana and Ordie (date of birth and place unknown). Napoleon died at age 77 in 1934 at Havre, Montana.

**Napoleon Nault,
Noted Metis, Dies.
Death in Montana Revives Memories of Stirring Days
Was Born at St. Vital.**

News has just reached the Metis Historical Society, that Napoleon Nault died at Havres [sic], Montana, at the of 77.

To the average Canadian of today the name suggests nothing more than that another one has passed to the great beyond. To the Metis, however, and to the plainsmen of fifty years ago, it conveys the reminiscence of stirring days and brave deeds.

The deceased was born at St. Vital now Fort Garry, in 1854 [sic], the eldest son of Andre Nault, of 1869-70. In 1879, he went west and settled on the south Saskatchewan, close to the site where once stood Fort La Montee near St. Laurent. Realizing that plains life was but a translation, he turned his attention to business. He opened a private trading post, which soon flourished.

Gifted with a fair education and a bright intelligence, he soon, became a leader amongst the Metis population of French and English origin. When Riel yielded to the request of his French and English kinsmen of the Prince Albert region and came to champion their cause. Napoleon Nault was chosen as one of the counselors to the Metis chief.

In December 1884, Napoleon Nault was present at both interviews between Riel and Father Andre, when the latter offered to the Metis leader to obtain a sum of money from the Dominion government, which would reward him (Riel) for the services rendered to Manitoba. In 1870, Riel was then trying to establish a newspaper to defend the cause of the Metis, and he replied to Father Andre that if he could obtain money from the government, he would immediately use it in buying the required material and equipment to start his paper.

After the Metis had decided on armed resistance (March 19, 1885), Napoleon Nault was always in the thickest of the fight. At Duck Lake, he was Delorme's right arm when the latter assumed the command, replacing Gabriel Dumont, wounded, at Fish Creek:, with 53 companions, Nault held Middleton's troops at bay during a whole day and routed them at night fall. At Batoche, he commanded the Metis forces west of the river, and it was he who engineered the putting out of action of the "Northcote".

After Batoche, Nault kept on going out and within the lines of the federal forces for three days. He repeatedly urged Riel to follow him, on American territory, but Riel refused saying that his mission would not be at an end unless he made; the sacrifice of his life to abate the hatred of the enemy. Nault would not surrender nor submit; and crossed, the line to Montana, where he lived until his death.

He was regarded a man of great integrity, honesty and sincerity were his characteristic traits, and his conduct and actions in 1885 were the results of those traits. He acted in good faith, and the Metis loss in him a distinguished defender of their liberties and rights.

Winnipeg Free Press published April 22, 1934.

Nixon, Bill “Old Panther” . (1843-1917)

Bill “Old Panther” Nixon was the son of Mary Williams born 1814. She was the daughter of Bill Williams a so-called Mountain Man⁴ and A-cin-ga of the Osage Redcorn (Hapashutsy) family of the Gros Cotte Band. Mary was first married to Yenglenka (Lorenzo Nixon), the son of Dr. Joel Nixon (from Nix in French) and his Osage wife. They were married in 1842 and in 1843 during the buffalo hunt his horse stumbled and he was trampled to death. They had one son, Bill. Mary then married John Mathes (or Mathews). They operated a trading post at Oswego, Kansas. Young Bill was apparently fluent in English, French, Osage, Cherokee, Choctaw, Pawnee and Creek. In 1861 the “Kansas Redlegs” hung John Mathes as a suspected southern sympathizer. They burned down the families store and home. Subsequently Bill Nixon joined Major Broken Arms Battalion of 200 men. As a second-lieutenant he was subsequently assigned to General Douglas Cooper’s Indian Calvary (1863-64). After the War he served the Osage Nation as a Supreme Court Justice and as a prosecutor. His first wife, La Donna, died in an epidemic, he then married Jane Sarah Rush, a Pawnee. The rest of the story is available in:

From Warrior to Judge The Biography of Wahshashowahtinega Bill Nixon Hapashutsy of the Osage Tribe 1843 to 1917: From Warrior to Judge.
By Guy “Red Panther Redcorn” Nixon (Xlibris September, 2012)

Book synopsis: “Born of mixed blood parents Bill’s father died before he was born from a buffalo hunting accident. Adopted by his mother’s new husband he would be educated and grow to be an Osage Warrior to fight for the rights of Native Americans and his families very survival. He would eventually be commissioned a Second Lieutenant and serve in the Army of General Stand Watie fighting for citizenship, Congressional Representation and the right to live in freedom. As Native Americans they were denied American Citizenship and the right to vote and even after the American Civil War they could still be legally owned as slaves. After the war he would work hard in the reconstruction of his people’s homeland giving rise to the Osage Nation. Serving in law enforcement he would rise to become a judge. In his lifetime he went from participating on the buffalo hunts of his people to driving automobiles and the wonders of flight. However, the rights he and his fellow warriors fought for would not be achieved until his Great grandson was nearly 17 years old in 1948 when the last objective (the right to vote) would finally be achieved. His story is an American story, rarely told about the Native Americans from the Indian Territory now known as Oklahoma. A comprehensive work that brings the history to life with family pictures and the actual events that shaped America as we know it today.”

Nolin, Adolphus. (b. 1861)

Adolphus was born at St. Boniface, the son of the Honorable Charles Nolin and his second wife, Marie-Anne Harrison. Adolphus married Elise Letendré September 1885 at St. Laurent. He was involved in the 1885 Resistance events at Fort Pitt and Battleford (Frog Lake and Cut Knife Hill). He and John Pritchard are credited with protecting the white women who were prisoners in Big Bear’s camp. Although captured after the hostil-

⁴ He was a guide for several of the Fremont Expeditions.

ities on May 19, 1885 and charged with treason-felony, Nolin was discharged by General Middleton's order on July 22, 1885.

Nolin, Angélique. (1787-1869)

The Nolin family came from the Upper Lakes to settle first at Pembina then at the new Red River Colony in 1819. Angélique's parents were Jean-Baptiste Nolin and Marie Angélique Couvret, who were married in 1770. Her mother was Metis and her father was a Canadien fur trader and merchant.

The Nolin family was a prominent one around the south of Sault Sainte-Marie, which is where Lord Selkirk first met them. Selkirk became impressed with the family and frequently suggested to the ailing Jean-Baptiste that he move his family to Red River. Lord Selkirk and Father Joseph Provencher expressed the view that the two young women of the Nolin family could make a valuable contribution to the intellectual life of the settlement.

Angélique and Marguerite (see entry below) were not typical young ladies of the time. In addition to a good deal of travel, the young "Misses Nolin" had several years of schooling in Montreal in the 1790s when their family resided at Sault Ste. Marie. They were sent to Montreal to study with the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre-dame. This kind of education was only available to a few children of the wealthy frontier families.

Selkirk and Provencher saw the need for religion and education at Red River and Father Provencher especially wanted an education centre for the Metis. Provencher, in July 1824, wrote to Angélique's father suggesting that he start a girls' school in St. Boniface but Jean-Baptiste refused stating that at age 82 he needed his daughters to look after him and it was his wish that his daughters not become servants. Two years later Jean-Baptiste died in August 1826 at the age of 84. With the death of the girls' father, Selkirk and Provencher furthered their plans for the first school for girls in Western Canada.

The school opened in January of 1829. The students of the school were mostly daughters of French, Cree and Ojibwa parents with some Metis of Scottish background also attending. The "Misses Nolin" stayed teaching at the school for the next 20 years. In the 1830's they were teaching at Baie St. Paul (St. Eustache). Bishop Provencher then assigned the sisters to

assist Father Belcourt in learning the Native languages to communicate with the Indians. Angélique and Marguerite were fluent in French, English, Ojibwa and Cree. Both sisters worked for the next decade with Father Belcourt. At the mission the sisters helped with the children as well as helping Father Belcourt prepare an Ojibwa dictionary along with school texts. Belcourt's work would have been set back for years without the help of the Nolin sisters.

By 1850, the "Misses Nolin" farmed a few acres with stock of horses, cattle, sheep with carts and a canoe. These two Metis women made a most valuable contribution to the Red River frontier. Marguerite died in September of 1868. Angélique died on March 30, 1869 at St. boniface. (Contributed by Lorraine Freeman, reprinted with the permission of the Metis Resource Centre Inc.)

Nolin, François. (b. 1779)

Both François and his younger brother Augustin were born at Sault-Ste.-Marie, the sons of Jean Baptiste Nolin and his Metis wife, Marie Angélique Couvret. Jean Baptiste

Nolin was appointed as a Militia Captain during the War of 1812 but did not participate because of illness. François and his brother participated in the assault on the American post at Michilimackinac in July of 1812.

Francois married Francoise Bouffard (b. c. 1808) on January 31, 1826 in St Laurent, Ile d'Orleans, Quebec. Their son Eugene Nolin was born circa 1826 in Quebec (Lower Canada). He married Emilienne Plante (b: 1831 in Quebec) the daughter of Augustin Plante and Marguerite Cantin.

Nolin, Augustin. (1781 – 1848)

Augustin was born in 1781 at Sault Ste. Marie, the son of fur trader Jean Baptiste Nolin and his Metis wife, Marie Angelique Couvret. Angelique was the daughter of Joseph Victor Couvret and Marie Charlotte (Ojibwa). Jean Baptiste Nolin was appointed as a Militia Captain during the War of 1812 but did not participate because of illness. Augustine married Helene “Henriette” Cameron (b. 1808), the daughter of Donald Dugald Cameron and an Indian woman. The couple then had eleven children. Augustin and his brother participated in the assault on the American post at Michilimackinac in July of 1812. They were in charge of Ojibwa warriors and Augustin was praised in the reports of the action for keeping good order among his men. Augustin’s grandsons participated in the Metis Northwest Resistance of 1885.

Fur Trade work for HBC:

- 1818: As a Free trader; he entered into an agreement, through Joseph Default, with Andrew Stewart, who was in charge of the Hudson’s Bay Company post at Michipicoten to jointly oppose the North West Company at Mattagami. Stewart’s aim in negotiating the agreement was to prevent the opposition of North at Cap-ponicagomie
- 1818-1827: He sells out to Charles O.K. Ermatinger and goes to Pembina as a free trader; and is also at Red River Settlement.
- 1830-1833: Free Trader at Red Lake
- 1833-1834: Clerk at Cumberland
- 1834-1835: Postmaster at Moose Lake English River
- 1835-1836: Postmaster+ Moose Lake English River
- 1836-1837: Postmaster at Lac la Pluie
- 1837: Retired to Red River Settlement
- 1830-1833, 1835, Listed in Red River Settlement Census (Roman Catholic; married with
- Granted lot #739, Red River Settlement (“Transferred to him by Catholic Mission”)

Children:

- Marguerite born April 29, 1823 in St Boniface, died September 1916 in St Boniface, Manitoba.
- Norbert-Jean-Baptiste born July 26, 1825 in St. Boniface Parish, in the Red River Settlement, died November 21, 1907 in St Boniface. He married Marie-Anne

Charron dit Ducharme (b: December 27, 1835 in St Boniface) in 1851 in St. Boniface Parish Church. She was the daughter of: Dominique-Charron dit Ducharme and Sophie Canada dit Henault.

- Augustin, born March 29, 1827 at Fort Dufferin, he married Marie Domtilde Perreault dit Morin.
- Marie, born December 7, 1828, she married Jean Baptiste Falcon. She was one of the heroines of the Battle of the Grand Coteau in 1851. Her husband was leading the St. Francois Xavier hunting party that fended off 2,000 Dakota attackers under Medicine Bear.
- John, born October 17, 1831, he married Julie Martin dit Lavallee.
- Francois, born August 20, 1832, he married Marguerite Bedard, the daughter of Pierre Bedard and Marie Fortin. He subsequently married Catherine Falcon, the daughter of Pierre Falcon and Marie Grant.
- Angelique, born November 23, 1835, married Theophile Pare, the son of Louis Pare and Ursule Latour.
- Charles, born May 2, 1838, married Marie Anne Harrison.
- Duncan, born December 22, 1840, married Caroline Harrison.
- Joseph, born December 15, 1842, married Marie Anne Gaudry, then married Philomene Lucier.
- Marie, born circa 1846, married Alexandre Paul in 1865 and died in 1866.

Nolin, Augustin “Migzens.” (b.. 1827)

Augustin “Young Eagle” nolin was born on March 29, 1827, the son of Augustin Nolin (1781) and Anne Cameron (b. 1808). He married Marie Flavie Domtilde Perrault dit Morin (b. 1835) in 1852 at St. Boniface. She was the daughter of Jean Baptiste Morin Perreault Mother: Marie Charron Ducharme. They lived on Lot #16 vat Ste. Anne des Chenes.

Children

1. Marguerite b: 14 January 1853, married Pierre Berard, then Antoine Vermette.
2. Joseph b: 6 May 1856 in St. Boniface, married Adelaide Larence.
3. Francois Xavier b: 1858, married Marie Rose Payette.
4. Joachim b: 4 April 1861.
5. Marie Anne Domtille b: 23 August 1863, married Joseph Harrison.
6. Alex b: circa 1866, married Marie Mathilde Berard.
7. Alexandre b: 5 March 1866, died September 1866.
8. Marie Adele Pelagie b: 10 September 1868, married Augustin Vandal.
9. Virginie Octavie, b: c. 17 August 1871, died April, 1872.
10. Marie Virginie Octavie b: 5 February 1873, died in 1878.
11. Jean Chrysostome b: 22 May 1877, died February 1878.
12. Marie Octavie b: 26 July 1879, married Robert Finnigan.

Nolin, Charles M.L.A.⁵ (1838-1907)

Charles Nolin was born May 2, 1838 at St. Boniface. He was the son of Augustin Nolin⁶ and Helen Ann Cameron. His father fought on the British side at Michilimackinac during the War of 1812. Charles married Marie-Anne Harrison⁷, the daughter of Thomas Harrison and Pauline Lagimoniere, a cousin of Louis Riel. She died and he remarried to Rosalie Lépine, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Lepine and Isabelle Parenteau, the niece of Ambroise and Maxime Lépine, on August 27, 1878 at Ste. Anne, Manitoba. Rosalie died on May 22, 1927 in Onion Lake District, Saskatchewan, at age 78.

Children of Charles Nolin and Marie Anne Harrison:

- Adolphus/Adolphe Nolin, born January 16, 1861 in St Boniface. Adolphus witnessed the Frog Lake Massacre and saved some of the women who were captured, taking them to safety with Mr. Cameron and John Pritchard.. He married Elise/Elisa Letendre (b: December 1860) on September 28, 1885 in the St Laurent des Grandin Mission (Saskatchewan).
- Augustin Nolin, born February 1, 1862 in St Boniface. He died November 13, 1871 in Ste. Anne.
- Thomas Nolin, born September 13, 1864 in St Boniface. He married Marie-Appoline Harrison (b: 1867) on August 6, 1888 in Ste Anne.
- Marie-Anne Nolin, born June 5, 1866 in St Boniface. She married Pierre Parenteau (b: February 23, 1861) on April 2, 1883 in the St Antoine de Padoue Church, Batoche. He was the son of Jean-Baptiste Parenteau and: Pelagie Dumont.
- Caroline Nolin, born October 27, 1867 in St Boniface. She died on January 8, 1927 in Batoche. She married Jerome Racette (b: March 24, 1859) on May 21, 1883 in St Laurent de Grandin Parish Mission, Saskatchewan. He was the son of Charles Racette III and Helene Boyer.
- Pauline Nolin, born July 14, 1869 in St Boniface. She died on June 6, 1890 in St Laurent Saskatchewan. Pauline married Bernard Belanger (b: September 26, 1865) on September 20, 1887 in Batoche. He was the son of: Abraham Belanger Sr. and Marie-Anne Versailles.
- Charles Nolin, born 1871 in Ste Anne. He died on March 7, 1871 in St Boniface.

⁵ A signator to the November 19th, 1883, William Bremner petition from St. Louis de Langevin for a survey and patents to their land.

⁶ Augustin Nolin held HBC lot 739 at Red River.

⁷ Marie Anne was born August 15, 1843 in St Vital Parish. They married circa 1860 in St. Boniface Parish Church. She died on December 12, 1877 in St. Boniface.

- Joseph John “Caton-Joe” Nolin, born March 28, 1872 in St Boniface. He died in 1948 in the Turtle River district, near Edam, Saskatchewan or alternately at Marcelin (near Leask] SK. He ranched cattle in the district. He married Anne Boyer (b: August 16, 1870) on August 6, 1892 in the St Antoine du Padoue Church in Batoche. She was the daughter of Jean- Baptiste {John} Boyer and Elizabeth “Betsy” Bousquet.
- Anne Angelique Nolin, born 1873 in Ste Anne. She died circa December 11, 1873 in Ste Anne.
- Lucie Nolin, born 1874 in St Francois Xavier. She died on September 20, 1953 in St Louis, Saskatchewan. She married Patrice Tobie Lepine (b: September 8, 1868) on February 29, 1892 in St Laurent de Grandin Parish Church. He was the son of Maxime Lepine and Josephte Lavallee.
- Charles “Sandy” Nolin, born 1876 in North West Territories and baptized July 30th 1876 in Ste Anne des Chenes, Manitoba. He died on August 1955 in St Louis, Saskatchewan. He married Caroline Marie Boucher (b: October 18, 1882) in 1903 in St. Louis, Saskatchewan. She was the daughter of Jean Baptiste Boucher Jr. and Marie Louise “Mariya” Bremner.
- Marguerite Virginie Nolin, born 1877 in Ste Anne. She married Baptiste Boyer (b: October 8, 1872) on October 14, 1892 in St. Laurent Parish Mission. He was the son of Jean Baptiste {John} Boyer and Elizabeth “Betsy” Bousquet.

Children of Charles Nolin and Rosalie Lepine:

- Andrew Nolin, born 1854 in York Factory district, Manitoba. He was adopted by Charles Nolin; being a son of an Indian father and Metis.
- Charles Marie Nolin, born June 30, 1880 in Touchwood Hills, Saskatchewan.
- Gabriel Nolin, born September 18, 1882 in Batoche.
- Melanie Nolin, born August 6, 1883 in Qu'Appelle district, Saskatchewan. She married Baptiste Parisien (born circa 1881) on December 3, 1900 in St. Michel, North Dakota.
- Rosalie Nolin, born between. May - June 1884 in St. Laurent, Saskatchewan. She died circa March 8, 1889 in St Laurent des Grandin.
- Maxime Octave Nolin, born June 20, 1886 in Batoche.
- William Nolin, born January 7, 1889 in St Laurent des Grandin Mission Settlement. He married Christine Pratt on February 1, 1912 in Onion Lake, Saskatchewan.

- Alexander Ancelet Nolin, born November 4, 1890 in Batoche. He died on August 27, 1891 in St Laurent des Grandin Mission Settlement.

Charles Nolin was educated by Bishop Provencher and worked as a fur trader and merchant. In the 1850s, he and his brothers Joseph and Duncan moved to Pointe de Chêne (Sainte-Anne-des-Chenes) to cultivate the land and to the fur trade. In the late 1860s, Nolin brothers were successful and were part of the Conservatives Métis or “loyalists” who supported the Council of Assiniboia and of Rupert's Land transfer project in Canada. This group also included Pascal Breland and the Hamelins. Charles Nolin was a leader amongst the Metis who opposed Louis Riel's actions. Later, in March of 1871, Charles wrote a letter of rapprochement to Louis Riel, who at that time was in exile at St. Joseph, North Dakota. Riel sent the following reply:

*Lettre à Charles Nolin, St. Joseph, April 17, 1871*⁸

Mon cher Cousin,

Ce qui m'a le plus touché dans ta lettre⁹ c'est la noble demande que tu me fais. Celle de nous regarder de la même façon qu'avant les troubles. Oui! Assurément je le veux de tout mon cœur. Soyons deux bons amis comme nous sommes parents. Puisse le ciel rendre cette amitié entre nous deux permanente. Il est vrai que tout change sur la terre. La vertu seule ne change pas. Tous les deux nous avons joué un rôle important dans les affaires de notre pays. Si à présent nous sommes tous les deux assez forts pour être des citoyens paisibles et vertueux nos amis et tous ceux qui nous sont chers seront contents de nous. Et l'amitié qui est une vertu sera pour nous une source de joies bien douces, cher cousin

Ton ami.

My dear Cousin, What touched me most in your letter is the noble request you make me. That of watching us (regarding ourselves) in the same way as before the troubles. Yes! Surely I want it with all my heart. Let's be two good friends as we are parents. May heaven make this friendship between us two permanent. It is true that everything changes on

⁸ PAM, MG 3, D 2. From Raymond Huel (ed.), *The Collected Writings of Louis Riel*, Volume 1, Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 1985: 138.

⁹ [Huel: Editor's comment] Le 17 Mars 1871, Nolin informés Riel de la maladie dans sa famille et de la mort d'un de ses enfants et il exprimait l'espoir que les mésententes qui avaient existé entre les deux ne provenaient que de différences d'opinion. (Nolin un cousin de Riel, avait retiré son appui au gouvernement provisoire en Janvier 1870 et s'était opposé aux mesures radicales de Riel. Le mouvement anti-Riel chez les Métis gravitait dans l'entourage de Nolin.) Nolin déclarait aussi que, quant aux sentiments, il appuyait toujours Riel. Il est intéressant de noter que, dans sa réponse Riel, un caractère très sensible et généreux, concentre son attention sur la réconciliation et ne fait aucune mention de la maladie et de la mort qui ont frappé la famille de Nolin.

[Editor's comment] March 17, 1871, Nolin informed Riel the illness in his family and the death of one of his children and he expressed the hope that disagreements which had existed between the two were differences of opinion. (Nolin, a cousin of Riel, had withdrawn his support from the Provisional Government in January 1870 and had opposed Riel's radical measures. The anti-Riel movement among the Métis people gravitated around Nolin.) Nolin also stated that, as far as feelings go, he always supported Riel. It is interesting to note that in his response Riel, a very sensitive and generous character, focuses his attention on reconciliation and makes no mention of the sickness and death that hit the Nolin family.

the earth. Virtue alone does not change. Both of us played an important role in the affairs of our country. If at present we are both strong enough to be peaceful and virtuous citizens our friends and all those who are dear to us will be happy with us. And the friendship which is a virtue will be for us a source of very sweet joys, dear cousin

Your friend

Charles was a member of the Convention of Forty under Riel and elected to the Provincial Legislature as member from Ste. Anne des Chênes in 1874 and 1878. Nolin then lived at Touchwood Hills before moving to Batoche in 1882. In 1883 he was living on a farm between St. Laurent and St. Louis de Langevin. Nolin was one of the 30 Metis of St. Louis who petitioned the government regarding fears of losing their land on the South Saskatchewan River.

Petition from St. Louis de Langevin on November 19, 1883

In 1883 the Metis feared losing their land to the colonization companies. A company of great concern to the Metis, the Prince Albert Colonization Company, had its headquarters in Ottawa but conducted its business in the Prince Albert area. They were granted land held by 35 Metis at St. Louis, the churches and a number of other non-Metis settlers who had been petitioning for title to their lands. The Company was owned by high ranking government officials who wished to maintain federal control over the region and enrich themselves at the same time.¹⁰ There were rumors that the company was going to confiscate the church and cemetery at St. Louis and remove all the bodies. Dumont felt that it was necessary to have young men on patrol to see that this did not happen.

An article which appeared in the *Toronto Globe*, dated February 12, 1883, stated, "These colonization companies were deliberately called into existence in order to furnish an indirect bribery fund for the election campaign." The Prince Albert Colonization Company administered the area that had been set aside for the railroad and was in a position to realize huge profits. The land companies were unable to take actual ownership to much of the Prince Albert area because the land had previously been settled by the Metis and they were petitioning for ownership title. Because no clear title had been established for the land, emotions often ran high. In a letter to David Laird, Minister of the Interior, Father Andre said, "the lack of patents gave rise at times to serious dispute over the boundaries of claim."

This is a November 19, 1883 Petition from William Bremner, and other Metis concerning land claims which the government subsequently ignored.

St. Louis de Langevin,
19th November, 1883.

¹⁰ Some of the Prince Albert Colonization Company directors were leading Conservatives: Dr. C.F. Ferguson, MP for Leeds, John White, MP for East Hastings, Thomas McGreevy, MP for Quebec West, Hugh Sutherland later to be MP for Selkirk, William Sharples, brother-in-law to MP, A.P. Caron (Minister of Militia), Duncan Plumb (son of J.P. Plumb, MP for Niagara), J. Aikens (son of the Minister of Inland Revenue), A.T. Galt, brother of M.H. Galt MP for Montreal West and J.C. Jamieson, son-in-law of Mackenzie Bowell, Minister of Customs.

SIR.— The undersigned farmers, residents of the parish of St. Louis de Langevin, on the South Branch of the Saskatchewan, beg to set forth, as follows, their grievances in relation to the lands on which they are located.

Many of us are here since the year 1873, 1874 and 1875; others, in still greater numbers, since 1880. Each and all of us took up our lands in accordance with the method formerly prevailing on the lands of the Red River and Assiniboine—that is to say—in river lots.

In the autumn of 1880 we petitioned the Minister of the Interior, at Ottawa, for a special survey into river lots, as was granted to the Prince Albert settlement, and to a portion of the St. Lawrence settlement. We all signed that petition, not excepting Michael Canny, who has since entered his lot at your office as a sectional lot, and against whose action we hereby strongly protest.

Since that date we have sent more petitions, at various times, for the same object, supporting the same with the influence of all persons in authority who took an interest in us, such as Messrs. J. Royal, M.P., D.H. Macdonall, Member North-West Council; L. Clarke, His Lordship Bishop Grandin, and Father Leduc.

Finally, Father Leduc, who had been sent as a delegate to Ottawa by the people of Edmonton and St. Albert, showed us the answer of the Government promising a special survey for all located lands on the Saskatchewan. Since then we have waited in vain for the new survey.

As we stated at the beginning, many of us have occupied our lots long enough to entitle us to patents, and yet there has been no way, as yet, of getting them entered at your office.

We beg of you to represent to the Government the grievances herein part set forth, and urge them to put an end thereto as quickly as possible for the welfare and peace of loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen of England.

Your humble servants,

William Bremner Jun.	L. E. Letendre
Maxime Lepine	Wm. Letendre
Octive Regnier	Wm. Swain
Baptiste Boucher	Elzear Swain
William Bremner	Willie Bruce
John Ouellette	Ant. Richard
Chs. Lavallee	Isadore Boyer
Isadore Dumas	Solomon Boucher
James Short	J. B. Boucher Jun.
Ambroise Dumont	L. Schmidt
Eugene Boucher	Jos. Dumas
Henry Smith	Modeste Laviolette

Chs. Nolin
Norbert Turcotte
Solomon Turcotte

Moise Bremner
Jonas Laviolette
Alex Bremner

30 signatures

In 1874, Charles Nolin took part in the agitation that preceded the 1885 Resistance, and acted as a member of Riel's Council (Exovedate) at Batoche during the 1885 Resistance. However, he parted from Riel and Dumont when it came to the use of arms.

From July until November of 1884 Louis Riel and his family stayed with Charles Nolin at the Boucher Colony (St. Louis) on the South Saskatchewan River. On July 25, 1884 Riel wrote to his brother Joseph:

*Je demeure chez notre cousin Charles Nolin. Je suis ici avec ma famille. Si rien ne vient m'en empêcher, je m'en retournerai au Montana vers mois de Septembre.*¹¹

From this home base, Riel along with Gabriel Dumont and other executive committee members addressed gatherings at Lindsay School near Red Deer Hill, Halcro Settlement and Prince Albert.

The Council of the Provisional government set up on March 19, 1885 tried Charles Nolin and William Boyer for acting against the cause but after defending themselves and pledging allegiance they were acquitted. On March 21, 1885 Nolin and Maxime Lépine were sent to Fort Carlton to demand the surrender of Major Crozier and the NWMP detachment. On March 21, 1885 at St. Anthony, Riel sent a letter to Major Crozier indicating "Messrs. Charles [Nolin] and Maxime Lepine are the gentlemen with whom you will have to treat." To Nolin and Maxim Lepine he wrote:

Gentlemen,

If Major Crozier accedes to the conditions of surrender, let him use the following formula, and no other: "Because I love my neighbour as myself, for the sake of God, and to prevent bloodshed, and principally the war of extermination which threatens the country, I agree to the above conditions of surrender."

If the Major uses this formula and signs it, inform him that we will receive him and his men Monday. [March 23, 1985]

Yours,

*Louis "David" Riel, Exovede*¹²

Nolin participated at Duck Lake then deserted and later fled to Prince Albert where he was locked up after surrendering. Jean Caron says, "He jumped on a whitish pony of little

¹¹ PAM, MG 3 D1:

I live with our cousin Charles Nolin. I am here with my family. If nothing comes to stop me, I will return to Montana in September .

¹² *The Queen v Louis Riel*, exhibit no. 5, Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1886: 168.

worth and returned to Batoche. At the crossing, he met Patrice Caron Jr. who had been sent by his mother to get some news concerning the rifle shots that were being heard.”¹³

Dr. Mulvaney, having interviewed a number of participants, reported:

A number laid the whole blame of the troubles upon Charley Nolin, who, they allege, was the prime instigator of the uprising, and the one responsible for Riel’s advent amongst them; but, they added, he cut connection with them when loud-mouthed agitation gave way to the rifle and the shotgun. He, however, had handed around the little paper badges, which they wore on the lapels of their coats, badges with religious devices.¹⁴

The Prince Albert nuns wrote in the *FCJ Journal* at the end of March, 1885 that the Métis Charles Nolin (when he reached Prince Albert after fleeing the Battle of Duck Lake) had advised Father André about the heretical views that Riel was expounding. Subsequently, while giving his anti-Riel biased testimony on the stand and during his cross examination, Father André made many disparaging remarks about Riel and his heretical views. Much of this was hearsay and personal opinion and should not have been allowed.

Although Nolin was Louis Riel’s cousin, he testified against Riel. The Metis at Batoche viewed him as a “vendus” or sell-out. He was later elected to the North West Territories Legislative Council in 1891 but was disqualified because of vote fraud. He died at Battleford on January 28, 1907.¹⁵

Nolin, Duncan. (b. 1840)

Duncan was born at Red River, December 24, 1839, the son of Augustine Nolin and Helene Cameron. He married Caroline Harrision, born in March 1854, on May 24, 1870. His brother was Charles Nolin noted above. Charles was married to Caroline’s sister Marie-Anne Harrison. Duncan died on July 28, 1914 at Lamoureux, Alberta.¹⁶ His wife Caroline died on June 26, 1904 at Lamoureux, Alberta.

During the Metis Northwest Resistance of 1885, this family was part of a group of Metis and Half-Breeds camped on the south side of the Battle River near its junction with the Saskatchewan River; this location was known as “The Point”. On April 3, 1885 this group and their families were suspected of being rebels and arrested by Sergeant-Major

¹³ SHM, p. 6.

¹⁴ Charles Pelham Mulvaney M.D., *The History of the North-West Rebellion of 1885*. Toronto: A. H. Hovey & Co., 1885:275.

¹⁵ Diane Payment. “Charles Nolin.” *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XIII (1901-1910). Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1994: 770-772.

¹⁶ Lamoureux is located 6 kilometres (3.7 mi) northeast of Edmonton’s city limits on the northern shore of the North Saskatchewan River, opposite the City of Fort Saskatchewan. In the early 1870s, French-Canadian brothers Joseph and Francois Lamoureux were persuaded by a Canadian Pacific Railway (C.P.R.) surveyor to leave Kamloops and seek their fortunes along the North Saskatchewan River valley. They arrived at a site on the north banks of the river near present day Fort Saskatchewan in 1872 and erected some rudimentary structures. Over the next two years, other members of the Lamoureux family were brought to the area from Quebec and the nucleus of one of Alberta’s earliest French-Canadian settlements evolved. The Lamoureux family included some of the first farmers, craftsmen, and entrepreneurs in the province; they were instrumental in the growth of their community, establishing a sawmill, gristmill, and ferry for the fledgling settlement and purchasing a sternwheeler for transporting lumber along the North Saskatchewan

Kirk and a detachment of twelve men and detained at the Fort at Battleford. After their release a number served in the home guards on the government side while others joined the Resistance.¹⁷ Following the Resistance they moved to Fort Saskatchewan/Lamoureux area of Alberta.

Children of Duncan and Caroline Nolin:

- Salomon "Raymond" Nolin, b: 1872 in Ste Anne district, being baptized in the Parish Church February 10th 1872, in Manitoba. He died 1947 in Gibbons district, Alberta, at age 75.
- Anne Marie Marguerite Nolin was born in 1874, Ste. Anne district, being baptized in the Parish Church January 15th 1874, in Manitoba. She died August 15, 1876 in Ste Anne district, Manitoba
- Pauline Nolin,¹⁸ born June 6, 1877 at Battleford District. She was Sister Sylvain of the Grey Nuns.
- Joseph Nolin, b: 1878 in Manitoba, he died 1943 in Gibbons district, Alberta, at age 65.
- Alphonse "Pat" Nolin was born circa 1882 in the Battleford District. He married Mathilde Lamoureux (1897-1938). Pat died in 1918 at Gibbons district, Alberta, during the Influenza Epidemic leaving a widow and 4 young children.
- Alcide Nolin, born April 8, 1894, Alberta. He died July, 1920, at Lamoureux, Alberta.
- Raymond Nolin (-1947).
- Marie/Mary Alphonsine Nolin, b: February 11, 1886 in Battleford district, being baptized February 12th 1886 in the St Vital Church, North West Territories (Saskatchewan). She died 1964 in Gibbons district, Alberta, at age 78.
- Rosalie "Rose" Nolin, b: June 30, 1889 in Lamoureux district (in the Family homestead) north of Boisjoli, being baptized July 2nd 1889 in the St Vital Church in Battleford, North West Territories (Alberta). She died circa. 1910 in Gibbons district, Alberta.
- Alcide Nolin, born circa 1892 in Lamoureux district (in the Family homestead) north of Boisjoli, North West Territories (Alberta). He died 1920 in Gibbons district, Alberta.

Nolin, Francis. (1832-1912)

¹⁷ Douglas Light, 1987: 210.

¹⁸ Nolin Pauline - Concerning her Métis claim - Address, Providence - Born: St. Anne des Chenes, June 6, 1877 - Father, Duncan Nolin, (Métis) - Mother, Caroline Harrison, (Métis) - Occupation, "nun" - Claim no. 59.

This claim was disallowed (September 1826) because both of her parents had received scrip. In her scrip application she gives the following locations of residence up to 1924: Fort Saskatchewan, 10 years; St. Albert, one year; Saddle Lake, 10 years; Resolution, 12 years; Simpson, two years and Providence NWT, one year (1924). She also states that she has two brothers living at Fort Saskatchewan and her sister worked at Holy Cross Hospital in Calgary.

Francis was a Red River born Metis, the son of Augustin Nolin and Helene Cameron. He married Marguerite Bérard (b. 1834) and then Catherine Falcon at St. Francois Xavier. He opposed Riel during the Red River Resistance. He died in 1912 at St. Anne.

Nolin, François. (b. 1779)

Both François and his younger brother Augustin were born at Sault-Ste.-Marie, the sons of Jean Baptiste Nolin and his Metis wife, Marie Angelique Couvret. Jean Baptiste Nolin was appointed as a Militia Captain during the War of 1812 but did not participate because of illness. François and his brother participated in the assault on the American post at Michilimackinac in July of 1812.

Francois married Francoise Bouffard (b. c. 1808) on January 31, 1826 in St Laurent, Ile d'Orleans, Quebec. Their son Eugene Nolin was born circa 1826 in Quebec (Lower Canada). He married Emilienne Plante (b: 1831 in Quebec) the daughter of Augustin Plante and Marguerite Cantin.

Nolin, Jean-Baptiste. (c.1742-1826)

For many years Nolin was the NWC agent at Sault Ste. Marie. In 1819, at the urging of Lord Selkirk, he moved his family to Pembina. When that post and settlement closed after the amalgamation of the NWC and HBC in 1821, he and his family moved to St. Boniface. His daughters Angélique and Marguerite, opened the first girl's school in Western Canada in 1829 in St. Boniface. His son, François, was a clerk for the NWC at Fort Dauphin in 1799 and again in 1804.

Nolin, Joseph. (b. 1842)

Joseph was a Red River born Metis the son of Augustin Nolin and Helene Cameron. He married Mary-Ann Gaudry (b. 1842) then Philomene Lucier. He was one of the four Metis youths chosen by Bishop Taché in 1858 to be educated in Lower Canada (along with Louis Schmidt, Louis Riel and Daniel McDougall), however, his parents did not allow him to attend. In 1870, Nolin was Riel's' secretary. He lived at St. Boniface, St. Anne, and Battleford.

Nolin, Joseph Octave Jr. M.L.A.(1868-1925)

Joseph was born at Bottineau, North Dakota, the son of Joseph Nolin Sr. and Marie Ann Gaudry. He married Marie Villeneuve. Nolin and his father were arrested for Resistance activities on April 3, 1885 near Battleford. At the time they were camped on the south bank of the Battle River where it joined the Saskatchewan River, known as "The Point." Joseph went on to become a Justice of the Peace and a Liberal MLA from Athabasca from 1908 to 1925.¹⁹

Nolin, Joseph. (1804 - 1872)

Joseph Nolin was the son of Jean Baptiste Nolin and Marie Angelique Couvret (Métisse). His father was a famous fur trader out of Sault Ste. Marie and his two sisters, Marguerite and Angelique became the first Metis women schoolteachers in Manitoba. Joseph married Louise Frederic, the daughter of Jinier Frederic and his wife Louise before 1834. They had ten children.

Joseph's oldest brother Louis Nolin was Lord Selkirk's official interpreter and inter-

¹⁹ Douglas W. Light, *Footprints in the Dust*. North Battle-ford: Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1987: 210.

puted for the 1817 Selkirk Treaty with the Cree and Saulteaux. Joseph and his brother Augustin (b. 1781) also worked as interpreters. They were hired by the Anishinaabeg and their chiefs to make notes on the Treaty Three negotiations at North West Angle with the Saulteaux in 1873. Joseph Nolin recorded these in French however the French copy has not survived. The English translation survives as the "Paypom Treaty" or "Paypom Document". Joseph also signed as a witness to Treaty Three.

The family is shown as #119 on the Pembina Census of 1850. He is 46 years, his wife Louise is 38, their children Jean B. (16), Josette (12), Joseph (11), Mary (6), Francois (5), Marguerite (2) and 75 year old Louise also living with them.

In 1850, Major Woods reconnoitered the "North-Western Frontier of the Territory of Minnesota" at the behest of Secretary of War,²⁰ acting as an advance man for the treaty-making expeditions to come. He described his meeting with the Chippewa Métis Indians at Pembina:

I urged them to organize themselves into a band, and appoint their chiefs that they might have some order and government amongst themselves with chiefs ...; that as they were, if the United States had any business to transact with them, there was no person to address from whom *the wishes of the people could be obtained, &c., &c.*

Major Woods also organized the French people he identified as half-breeds:

On the 24th of August these people had returned from their Spring hunt, and about 200 of the hunters came to see me. They had appointed four men as their speakers. *I told them that in virtue of their Indian extraction, those living on our side of the line were regarded as being in possession of the Indians' right upon our soil; that they were on our frontiers treated as component parts of the Indian tribes; that they either came under the Indians' laws or regulations, or formed such for themselves. I urged them to organize themselves into a band under a council or chiefs, invested with ample authority to act in their name, in all matters which might arise to affect their ests ...* The next day they returned in about the same numbers, and presented me with nine names as the committee they had selected for the future government of the half-breed population within our borders.

The Metis presented the following names as their elected chiefs and councilors: J.B. Wilkie, Jean B. Dumont, Baptiste Valle, Edward Harmon, Joseph Laverdure, **Joseph Nolin**, Antoine Azure, Robert Montour, and Baptiste Lafournaise.²¹

Nolin, Joseph (b. 1842)

Joseph Nolin was born December 15, 1842. He married Marie Anne Gaudry, then married Philomene Lucier. Joseph Nolin was employed by the Saulteaux during Treaty 3 negotiations to make a written record on their behalf. Commissioner Morris noted that the

²⁰ Major Samuel Woods, *Pembina Settlement*, Executive Document No. 51, House of Representatives, 31st Congress, 1st Session.

²¹ Alexander Ramsey, Letter to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, October 21, 1850. *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs 1850*, pp. 43-64

notes were to be taken in French and he had obtained a copy of these notes.²² The only copies now extant are in English only and are referred to as the “Paypom Treaty” documents. These copies are signed by both Joseph Nolin and his brother August Nolin.²³

Joseph was the son of Augustin Nolin and Helene Cameron, born at Red River on December 15, 1842. Originally he was selected by Tache to go east with Louis Riel and Louis Schmidt to study for the priesthood but his parents would not let him go. He married Marie Ann Gaudry. Marie Ann was the daughter of Andre Gaudry and Marie Magdeleine David. The couple married on August 7, 1867 at St. Boniface. They had four children, one of whom was Metis MLA Joseph Octave Nolin (1867-1925).

Their son, Joseph Jr. was born on May 16, 1867 in Bottineau, North Dakota, the son of Joseph Nolin and Marie Anne Gaudry. He was educated in Ste. Anne des Chenes, Manitoba. He married Marie Villeneuve, the daughter of Theophile Villeneuve and Eliza McGillis in 1891 at Battleford. They had 15 children and homesteaded in the Meota and Jackfish Lake districts of Saskatchewan where he ranched and farmed. For ten years, he was captain of a steam ferry which crossed the Saskatchewan River at Battleford. He was also involved in road construction. He also served as a Justice of the Peace. Joe was multi-lingual, speaking, Michif, French, Cree, English and German. Joe was said to weigh over three-hundred pounds. He was a sportsman and travelled extensively by dog sled, canoe, horseback and later by auto. His grandfather, Augustin Nolin, fought on the Canadian side during the War of 1812.

Joseph Nolin Sr. subsequently married Philomene Lucier, the daughter of Toussaint Lucier and Louise Brazeau on July 9, 1882 at Duck Lake, Saskatchewan. They had two children born at Battleford: Marie Clement born on September 7, 1884 who died on July 29, 1886 at Battleford; and, Marie Anne, Born May 6, 1886.

During the 1885 Northwest Resistance Joseph was one of four men arrested at Battleford on suspicion of being rebels but was later released. His father fought on the British side at Michilimackinac during the War of 1812.

Nolin, Joseph Octave, M.L.A. (1867-1925)

Joseph was born on May 16, 1867 in St. Boniface, the son of Joseph Nolin and Marie Anne Gaudry. He married Marie Villeneuve, the daughter of Theophile Villeneuve and Eliza McGillis in 1891 at Battleford. They had 15 children and homesteaded in the Meota and Jackfish Lake districts of Saskatchewan. He was captain of a steam ferry before the local bridges were established, he was also involved in road construction. He also served as a Justice of the Peace. Joseph was multi-lingual, speaking, Michif, French, Cree, English and German. His grandfather, Augustin Nolin, fought on the Canadian side during the War of 1812.

Joseph was one of Saskatchewan’s first Metis MLA’s. Nolin, a Liberal, was the only representative of the former electoral district of Athabasca, which existed from 1908 until 1917. He then represented the Ile-a-la-Crosse riding from 1917 to 1926.

Nolin, Marguerite. (1780-1868)

Marguerite was the daughter of Jean-Baptiste Nolin and Marie Angélique Couvret—married in 1770. See the entry above on her younger sister for more details. Marguerite

²² Department of Indian Affairs, *Annual Report*, 1884, p. 15.

²³ PAM, MG12, B1, No. 512, Nolin’s Notes, October 3, 1873.

died on September 29, 1868 at St. Boniface.

Norman, Darrell.

Darrell Norman, Ee-Nees-Too-Wah-See (Growing Like a Buffalo), is a Blackfeet/Metis artist who operates Lodgepole Gallery and Tipi Village at Browning Montana. He is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation.

Blackfeet artist Darrell Norman offers Blackfeet Cultural History Tours as a step-on-guide. This service offer is part of Lodgepole Gallery & Tipi Village's over-all concept of cultivating the Blackfeet culture and showing its beauty and moving history to the world by providing overnight stay, in a traditional tipi camp, exhibiting Northern Plains Indian fine art and raising Spanish Mustang horses, the original Indian horse.



Darrell Norman has been a requested speaker and historian for museums, schools, Glacier National Park and tour companies for many years. In 2002 he received the Community Spirit Award by the First Peoples Fund for his efforts to keep the traditional Blackfeet art forms as part of the Blackfeet culture alive. In 2004 he received the Artists in Business Leadership Award (First People's Fund) followed by the Outstanding Alumni Award in 2007 from the North Seattle Community College, and a second Artists in Business Leadership Award in 2009. He is also a consultant to the American Indian Museum in Washington, D.C. His CD "Return of the Buffalo Horse" was on the short list for a Grammy Award in 2004.

Darrell has been an active artist for the past thirty years producing traditional and contemporary art based upon Blackfeet designs. In 1981 Darrell received his formal art degree from North Seattle Community College in Seattle Washington. After living in Seattle for 36 years he returned to his home reservation at Browning, Montana in 1991. In 1993 he established the Lodgepole Gallery and Tipi village at Browning.

Darrell Norman is a great-great-grandson of Mary Marguerite Grant the sister of Cuthbert Grant. Darrell is the descendant of Mary Rose Paul born 1876 at St. Francois Xavier and Frank Enos Norman. They were married in 1893 on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana. Mary Rose Paul was the daughter of William Leonard Paul (b: January 12, 1851 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Louise Eloise Reevis or Rivit (b. November 9, 1854 in Fort Benton, Chouteau, Montana).

William Leonard Paul was the son of Oliver Paul born circa 1820 in St. Boniface and

Magdeleine Gervais born circa 1824 in St. Boniface. Oliver Paul was the son of Francois Paul (b. 1792 in Quebec) and Marie Marguerite Grant (b.c. 1790) the daughter of Cuthbert Grant Sr. and his Cree wife, she was the sister of the famous Cuthbert Grant “Warden of the Plains” and Metis leader during the Battle of Seven Oaks.

Louise Rivit is the daughter of Charles Louis Rivit born July 4, 1803 in St. Louis City, Missouri (died December 31, 1902 on the Milk River, Montana) and Margaret Armelle “Kip-pa-nama-yake” (Toy Gun Woman) born May of 1835 at Judith River, Montana (died June 14, 1926 in Browning, Montana).

Family Metis Scrip Applications:

Norman, Mary; address: Browning, Montana; born: 1876 at Winnipeg; father: Leonade Paul, Métis); mother: Louise Rivet (Métis); file ref. 951754; claim no. 1340.

Paul, Solomon; address: Browning, Montana; born: 1878 in Manitoba; father: Leonide Paul (Métis); mother: Louisa Rivet (American Pegan); (Métis); file ref. 947437; claim no. 1339.

References: Manista'm I Gallery ki aka'pioyists

<http://www.blackfeetculturecamp.com/native-american-culture-gallery-DN.html>

Personal communications, Browning, Montana, May 5, 2014.

Norquay, John, M.L.A., (1878-1889).

John Norquay was born on May 8, 1841 in the Parish of St. Andrews. His parents were John Norquay and Isabella Truthwaite. His paternal grandfather, Oman Norquay, came from the Orkneys to Hudson's Bay and married Jean Morwick, the Metis daughter of another Orkneyman. His maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Vincent, was the daughter of a Metis woman and an HBC officer.



John was the fifth of six children. At the age of two years, his mother died and his paternal grandmother, Mrs James Spence took care of him. His father died six years later in 1849. He attended school at the Parish of St. John's. He became a protégé of David Anderson, the Bishop of Rupert's Land, who provided him with odd jobs and who awarded him a scholarship for general proficiency in 1854, thus he was able to continue his studies at St. John's College. He studied Greek and Latin and became fluent in French. At that time the Church Missionary Society encouraged the learning of Indian languages thus, John learned Cree, Saulteaux and a little Sioux. John Norquay remained active in the Church of England and from 1875 on was an elected representative to the synod of the Rupert's Land diocese.

At seventeen, he obtained a position in the Parish School of St. James, and then taught at Park Creek School (now Parkdale). About this time, June 2, 1862, he married Elizabeth Setter, also a Half-Breed, and the daughter of George Setter who ran Manitoba House in 1849. In 1866, they moved to High Bluff near Portage la Prairie and John took up farming. He also traded furs on Lake Manitoba and even had a small store located at Kinosota. Elizabeth Norquay recalls:

We worked hard, we did not have much but our needs were simple. I had never believed we could live on fish, as we had to do when the grasshoppers came and ate everything green. We moved from our farm at High Bluff before our flour supply was all used, to Lake Manitoba, so that we could get fish. We mixed our flour with fish and made fish rolls. There was a salt spring there and the people used to make salt and sell it. Salt was scarce so we preserved our meet by drying. Sugar was scarce too so we had no cakes or pies and we preserved our berries by drying. We would dry them in a cake and when we wanted some for the table we would break off a piece and add sugar to it. The women used to pound chokecherries and put them with the pemmican, just as we used currant jelly with mutton.²⁴

The couple had eight children between 1863 and 1881. Their last child, Theodora, died in infancy.

Norquay was not directly involved in the Resistance of 1869-70 although he did attend several of the public meetings concerning the Provisional Government. He also signed the election certificate of his cousin, also John Norquay, who was elected to Riel's Provisional Government.

On December 27, 1870 the constituent's of High Bluff elected Norquay by acclamation to serve in Manitoba's first Legislative Assembly. He made one attempt at federal election in 1872 in Marquette riding and was defeated by Robert Cunningham. Cunningham, who was born in Scotland, was a strong supporter of the Metis community. He supported Louis Riel and a general amnesty for those involved in the Red River Resistance as well as land reforms for the Metis.

From about 1874 to the early 1880s, the Norquay family lived on a small farm in St. Andrews just north of Winnipeg. Given his high standing in the Anglican Church and among the English Half-Breeds, he was elected from St. Andrews in 1874 and retained the seat until his death in 1899.

²⁴ W.J. Healy, *Women of Red River*, Winnipeg: The Canadian Women's Book Club, 1923.

In the legislature, Norquay defended the rights of the Metis and Half-Breeds citing their contributions in the west. His moderate stance on most social issues led to promotion in the Assembly and he was appointed to succeed Robert Atkinson Davis as Premier in November 1878. He sought a new mandate on December 18, 1878 and was re-elected, but won his own riding by only eight votes. Although he was a Conservative in federal politics, he resisted the introduction of federal party lines into Manitoba, because he felt that a non-partisan approach would further his negotiations with Ottawa. Norquay was re-elected in the general election of December 9, 1886. In September of 1887 his government was accused of using the trust funds set aside for Metis children as general revenue. Norquay, against the wishes of Sir John A. Macdonald promoted a rail link with the United States, the Red River Valley Railroad. His government went ahead and paid \$256,000 compensation to the CPR, then the Prime Minister disallowed the land transfer. Norquay was then forced to resign on December 23, 1887. In the 1888 election the Liberals had a landslide victory, however Norquay retained his seat in the Kildonan riding.

One year before his death in 1889, John Norquay is credited with making the first ascent of the peak that carries his name. Mount Norquay is a 2,522-metre mountain located in the Canadian Rockies near the town of Banff, Alberta. In reality he did not actually reach the summit due to health problems.

References

Barkwell, Lawrence J., "John Norquay (1841-1889)", *Buffalo Trails and Tales*, Volume, XXXIX, Fall 2004: 8.

Friesen, Gerald. "John Norquay." *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XI, (1881-1890). Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1982: 642-647.

Norquay, John Lazarus. (b. 1837)

John Lazarus Norquay was born on 19 April 1837. He was the son of Henry Norquay²⁵ (Métis), and Henry's second wife, Mary 'Polly' Anderson (Métis), who were married on 29 November 1836 at St John's Cathedral, Red River. John Lazarus Norquay's father was the son of Oman 'Omie' Norquay (of South Ronaldshay, Orkney), born c. 1773, who had settled at Red River with his wife Jean Morwick (Métis), a daughter of James Morwick and an Aboriginal woman. Through these grandparents, John Lazarus Norquay was related to another John Norquay, a younger cousin, born in 1841, who eventually became premier of Manitoba. In Red River Settlement, the suffixes 'Sr.' and 'Jr.' were used to distinguish between the two John Norquays.

On February 2, 1860 at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Portage la Prairie, John L. Nor-

²⁵ Norquay, Henry. Born c. 1810; HBC career; married 4 November 1831, St. John's, Red River; 2d marriage 29 November 1836 at St John's Cathedral, Red River; died c. 1874.

Scrip affidavit for Norquay, Mary; widow of Henry Norquay who was born: 1810; his father: Omie Norquay (Scot); his mother: Jane Morwick (Métis); his heirs: Mary (widow and deponent); and children Jane, wife of Thomas Crowley; Joseph; Anne, wife of John Williamson; Henry; George; Isabella, wife of John Fields; Thomas; and David; claim no: 2033; scrip no: 9616 to 9623; date of issue: August 8, 1876; amount: \$160 =

Scrip affidavit for Norquay, Mary; born: November 15, 1839; husband: John Norquay; father: James Sanderson (Métis); mother: Elizabeth Anderson (Métis); claim no: 2205; scrip no: 11074; date of issue: October 2, 1876; amount: \$160

quay Sr. married Mary Sanderson (b. 1839), the daughter of James Sanderson Jr. (of Albany Fort, Hudson Bay), and Elizabeth Anderson (Métis). In the early 1860's Norquay Sr. and his wife farmed in the High Bluff district, near St. Margaret's Anglican Church (built in 1862). James Sanderson Jr. died in 1851 (age 34) when his boat capsized on Lake Manitoba.

Children of John and Mary:

- James, born on December 25, 1859; died on September 18, 1886 in St. Andrews, ,aged 26.
- Elizabeth "Jane", born on March 31, 1866 and died on November 12, 1938, aged 72.
- Mary Harriet "Polly" born on November 23, 1867 and died on October 21, 1949 in Birch River, aged 81.
- John William born on October 27, 1869 and died on January 18, 1935, aged 65.
- Isabella, born on September 14, 1871 in Minnedosa, and died on July 16, 1873 aged 1.
- Henry "George" born on October 20, 1873 in Minnedosa, and died on June 11, 1946 aged 72.
- Caroline, born on April 20, 1876 in Minnedosa, and died on September 20, 1947 aged 71.
- Margaret Catherine born on March 17, 1878 in Little Saskatchewan, died on March 27, 1899 aged 21.
- Emma Ellen Euphemia born on May 6, 1880 in Little Saskatchewan
- Robert Alexander born on March 17, 1882 in Minnedosa and died on January 16, 1904 in Grandview, aged 21.

On 1 March 1870, Norquay Sr. was elected at a public meeting of the parishioners of St. Margaret's, to the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia representing High Bluff. Later, after Manitoba became a province; in December of 1870, in the first election of the new province of Manitoba, it was Norquay Sr.'s cousin, John Norquay Jr. who was elected to represent High Bluff in the provincial legislature.

In the late 1870s, Norquay Sr. and his family relocated to farm at Mountain Gap, Little Saskatchewan Valley. They settled the south half of Section 12-15- 18, north of Tanner's Crossing (now Minnedosa). However, by 1901 Norquay had moved to Grandview, in the Marquette district. He died at Grandview on 24 December 1913.

Scrip affidavit for Norquay, John; born: April 19, 1837; father: Henry Norquay (Métis); mother: Mary Anderson (Métis); claim no: 2204; scrip no: 11073; date of issue: Oct. 2, 1876; amount: \$160 = ; Norquay, John Lazarus; for his living son, Robert Alexander Norquay; address: Mountain Gap; born: 17 March, 1882 at Minnedosa; father: John Lazarus Norquay (Métis and deponent); mother: Mary Sanderson (Métis); scrip cert.: form E, no. 2863; file ref. 627197; claim no. 195.

Reference:

<http://hallnjean.wordpress.com/sailors-worlds/the-red-river-resistance-and-the-creation-of-manitoba/legislative-assembly-of-assiniboia/hon-john-lazarus-norquay-sr-st-margarets/>

Norquay, Thomas, M.L.A. (1843-1892)

Thomas was the son of John Norquay (b. 1810) and Isabel Truthwaite and the younger brother of John Norquay Jr. Thomas married Elizabeth Miller, the daughter of Robert Miller and Elizabeth Setter on May 10, 1866 at St. Andrew's. Thomas was educated at the local parish school and St. John's College. For nine years he farmed and taught school. Thomas and Elizabeth had twelve children

He acted as Reverend John Black's emissary during the Anglophone militancy against Riel. Upon delivering a letter, Riel tore it up and jailed Thomas. Thomas went on to become a member of the legislative assembly, succeeding his brother, John Norquay. He was elected to the Manitoba Legislature in the Kildonan byelection of February 1890. He died at Winnipeg on 9 June 1892 as a result of a railway accident.



Norris, Malcolm Frederick. (1900-1967)

By Leah Dorion.

Malcolm Norris was the first child of John Norris and Euphrosine Plante. He was born on May 25, 1900 at St. Albert, Alberta. His father was a Scottish settler. His maternal grandparents Xavier and Elizabeth (Belcourt) Plante were a prominent couple in the Metis community at Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta.

The children from his father's previous marriage were antagonistic to their Métis stepmother and her children. As a result, the family lived in two separate homes. Malcolm grew up and received his education in St. Albert from the Sisters of Mercy. He was a good student and fluent in English, French and Cree.

When he was sixteen years old he joined the NWMP and went for training in Regina. He had hoped to join the NWMP squadron going to Siberia to fight the Bolsheviks in the Russian Revolution. In 1917 the forces implemented a minimum age of 18 for going into this squadron. Thus Malcolm's career ended after training was completed. In 1919, he started working for the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) at Fort Vermilion



*Malcolm Norris & family during war-time
Photo Courtesy of Brady Collection - Gabriel Dumont Inst.*

until he grew disenchanted with the trading methods of the company. He left the Company and spent his next five years trapping and trading. Norris trapped near Camsell Portage. In 1922, he married Celina Tardiff and they lived for a time trapping, hunting and trading near Fort Fitzgerald. Norris and his family moved from place to place for many years where he witnessed the terrible conditions of Indian and Métis people in northern communities and the negative impact of the HBC monopoly.

In the twenties, he became an avid socialist and began to fight against bigotry and racism. He often introduced himself as “Redskin Norris”. Political turmoil in the 1930s caused Malcolm to become a strong activist, lobbying for Métis rights and social equality. He joined with Métis leaders, Jim Brady, Pete Tomkins, Felix Callihou, and Joseph Dion and together they organized the Alberta Métis Association (Association des Métis d’Alberta et des Territoires du Nord-Ouest). The meetings were held by taking up a collection from the members, who pitched in what every they could afford.

Norris was the first vice-president of the first Métis organization called the Association des Métis d’Alberta et des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (Alberta Métis Association). Joseph Francis Dion was president, Felix Callihoo, second vice-president, Pete Tomkins and Jim Brady had the secretary duties. The Association worked as a team and each brought different strengths to the group. Jim Brady was a genius in compositions and writing but he was very soft spoken. Felix had a good command of French and Tomkins had a real command of the Cree language spoken by the northern Métis. Joe Dion was a well-respected teacher.

Norris had an incredible command of the English language. It was well known in Métis circles that he wrote one sentence with every word in the Webster’s Dictionary; which took him over two and one-half years to do. Malcolm is remembered by people as being a straight from the shoulder kind of man. He was ready to sacrifice and do anything for the common cause and for the good of the Métis people.



In 1934, Malcolm Norris acted as the group’s spokesperson at presentations made to the Alberta Government’s Ewing Commission, which had the task of investigating the social and economic conditions of the Alberta Métis. He had a sharp tongue and quick wit. A fellow Métis leader, Adrian Hope tells one of his remembrances of Malcolm at the Ewing Commission hearings in the 1930s:

He was walking back and forth like as if he was a barrister or a lawyer or something, speaking on behalf of the Métis people. And the judge asked him at that time to condescend down to common everyday phraseology, because the brand of English he was using was

really way up there among the skyscrapers. He was running around for dictionaries and encyclopedias and everything else to find out some of the meanings of the words

that Malcolm was using. So Malcolm excused himself. He says, "I am sorry, your Honour. When I stepped into this courtroom and seen the British flag hanging there, I knew I had to use the English language. My only regret is, your Honour, that I could not express myself in my mother tongue." He says, "Maybe I could be able to present my case more clearly." Yeah, I felt real proud to be a Métis that day, due to that fact.

Malcolm was involved in obtaining the rights of the treaty Indians and Halfbreeds in Alberta. The chiefs used to call him 'Old Lawyer'. He helped form both the Indian Association of Alberta and the Métis Association of Alberta in the twenties and thirties. He was jailed eleven times for going on Indian reservations. He was a diehard socialist and a tireless organizer.

Norris was eventually rejected by the Alberta provincial government because of his political leanings. He was also disillusioned with the time it took for the Alberta government to implement the Métis colonies. It took from 1933 to 1939 to get the Métis colonies established and the *Métis Betterment Act* passed. When World War II broke out, the Métis Association of Alberta disbanded and Norris joined the Royal Canadian Air Force.

After the war, he went to work for the CCF party in Saskatchewan, a forerunner for the New Democratic Party. Jim Brady and Malcolm Norris had formed a strong friendship and he brought Brady into the Saskatchewan when the CCF gained power. Norris had high hopes for this newly elected democratic-socialist government.

In 1944, he was hired by the CCF to help them understand the situation of the Native people in Saskatchewan. He also worked for the mineral department of the province of Saskatchewan. By profession he was a geologist.

Norris immediately began travelling Northern Saskatchewan educating and politicizing the Métis people. He became a strong defender of Métis rights and began to organize another Métis association. He was always reading, writing, on the telephone, and writing letters. Brady and Norris told the Métis people about their common goal to have complete economic independence for the northern Native people. They wanted Native people to control the natural resources in the north so they would never have to be dependent on government. These opinions were gained from the failure of the Métis to control the Alberta Métis colony lands and the resources removed from the colonies. Norris advocated for an independent nation with its own land. Malcolm was firmly opposed to the Métis organization taking any money from government.

With the ousting of the CCF government in 1964, Norris was dismissed from his job. He worked in Prince Albert as the director of the Indian-Métis Friendship Centre. He continued to fight for Métis rights and, in 1964, headed the Métis Association of Northern Saskatchewan.

In 1966, Norris suffered a stroke, but he continued his political career from a wheelchair. He moved back to Alberta in 1967 where he suffered another stroke and passed away. Norris is remembered as a brilliant orator and political organizer. Fellow Métis organizer, Don Nielson, referred to Norris as a true Indian socialist and a man of great principles. He was committed to the Métis and Indian cause until the day he died.



James Brady and Malcolm Norris

To be ignored is more vicious perhaps
than to be oppressed.

And this is apparently the form
discrimination takes here (Canada).

Malcolm Norris,
Moose Call, 1965.

Norris, Arnold Willy C.M., Ph.D. (1922-2013)

Willy Norris was born in 1922 in northern Alberta at the Little Red River Fur Trading Post. He was the son of Metis political leader Malcolm Frederick Norris²⁶ and Mary Celina Tardiff. In 1919, Malcolm Norris started working for the Hudson Bay Company (HBC) at Fort Vermilion until he grew disenchanted with the trading methods of the company. He left the company and spent his next five years trapping and trading. Norris trapped near Camsell Portage. In 1922, he married Celina Tardiff and they lived trapping, hunting and trading near Fort Fitzgerald. Norris and his family moved from place to place for many years where he witnessed the terrible conditions of Indian and Metis people in many northern communities and the negative impact of the HBC monopoly.

To survive as a youth Willy learned to hunt and fish, gaining valuable skills that served him well later in life. After wartime service, he obtained his doctorate and, in 1955, was recruited by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC). As he embarked on dangerous field mapping projects to identify vital reserves of natural resources, he explored some of the country's most remote areas. In recognition of his contribution to the GSC, he was named Emeritus Research Scientist. Today, his name is synonymous with the Devonian Age among scientists and aspiring paleontologists around the world.

Willy's early years were spent in northern Alberta and Edmonton. He excelled at school and ran Scouts Edmonton. In 1941 he joined the RCAF and trained as a navigator. After the war he enrolled at the University of Alberta and earned a B.Sc. Honours Geology and M. Sc. Geology. He married Joyce (nee Berry) in Edmonton on December 23,

²⁶ Malcolm Norris was the first child of John Norris and Euphrosine Plante. He was born on May 25, 1900 at St. Albert, Alberta. His father was a Scottish settler. His maternal grandparents Xavier and Elizabeth (Belcourt) Plante were a prominent couple in the Metis community at Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta. Norris was the first vice-president of the first Métis organization called the Association des Métis d'Alberta et des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (Alberta Métis Association).

1950 and moved to Toronto to attain a Ph.D. in Paleontology. Upon graduation he joined the Geological Survey of Canada. He was well regarded and very prolific. Willy received several awards including the Alberta Achievement Award from Premier Peter Lougheed, designation as an Emeritus Research Scientist, and the Order of Canada from Governor General Michaëlle Jean in 2006.

Norton, “Teyoninhokorawen”. (1770 – c. 1826) “The Scottish Chief.”

Major John Norton was the Metis son of a Cherokee father and a Scottish mother. His father had come from the Cherokee nation, “having been taken, a boy, from Kuwoki, when that village was burnt by the English,” according to one report. His mother was an Anderson who was probably living near Dunfermline, Scotland, when their son John was born Norton's father had joined the British Army and eventually settled in Scotland where he later married. John Norton was most likely educated in Scotland and followed his father into the army at a young age.

He was stationed in Ireland at the age of fourteen and found himself in Quebec in 1785. While with his regiment at Niagara in 1787, he deserted the army. It must have been during this time that he became involved with the Six Nations of the Grand River. He came to Canada as a private soldier. The muster rolls of the 65th Foot record his enlistment at Mullingar (Republic of Ireland) early in 1784. He arrived in the province of Quebec with the regiment in the following year and accompanied it to Fort Niagara (near Youngstown, N.Y.) in 1787. There he deserted. In 1788 he received his discharge.

Norton then appears as a schoolmaster in the Mohawk settlement established by John Deserontyon at the Bay of Quinte. Norton found this to be too tedious and he resigned in 1791.

He next went to the old northwest to become a fur trader, employed by John Askin of Detroit from 1791 until 1795. After Anthony Wayne's defeat of the western Indians at the battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794, Norton returned to the Upper Canadian side and became an interpreter in the Indian Department at Niagara.

Captain Joseph Brant [Thayendanega] soon drew Norton into his own service as an interpreter, made him an emissary, and adopted him as a “nephew,” deputy, and successor. Norton resigned from the Indian Department and began living at Onondaga on the Grand River. His appointment as Teyoninhokorawen, a rank as a chieftain for diplomacy and leadership in war, came in 1799.

When the War of 1812 broke out, Norton was an adopted war chief of the Six Nations. Many of the other Six Nations leaders were ambivalent about partaking in the war, but upon Norton's own initiative, he organized and led a band of warriors to assist in the defence of Upper Canada. Norton participated in many battles throughout the war, including nearly every major engagement fought in the Niagara Peninsula. His finest hour arguably came on October 13, 1812, when he found himself fighting alongside General Isaac Brock at the Battle of Queenston Heights. Norton, William Kerr, and John Brant (Joseph Brant's son) led the attack on Queenston Heights in advance of the British soldiers and Canadian Militia. The American, however had already gained the heights. Norton says: “[my men] returned the Fire of the Enemy with coolness & Spirit,— and altho' their fire certainly made the greatest noise, from the number of Musquets, yet I believe ours did the most Execution.” Under this onslaught the Americans right flank was forced to retire to the main body.

Norton played a decisive role in this pivotal battle, which claimed Brock's life and decided the fate of Upper Canada. He and his Iroquois warriors, fighting on the right flank, kept up a withering flanking fire on the American invaders atop Queenston Heights, while the British and Canadians waited for reinforcements to arrive from Fort George. Some American troops were so terrified of Norton and his warriors that they actually threw themselves to their deaths over the cliffs rather than risk being captured and scalped. Norton was wounded in this battle. General Sheaffe in dispatches singled out John Norton for recognition and said Norton and his men deserved the highest praise for their good order and spirit. Sheaffe then gave Norton the title of "Captain of the Confederate Indians" of Grand River. The Americans lost 500 killed and wounded and the Canadian side eventually captured 900 American soldiers. (References: Carl F. Klinck, *Canadian Dictionary of Biography*, Toronto: University of Toronto, 2000; and Carl Benn, *The Iroquois in the War of 1812*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1998.)

Norton, Moses.

This Half-Breed HBC employee rose to become governor of Fort Churchill in 1759. Norton's daughter Margaret (Nahoway) married HBC Chief Factor William Sinclair. Norwest, Henry. (b. early 1880s-1918)

Henry was born at Fort Saskatchewan, the son of Louis Norwest and Geneviève Boucher. His father lived for a time with the Cree band led by Kiskaquin (Bobtail). He accepted Metis scrip in 1885.

Henry worked as a saddler and cowboy. After the start of the First World War in 1914, he joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force (January 1915) and served with the 3rd Canadian Mounted Rifles. He was discharged for drunkenness and briefly worked for the Royal North West Mounted Police before re-enlisting on September 8, 1915. Two months later his unit, the 50th Infantry Battalion, left for England and they were in France by August of 1916.

Henry became the greatest sniper in both the Canadian and British forces and was officially credited with 115 observed hits, the highest ever recorded in the annals of the British army. It is possible that his total is much higher since he only counted hits confirmed by a second person. He was known to the German troops and feared by them. His marksmanship and camouflage skills were likely developed from a childhood spent hunting.

At night, he would cross enemy lines and wait for days with his rifle fitted with a telescopic lens, until he got just the right shot. He was awarded the Military Medal in 1917 and posthumously awarded a bar to this medal.

In August of 1918, prior to the attack on Amiens, Norwest volunteered to go to the front to disable machine gun positions and German snipers. On August 18th, a German sniper shot him in the head. His comrades placed the following inscription on his temporary grave; "It must have been a damned good sniper that got Norwest." He was buried near Amiens in France. One of his sniper rifles is on exhibit at the Kings Own Calgary Regiment Museum in Calgary.

Source:

James Dempsey, "Henry Norwest," in Ramsay Cook (General Editor): *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XIV (1911-1920). Toronto: University of Toronto Press,

1998: 786-787.

Norwest (Northwest), Henry, WWI Sniper (b.c. 1881- d.1918)

In nearly three years of service with the 50th Canadian Infantry Battalion during WWI, lance corporal Norwest achieved a documented sniping record of 115 fatal shots.

Norwest was born circa 1881-82 at Fort Saskatchewan, the son of Louis Northwest or Watson and Geneviève Boucher both Metis. His father lived for a time with the Cree band led by Kiskaquin (Bobtail). Henry accepted Metis scrip in 1885.

Henry worked as a saddler and cowboy. After the start of the First World War in 1914, he joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force (January 1915) and served with the 3rd Canadian Mounted Rifles. He was discharged for drunkenness and briefly worked for the Royal North West Mounted Police before re-enlisting on September 8, 1915. Two months later his unit, the 50th Canadian Infantry Battalion, left for England and they were in France by August of 1916.



acres; file ref. 789988; claim no. 3302.

Northwest, Joseph; address: Innisfal; born: 1877 at Fort Saskatchewan; father: Louis Northwest or Watson (Métis); mother: Genevieve Batoche (Métis); scrip cert.: form E, no. 2550; claim no. 3301.

Northwest, Henry; address: Buffalo Lake; born: 1881 or 1882 at Fort Saskatchewan; father: Louis Northwest (Métis); mother: Genevieve Batoche (Métis); scrip cert.: form C, no. 1740; claim no. 3303.

Oberle, Frank: MLA (b. 1957)

Frank Oberle Oberle was born in Ashcroft B.C.. He studied forest resource technology. He was elected to his third term as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for the constituency of Peace River on April 23, 2012. On May 8, 2012, he was named Associate Minister of Services for Persons with Disabilities (reporting to the Minister of Human Services).

During his second term, in addition to his role as MLA, Mr. Oberle served as Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. Frank Oberle was elected to his third term as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for the constituency of Peace River on April 23, 2012. On May 8, 2012, he was named Associate Minister of Services for Persons with Disabilities (reporting to the Minister of Human Services). During his second term, in addition to his role as MLA, Mr. Oberle served as Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. Previously, he has also served as Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security, Chief Government Whip and on the following standing committees of the Legislative Assembly:

- Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing
- Resources and Environment
- Private Bills Committee
- Public Accounts Committee

Mr. Oberle studied forest resource technology at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George in 1980 and obtained his bachelor of science in forestry from the University of New Brunswick in 1988. Mr. Oberle won the Governor General's award (gold medal) in forestry in 1988, the highest university achievement.

From 1988 to 2004, Mr. Oberle worked for Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd., first as a management forester and then as senior forestry advisor. He is a registered professional forester (RPF) with the College of Professional Foresters (CAPF).

His father, Frank Oberle Sr., was a Member of Parliament for Prince George-Peace River from 1973 to 1993 and held portfolios including Minister of Forestry and Minister of State for Science and Technology.

Mr. Oberle has been an active member of the community and has been involved with many boards and organizations:

- Métis Harvesting Committee
- Co-chair Alberta Forest Research Institute (AFRI) from 2004 to 2006
- Parent council, Good Shepherd school
- Economic Development Board chair for Peace River in 2000
- RCMP Community Advisory Board from 2001 to 2004

- Peace River town council from 2001 to 2004
- Member of the East Peace Regional Landfill Board from 2001 to 2004

Ogden, Peter S. Jr. (1817-1870)

Peter was born on January 18, 1817 in Ile-a-laCrosse, the son of HBC Chief Factor, Peter Skene Ogden and Marie Comtois (Comtois de Montigny, b. 1797). Chief Factor Peter Skene Ogden served in New Caledonia from 1835-38 and again from 1840-43. Peter Sr. first married a Cree Indian woman from Rupert's Land with whom he had one child, Peter Jr., but on being posted to the Columbia he left this wife behind. Peter Jr. was raised in Rupert's Land and began work with the HBC in Saskatchewan, where he married Francine Brabant, a Rupert's Land mixed ancestry woman. He transferred to Fraser Lake in 1844 and was employed in New Caledonia continuously until his death from influenza in 1870, at Fort St. James.

Peter and Francine appear to have had at least five children born in New Caledonia, Peter Skene, Jr., Margaret, Sarah, Rachel, and Mary. Along with his father, Peter Skene Ogden Jr. died of influenza in 1870 but his sisters survived and married different fur traders who came to the district from outside the region. Margaret (b. 1849) married Scottish-born Gavin Hamilton and the couple appear in the 1881 Census living with their thirteen children and Margaret's mother, Francine, and sister, Mary (b. 1859). Sarah (b. 1852) married Scottish-born, HBC employee James M. L. Alexander and they appear in the 1881 Census with their five children. Rachel (b. 1853) married HBC clerk Robert Hanley Hall in 1876.

Peter was hired as an apprentice in 1835 and was promoted to Chief Trader in 1854. In 1843 he married Phrisine Brabant (b. 1827) and they had eleven children.

- Peter Skene Ogden III b: 1844 in Northwest Canada.
- Margaret Julia Ogden, b. 17 July 1845 in Fraser's Lake, Lewis Co., Oregon Territory (now British Columbia).
- Adelaide Victoria Ogden, b: June 1849 in New Caledonia (now British Columbia).
- Charles Griffin Ogden, b: 1851 in New Caledonia (1846-1858) (now British Columbia).
- Sarah Julia Ogden b: c. 1853 in Stuart's Lake, New Caledonia (now British Columbia).
- Rachel Sarah Ogden, b: 30 August 1855 in Stuart's Lake, New Caledonia (now British Columbia).
- Christine Ogden, b: 15 October 1856 in Stuart's Lake, New Caledonia (now British Columbia).
- Mary Elizabeth Ogden, b: 13 June 1858 in British Columbia.
- Elizabeth Martha Ogden, b: 1861 in Fort St. James, British Columbia.
- Isaac Ogden, b: 13 April 1862 in Fort St. James, British Columbia.
- Henry Ogden, b: 30 May 1864 in Fort St. James, British Columbia.

Olsen, Sue, M.L.A. (b. 1957)

Sue Olsen was born on June 16, 1957 in Victoria, British Columbia, although her Metis roots are in the Prairie Provinces. She was a police officer in Edmonton from 1987 to 1997. Subsequently she was elected to the Alberta legislature as MLA for Edmonton-

Norwood. She resigned her seat in October of 2000 to run for the Liberal party in the federal election. She lost to the Reform candidate. She then worked for the Metis Nation of Alberta.

Orvis, Brian, C.M. (1931-2010)

Brian Norman Orvis was born on 22 April 1931, the son of John and Catherine Orvis. Before completing junior high school, he became an organist, choirmaster and piano teacher. After studies in Arts, Theology, Music and Education, he taught in remote communities such as Fort Severn, Big Trout Lake and Lac Seul in Ontario as well as Norway House in Manitoba. While at St. John's Ravenscourt School he created its first choir. His Metis Children's Choir, from Patricia Beach, perform part of J. S. Bach's Cantata 147 in Cree, with harpsichord accompaniment at the grave of Chief Peguis, on July 15, 1970, in the presence of the Royal Family. He was a founding member of the Harpsichord Association of Manitoba

Brian served as Chairman of the Board of the Selkirk Friendship Centre, Secretary of the Board of the Manitoba Association of Friendship Centres and Secretary of the Board of the National Association of Friendship Centres. Later he became a Member of the Board of The Pas Trappers' Festival.

He provided leadership in a variety of roles in the native community, largely through his writing, broadcasting and organization skills. For three years he was a CBC editorialist on Native Affairs. For 20 years he was a regular volunteer at the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature.

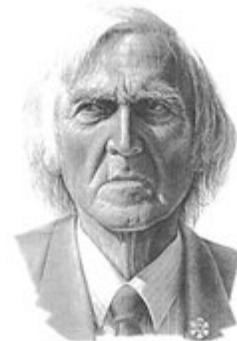
For nine years, he was on staff at Manitoba's Cultural Development Branch where he provided liaison with the Aboriginal Community of Manitoba. For six years he taught for the New Careers Branch in its Recreation Leadership Development Program. His northern experience and work with Aboriginal communities helped the government of Manitoba to change the Education Act allowing the use of heritage languages for instruction, replacing a 90 year English-only policy.

In 1969, he was called upon by the Premier of Manitoba to work with the Centennial Corporation to involve the Aboriginal community in all major celebrations of Manitoba's year-long 100th birthday. He guided the founding of the Harpsichord Association of Manitoba.

He was inducted into the Order of Canada on April 7, 1976 in recognition of his work in creating understanding between Indians, Metis and other Canadians. Other honours and awards included Life Membership in the Selkirk Friendship Centre, Life Membership in the Winnipeg Friendship Centre, a Special Award from the Metis Community of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Centennial Medal, Manitoba Centennial Medal, two Manitoba Games Medals (Administration), the Folklorama Volunteer Award, the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal, and Canada's 125th Birthday Medal.

O'Soupe, Louis. (c. 1835-1913)

Native leader, Louis O'Soupe, was the eldest son of Metis leader Michael Cardinal and his Assiniboine wife. Louis married Omasinakikewiskwew, a Nez Percé woman.



They had two sons and six daughters. After the treaty signing period of the 1870s he was eventually forced to move the mixed race group he led north from the US/Canadian border area to the Qu'Appelle valley at what is now the Cowessess Reserve.

Orvis, Velma. (b. 1940)

Velma describes herself as the Half-Breed daughter of John “Jack” Orvis (1902-1984) and Catherine Cooper (Metis, 1903-1997) from Balsam Bay, Manitoba. She is the granddaughter of John Benson Orvis and Isabella Irving (1861-1944); and great granddaughter of William Irving (b. 1831) and Elizabeth Louis (b. 1839) on her paternal side. On the maternal side she is the granddaughter of Charles Cooper (b. 1878) and Jane Mary Halcrow (b. 1837). Her great-grandfather Jeremiah Cooper was born in 1842 at St. Andrews and married Catherine Thomas who was born at Lac Brochet in 1846.

Velma was the Grandmother Keeper of the moccasin vamps of Walking With Our Sisters, an installation art project of 1,700 pairs of moccasin tops or “vamps” commemorating and representing an estimated 824 Aboriginal women and girls who have been murdered or gone missing in Canada since 1961. The Winnipeg event is being held at the Urban Shaman Gallery from March 21 to April 12, 2014.



Elders, Velma Orvis and Helen Lesperance with Sherry Farrel Racette (Lead Curatorial and Installation Advisor) in the front row and Daina Warren, Director of Urban Shaman Gallery and Sandra Delaronde of the Helen Betty Osborne Foundation in the back row.

Velma is active with Ka Ni Kanichihk (Those Who Lead), Grandmother’s Council and the Grandmothers Protecting our Children group. She is also a current member of the National Parole Board Prairie Region. She is also a former member of the Manitoba

Council on Aging (to 2007).



Elder Velma Orvis packs her ceremonial pipe with elder Albert McLeod, rear, who prepares a smudge ceremony at The Aboriginal Women Responding to the HIV/AIDS Crisis program, funded through Ka Ni Kanichihk, (2013, Joe Bryksa / Winnipeg Free Press)

Orvis Family Metis Scrip

Irving, Matilda; address: Grand Marais; claim no. 1580; born: 9 Aug., 1874 at Grand Marais; father: John Orvis (Whiteman); mother: Mary Ann McLean (Métis); married: 1887 at St. Clements to Willia Irving; scrip cert.: form E, no. 3449.

Scrip affidavit for Louis, James; born: 25 December 1807; father: Joseph Louis (Métis); mother: Indian; claim no: 175; date of issue: May 1, 1876; wife: Isabella, daughter of Andrew Spence; died: Apr., 1874; heirs: her children Sarah, widow of John Bird; Hanna, wife of Charles Purdy; Emma, wife of John Dyser; Chloe, wife of Henry Bird; Isabella, wife of William Irving; William; Peter; and Andrew's children, William, Andrew and James; claim no: 176.

Scrip affidavit for Halcrow, Joseph; born: November 16, 1837; father: Thomas Halcrow (Métis); mother: Sarah Halcrow (Métis); claim no: 112; date of issue: May 1, 1876

Scrip affidavit for Halcrow, Mary Ann, wife of Joseph Halcrow; born: June 1845; father: James Corrigal (Métis); mother: Hannah Corrigal (Métis); claim no: 113; date of issue: May 1, 1876

Scrip affidavit for Cooper, Catherine; wife of Jeremiah Cooper; born: Apr. 12, 1846; father: Charles Thomas (Métis); mother: Mary Bouvier (Métis); claim no.: 38; date of issue: May 1, 1876

Thomas, Nancy - Concerning her claim as a head of family - Address, Prince Albert - Born, 1846 at Lac Caribou - Father, Charles Thomas, (Métis) - Mother, Marie Bouvier, (Métis) - Married, 1864 at Fort Cumberland to Louis Deschambeault - Children living, eight (names on declaration) - Children deceased, one - Scrip for \$160 - Claim 1433.

Scrip affidavit for Thomas, Richard; born: 17 February 1858; father: Charles Thomas (Métis and deponent); mother: Mary Bouvier (Métis); wish to partake in allotment and distribution of land set apart for Métis children.

Ouelette, Abraham. (b. 1867)

Abraham was born at St. Boniface, the son of Jean Baptiste Ouelette and Cecile Courchene. He married Virginie Racette on June 27, 1888 at St. Laurent and they resided at Duck Lake. Abraham was the youngest of Baptiste Ouellette's three sons involved in the Resistance.

Ouellette, Antoine (1834-1922)

Antoine, also known as Antoine Ratte, Ellette or Walette was born on December 29, 1834 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Joseph Ouellette (b. 1799) and Therese Elizabeth Daniels *dite* Houle. Joseph was the son of Joseph Ouellette Sr. (b.1765) and Angelique (Assiniboine). Theresa Houle (b. 1805) was the daughter of Antoine Houle (b. 1781) and Josephte Lauzon.

Antoine's father Joseph II (c. 1799-1885) was the son of Joseph Ouellet and Angélique, an Assiniboine woman. He married Thérèse Elizabeth Houle and they had thirteen children. They lived at St. Norbert and St. François Xavier before moving to St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan in 1874. However, in 1875 he received Half Breed Scrip pursuant to the 1864 Treaty with the Red Lake and Pembina Bands of Chippewa Indians. In 1875 he and his sons received scrip stubs for 160 acres each, Scrip # 375 for Joseph Sr., Scrip # 388 for Antoine and #376 for his son Joseph. In 1868, he was living with the Turtle Mountain Band and received a \$3.00 annuity payment from the American government. Joseph II fought and died at Batoche during the 1885 Resistance.

Antoine Ouellette married Angelique "Omanukwe" Bottineau (b. 1838), the daughter of Joseph Bottineau (b. 1815) and Angelique Cardinal (b. 1816) on June 15, 1857 at Pembina. Antoine's brothers were married to Angelique's sisters. Marie Bottineau, born in 1834 married Isidore Ouellette, born 1830. Josephte Bottineau, born in 1836 married Francois Ouellette born 1832.

Antoine and Angelique had the following children:

- Joseph, b. January 29, 1859.
- Rose, b. April 30, 1861. She married Norman Marion.
- Moise, b. July 2, 1863 at Lewistown. He married Elise Isabella Dumont.
- Celina, b.c. 1865.
- Francois "Frank", b. October 14, 1868 at Devil's Lake. He married Marie Alexina

Welsh (Wells)

- Marie Elise, b. c. 1870 at Wood Mountain.
- Marie Philomene, b. February 25, 1872 at Lebret. She married John Wills.
- Joseph Jean Marie, b. February 4, 1874 at Wood Mountain. He died January 1875.
- Albert, b. January 14, 1876 at Wood Mountain. He died in 1877 at Fort Walsh.
- Jean Baptiste, b. February 2, 1878 at Cypress Hills.
- Marie Elizabeth, b. March 19, 1880 at Lewistown. She married Joseph Dominique Ducharme.
- Odilon, b. 1884. He married Eliza Azure.

Antoine was an independent Metis trader operating back and forth to St. Paul in the Minnesota Territory and was heavily involved in the Metis/Dakota/Lakota trade. With the advent of the North West Mounted Police he became a scout and guide for them. When Sitting Bull came up to Wood Mountain in 1870 he was reliant upon trade with Antoine Ouellette and Louis Legare who was working for Ouellette out of Willow Bunch (Talle de Saules) as well as Joseph McKay. Joseph McKay was trading out of Fort Ellice and Baptiste Bourassa who was working for him was relieved of their whole trading outfit by the Sioux near the Milk River. Isaac Cowie reported that Antoine was trading liquor to the Indians at Wood Mountain, Pinto Horse Butte and Eagle Quills.²⁷

In 1877, tourists Percy Heber and his wife hired Antoine "Wallett" as their scout and guide.²⁸ They had three carts four men including Antoine and thirteen horses. They describe the French speaking Metis as Antoine their guide, George, a cook, and Villeneuve, plus an English speaking Sioux.

The first permanent settlers in Spring Creek, what is now Lewistown, Montana were the Metis. In 1879 three bands comprising of about forty families came in their Red River Carts. A few of the names that became very familiar to all were Berger, Wells, Laverdure, Ouellette, and Ben Kline who down through the years was looked upon as their spokesman and leader. They immediately filed on homesteads. The Ouellette addition to the city, for example, located near the Garfield School, and known as "Buckskin Flats," was Antoine Ouellette's original homestead.

In 1878, Antoine and other Metis buffalo hunters at Cypress Hills wrote a petition asking for a special Metis reserve of land. His father, Joseph Sr., and brothers, Joseph Jr. and Jean Baptiste also signed this petition. This petition requested 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. His brother Jean Baptiste Ouellette also signed this petition.

Antoine and his brother Moise also signed the petition for a Metis reserve in Montana, sent by Louis Riel to General Nelson A. Miles on August 6, 1880.

Antoine's brother Moïse Ouellette (1840-1911) has gone down in history as one of the men who accompanied Gabriel Dumont to Montana in 1884 to bring Louis Riel back

²⁷ Isaac Cowie. *The Company of Adventurers*. Toronto: William Briggs, 1913: 433.

²⁸ Percy Heber, *Journal of two Excursions in the British North West Territory of North America, 1877, 1888*. Market Drayton, England: Bennion & Horne, 1879: 4. They retained Antoine through James McKay at Silver Heights.

to Canada. Riel stayed for a time with the Ouellette's on his return to Canada. Moïse Ouellette was married to Isabelle Dumont, the sister of Gabriel Dumont. Her parents were Isidore Dumont Sr. and Louise Laframboise. Additionally, Gabriel Dumont's brother Elie was married to Ouellette's sister Françoise Ouellette.

Joseph Ouellette Jr. (1824-1899) was the older brother of Antoine. In 1868, he moved from Red River to Wood Mountain for two years, then to Cut Arm Creek (one year), then back to Wood Mountain and Cypress Hills (8 years) then permanently to Duck Lake. In 1874, Joseph was issued Scrip # 375 (160 acres) under the Red Lake and Pembina Treaty. In 1878, Joseph and other Metis buffalo hunters at Cypress Hills wrote a petition asking for a special Metis reserve of land. In 1855, at White Horse Plains, he married Madeleine Paul; they had six surviving children. Two of their boys, Julien and Joseph were active in the Resistance along with their father. Joseph's niece Veronique was married to Michel Dumas, the farm instructor at One Arrow Reserve.

Ouelette, Bernard. (1864)

Bernard was born at St. Joseph N.D., the son of Jean Baptiste Ouelette and Cecile Courchene. He was a member of Captain Daniel Gariépy's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Ouelette, Charles Edmund. (b. 1866)

Charles was the son of Pierre Ouelette and Marguerite Gingras. After the Resistance he married Marie Short at St. Laurent de Grandin in 1886.

Ouelette, Cyprien. (b. 1867)

Cyprien was born at Baie St. Paul, the son of Joseph Ouellette and Madeleine Paul. On his 1885 application for Half Breed Scrip he states: "My parents moved to the North-West Territories about a year after my birth, wherein they ever since resided. I always lived with them. Since last March up to two weeks previous to the engagements at Batoche, I lived at home with my mother. On or about the 15th April all the Halfbreed families of this neighbourhood were ordered to move to Batoche. It was a few days later that I had, with my mother, to join the others at Batoche. I did not take any part either directly or indirectly in the engagement at Duck Lake and Fish Creek. At Batoche I was freed with many others, to defend the place against the troops of the government. The gun I used was one given me by the Rebel government, and I was condemned to be shot, if I didn't help in defending the place...I swear positively that I would not have taken any part in the late rebellion against the Government (of my own free will). The gun I used was given up to Father Touge and by him to the troops."²⁹ This claim was reserved because of his participation in the Resistance and later allowed on October 13, 1886.³⁰

Ouellette, James. (1857-1941)

James Ouellette was born at Pembina on January 9, 1857, the son of Isidore Ouellette and Marie Bottineau. He married Felicite Lafournaise, the daughter of Joseph Lafournaise and Suzanne Valle at Wood Mountain in 1879. In 1878, James was a mem-

²⁹ RG 15, D II (8) (b).

³⁰ The Deputy Minister of the Interior instructed (June 11, 1886) that all claims disallowed because of Resistance activity would now be allowed.

ber of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Ouellette (Ouellet), Jean Baptiste. (1837)

Baptiste was born on December 29, 1834 at St. François Xavier, the son of Joseph Ouelette Jr. and Thérèse Elizabeth Houle. He married Cecile Courchene the daughter of Francois Courchene and Francoise Beauchamp in 1858 at Pembina. They had three sons active in the Resistance: Jean Baptiste Jr., Bernard, and Abraham. Baptiste was a member of Captain Antoine Lafontaine's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

In 1878, Jean Baptiste was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

On his 1885 claim for Half Breed Scrip for his children he states: "For the last twenty years I have been a permanent resident of the Territories and my deceased children lived with me up to the time of their demise. Both of my deceased children died at St. Albert in the Territories of small pox, during the month of August or September 1870." Officials note on the claim: "Will write to St. Albert for the burial certificates. Claimant declines answering questions relating to the part taken by him during the late rebellion."³¹ This claim was reserved because of his participation in the Resistance and later allowed on October 15, 1886.³²

Ouellette, Jean Baptiste Jr. (1859-1970)

Baptiste was born at St. Boniface, the son of Jean Baptiste Ouelette and Cecile Courchene. He married Caroline Parenteau in 1887 at St. Laurent. They were a buffalo hunting family who ranged widely on the plains west of Red River. In the early 1870s they settled in the Batoche, Duck Lake wintering areas. He was a member of Captain Baptiste Vandal Sr.'s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. He died at St. Laurent at age 111.

Ouellette, John Edward. (b. 1863)

John was the son of Pierre Ouelette and Marguerite Gingras. John was a member of Captain Daniel Gariépy's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Ouelette (Ouellet), José (Joseph). (c. 1792-1885)

Joseph was the son of Joseph Ouellet and Angélique, an Assiniboine woman. He married Thérèse Elizabeth Houle and they had thirteen children. They lived at St. Norbert and St. François Xavier before moving to St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan in 1874. However, in 1868 he was living with the Turtle Mountain Band and received a \$3.00 annuity payment from the American government. In 1878, Joseph was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

They were the parents of Moïse and Joseph Ouelette. At age 93, he fought alongside Riel and Dumont at Batoche and was killed there on May 12, 1885, the last day of battle.

³¹ RG 15, D II (8) (b).

³² The Deputy Minister of the Interior instructed (June 11, 1886) that all claims disallowed because of Resistance activity would now be allowed.

Gabriel Dumont noted later: “José ... was killed after the ammunition ran out and Middleton’s troops overran the Metis rifle pits. ‘What kept me at this position, I must admit, was the courage of Old Ouelette.’” Father Fourmond credits Joseph with saving many of the younger Metis in battle. He told them to run and escape, and was killed with a bayonet, while holding the military off. He is buried separately from the mass grave, and the only person in a coffin. The rest were buried in cloth. (Written with contributions from Lee Penner, Heritage Interpreter, Batoche National Historic Site.)

Ouellette, Joseph (b. 1832)

Joseph was the son of Jacques Ouellette and Marie Marcellais. He was born at St. Norbert and married Marie Anne Lamirande at St. Boniface. Their daughter Veronique was married to Michel Dumas, the farm instructor at One Arrow Reserve. Joseph was a member of Captain Jonas Moreau’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Ouellette, Joseph III. (1824-1899)

Joseph, the older brother of Moïse (below), was the son of Joseph Ouelette Jr. and Thérèse Elizabeth Houle. In 1868, he moved from Red River to Wood Mountain for two years, then to Cut Arm Creek (one year), then back to Wood Mountain and Cypress Hills (8 years) then permanently to Duck Lake. In 1855, at White Horse Plains, he married Madeleine Paul; they had six surviving children. In 1878, Joseph and other Metis buffalo hunters at Cypress Hills wrote a petition asking for a special Metis reserve of land. Joseph III fought for the Metis at Batoche. He was a member of Captain James Short’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

On his 1885 application for Half Breed Scrip Joseph states: “Up to 1868, I lived both in Manitoba and the Territories. In 1868, I moved to Wood Mountain where I lived two years, thence to Cut Arm Creek, one year, thence again to Wood Mountain and Cypress Hills (for) about eight years, thence to Duck Lake where I have ever since resided. I am occupying a piece of land near Duck Lake, for which I never entered (application for title) for want of means. I am on said land since July 1879. Since last March I have continuously lived at Duck Lake and vicinity. I was present in arms at Batoche; but I was forced by the leaders to be present at the engagements with the government troops. I took no part in the engagement at Duck Lake nor at Fish Creek.”³³ This claim was reserved because of his participation in the Resistance and later allowed on October 13, 1886.³⁴

Ouellette, Julien. (1849)

Juklien was born at Oak Lake, the son of Paul Ouellette. He married Angelique Moreau the daughter of Jonas Moreau and Cecile Desjarlais. They resided at Duck Lake. Julien was one of the Cypress Hills Hunting Band of Metis who signed an 1878 Petition for a reserve along the Canadian/US border. Julien was a member of Captain Jonas Moreau’s Company in the 1885 Resistance.

³³ RG 15, D II (8) (b).

³⁴ The Deputy Minister of the Interior instructed (June 11, 1886) that all claims disallowed because of Resistance activity would now be allowed.

Ouellette, Moïse Napoléon. (1840-1911)

Moïse Ouelette has gone down in history as one of the men who accompanied Gabriel Dumont to Montana in 1884 to bring Louis Riel back to Canada. Riel stayed for a time with the Ouelettes on his return to Canada.

Moïse was the son of Joseph Ouelette Jr. and Thérèse Elizabeth Houle. Joseph was killed at the Battle of Batoche. Moïse Ouelette was married to Isabelle Dumont, the sister of Gabriel Dumont. Her parents were Isidore Dumont Sr. and Louise Laframboise. Additionally, Gabriel Dumont's brother Elie, was married to Ouelette's sister Françoise Ouelette. Moïse and Elizabeth had 10 children; they were Marguerite, Elise, Marianne, Therese, Marie (Bremner), Angèle (Boyer), Moïse Jr. (Marie Dumont), Jean-Baptiste (Marie Gervais), Marie Florestine (Gervais) and Virginie (Gervais). The family lived for a time at St. Norbert where they were enumerated in the 1870 census; Moïse was listed as a farmer and trader. Subsequently they moved to St. Laurent in the South Saskatchewan valley.

Moïse was elected as a St. Laurent (South Saskatchewan) Council member in 1873 and 1874. Gabriel Dumont led this council; the other councillors were Isidore Dumont, Pierre Gariépy, and Jean Baptiste Hamelin. Moïse was involved in the effort to gain Metis control of education. In 1877, the Metis lobbied to move the church run mission school from the west side of the South Saskatchewan River to the east side where most of the Metis people lived. Later he was involved in the 1885 Resistance at Duck Lake with Dumont. He was a member of Riel's 16 man Council (Exovedate) at Batoche during the 1885 Resistance. On August 14, 1885 at Regina, he was sentenced to three years imprisonment for his part in the Resistance. In 1889, a committee was established under Ouelette's direction to gather contributions to establish a monument to the fallen Metis and Indian warriors of 1885. In 1901, this monument was erected.

In his testimony of August 13, 1885 at the Regina trial Father Alexis Andre says: "Moïse Ouelette I know for twenty-five years. He is not a man of much intelligence. He has a very large family of eleven children and his wife and is their sole support. He assisted Lépine and Ross; and Ouelette from the beginning, opposed violence in every way possible, and they did all they could to prevent rebellion and any resort to arms. This may be seen in Riel's prayers, when he prays to God to change Ouelette and the others. Ouelette was the man who carried General Middleton's letter to Riel, for which he was promised considerations. He is about forty-five years of age." (CSP, 1886, Vol. 13, p. 385)

Ouellette, Patrice. (b. 1860)

Patrice was born January 17, 1860 at Baie St. Paul, the son of Joseph III and Madeleine Paul. He married Marguerite Lattergrass, the daughter of Akewenin Lattergrass and Isabelle Kipling in 1886 at Battleford. In 1878, Patrice was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Ouelette, Thomas.

Thomas was a member of Captain Bernard Paul's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Pagé, Alexandre. (b. 1831)

Alexandre was born on August 4, 1831, at Saint-Boniface (Manitoba), the son of Joseph Pagé³⁵, a French-Canadian, and Agathe Letendre, a Métis. Some time before 1850, he married Adélaïde Lépine, daughter of Jean-Baptiste Lépine and Julie Henry and sister of Ambroise-Dydime Lépine. She was born on November 4, 1832 at Saint-Boniface and baptized the next day. The couple had eleven children.

Alexandre Pagé was one of the three delegates from Baie Saint Paul (Manitoba) to the Convention of Forty on 26 January 1870 under the Riel government. On 7 October 1875, he applied for Manitoba Scrip at Saint-François-Xavier, where he was a farmer. The Honorable Pascal Breland signed his scrip application as a witness. Adélaïde Lépine died 14 October 1894 at Saint-François-Xavier. Alexandre Pagé is the brother of François-Xavier Pagé who was also a representative to the Convention of Forty.

Pagé, François Xavier. (1833-1912)

François Xavier fought at the Battle of the Grand Coteau. This battle took place between a Métis buffalo hunting party from St. François Xavier, led by Jean Baptiste Falcon and the Cut Head (Pabaksa) Yanktonai (Ihanktonwanna), Dakota, led by Chief Medicine (Sacred) Bear, on July 15 to 16, 1851

François Xavier Pagé was born May 30, 1833 at St. François Xavier. He was the son of Joseph Pagé³⁶ (b. 1783) and his second wife Agathe Letendré (b. 1790). François-Xavier is the brother of Alexandre Pagé who was also a representative to the Convention of Forty. François Xavier married Philomène Lavallée, daughter of François Lavallée and Josephte Morin. His wife was born 8 November 1843 at Saint-Boniface. The couple had fourteen children. According to the Red River Relief Committee, in 1867 Xavier Pagé had one horse, three oxen and only harvested 40 bushels of wheat, suggesting that he made his living as a tripman for cart brigades.

François was one of the representatives of Saint-François-Xavier to the Convention of Forty in January 1870 at the Red River. On 19 January, Pagé was one of the four members of this convention (along with Ambroise-Dydime Lépine, John Sutherland and John Fraser) who went to find out if William MacTavish still considered himself the governor of Assiniboia. MacTavish responded that he was devoid of all authority and strongly urged the formation of a new government. Returning to the convention with this news, Pagé raised the motion to adopt the Provisional Government with Louis Riel as president, becoming a councilor of the Provisional Government when it was formed. Pagé was sent out as a scout for the Métis at the approach of the Red River Expeditionary Force and was arrested along with François-Xavier Dauphinais and Pierre Poitras on 24 August 1870. He was called upon to testify at the trial of Ambroise Lepine in 1874.

On 8 October 1875, François-Xavier Pagé applied for Manitoba Scrip at Saint-François-Xavier. On the application, he listed himself as a farmer. His wife died 20 April 1883 at Saint-François-Xavier.

³⁵ Joseph Pagé was born about 1783. He first married Marguerite Poitras (c.1785-1829), then Agathe Letendre, born about 1790, the daughter of Jean-Baptiste Letendre and Josephte "Cree."

³⁶ Joseph Pagé was born about 1783. He first married Marguerite Poitras (c.1785-1829), then Agathe Letendre, born about 1790, the daughter of Jean-Baptiste Letendre and Josephte "Cree."

Page, Mike. (b. 1939)

Master Metis Fiddler Michael Page was born June 30, 1939, the son of Jean Baptiste Page³⁷ and Frances Fayant³⁸ (b. 1872). His parents had 14 children and were farmers who lived west of Belcourt and northwest of St. Anthony's Church. John B. Page was a fiddler who handed down his musical skills to his sons. Mike is married to Dorothy Azure Page (b. 1945).³⁹ Mike was featured on the Smithsonian Folkway CD *Plains Chippewa/Metis Music from Turtle Mountain* (1984) and in the documentary film *Medicine Fiddle* (1992). His photograph appears in *Metis Legacy Vol. I* (2001), and an interview appears in *Metis Legacy Vol. II*, (2007).



Mike Page (centre standing), Lawrence Barkwell (right standing) at Metisfest, International Peace Gardens, 2009.

In the booklet that accompanies the documentary film, *Medicine Fiddle*, Mike says:

The Sioux would say they couldn't tell what a Metchif was, but when he played one of these (fiddles), they knew he was a Metchif.

Well my Dad, he was pretty old. He remembers the buffalo days, you know. He was pretty young at the time. He said they'd leave and there'd be the band of them. They'd leave in the carts, the Red River Carts, and they'd always have a violin there. Maybe three or four, you know. They always had music. One of their favourite tunes

³⁷ Born August 2, 1874 at Cypress Hills, the son of Charles Edouard Page and Nancy Landry. Charles was born March 21, 1834 at St. Francois Xavier. Nancy Landry was the daughter of Louis Landry and Isabelle Chalifoux.

³⁸ Francoise Fagnant was the daughter of William Fagnant and Julia Lafontaine.

³⁹ The daughter of Alphonse Azure and Rose Delia LaFontain.

was the “Red River Jig.” that came from the late 1700s or maybe the middle of the 1700s.

Some of them old guys, they’d make up certain tunes for certain occasions. Well, Dad used to tell me of a certain fight they’d have with some other Indians, or a battle they got into and they’d get back to camp and they’d make up a tune about this battle they had.

He used to play a tune there, when Louis Riel was fighting in Canada with the Metchifs, “Le Bataille de Batoche.” They had a certain name for it. Or when hunting, somebody would get the biggest buffalo, or whatever it was, from these hunts, they’d make up a tune about it. When they’d get back to camp, they’d all gather around and start playing. One guy would compose a tune about this. It was just on a violin.

Like all my uncles played. They were playing this “le boss,” they called it. That’s where you’re bucking with that other violin. That’s where I learned the music. From the old timers. And they’d keep time with their feet, like with “Soldier’s Joy.” A lot of them old guys wouldn’t stand. They always had to sit down, and they always had their feet going (clogging).

See, the Metchifs, the oldtimers, they used to play with a double string. I don’t know if you know what a double string is, but its more of a Cajun. Its got the same beat as the Canadians, but played with two strings. I don’t know if it’s a harmony or what, but we play the same beat and the same tunes as the Canadians, but played double string. As far as I know my music went back throughout the years.

And the oldtimers, they used to stick rattlesnake tails in their fiddle. Make them rattle. I don’t know why they did that. Last year I played a violin in Belcourt, here, and was wonderin why it was rattling. I looked inside there and there’s a rattlesnake tail. See that’s one part of the culture. A lot of them old fiddlers at that time, like my Dad, I remember he used to spit on the keys, like this! So they’d catch. All the time your keys would slip. That’s one of the bad habits they had. Ha!⁴⁰

*Mike Page
Turtle Mountain,
Metis Musician*

⁴⁰ These passages are from: Nicholas Vrooman, Frank Poitra, Fred Allery, Mike Page and Dorothy Azure Page. “Tale of the Medicine Fiddle: How a Tune Was Played and the Metchif Came to Be.” In James P. Leary (Editor): *Medicine Fiddle: A Humanities Discussion Guide*. Marquette, Michigan: Up North Films and Northern Michigan University, 1992: 19-29.



The Page family in front of their home. Mike is the youngest boy pictured.

References:

Loukinin, Michael (Director) *Medicine Fiddle*: Up North Films and Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan, 1992.

Vrooman, Nicholas Curchin Peterson (Editor). *Turtle Mountain Music*. National Endowment for the Arts, North Dakota Council on the Arts, and Folkway Records, 1984.

This booklet which accompanies the music recording gives a brief introduction to Turtle Mountain Michif music, the history of the Turtle Mountain Band and the Village of Belcourt. In a chapter entitled “Views from the Turtle Mountains” (pp. 5-10) Vrooman includes interviews with Michif Elders Francis Cree, “King” Davis, Alvina Davis, Delia La Floe, Fred Parisien, Fred Allery, Mildred Allery, Norbert Lenoir, Ray Houle, Mike Page and Dorothy Azure Page. The final chapter of the booklet gives descriptions of the songs, their cultural significance as well as the lyrics.

Vrooman, Nicholas, Frank Poitra, Fred Allery, Mike Page and Dorothy Azure Page. “Tale of the Medicine Fiddle: How a Tune Was Played and the Metchif Came to Be.” In James P. Leary (Editor): *Medicine Fiddle: A Humanities Discussion Guide*. Marquette, Michigan: Up North Films and Northern Michigan University, 1992: 19-29.

Palud-Pelletier, Noël.

Noël is author of *Louis, Fils des Prairies*. (Winnipeg: Les Éditions des Plains, 1984) and its English version, *Louis: Son of the Prairie*. (Winnipeg: Pemmican Publications, 1990). The Manitoba Metis Federation library has an original copy of the manuscript of this translation of the 1984 book in French. This is a children’s storybook of Riel’s early years up to the age of fourteen, and it includes Riel’s sister Sara and friends. Daily routines of Metis life, buffalo hunting and games are detailed. The Metis are por-

trayed in a very positive light. Noëlle was honoured with the title “Captain of the Buffalo Hunt” by MMF in 1980.

Pambrum, Isadore. (1853-1928)

Isador was born at Lac la Biche in 1853, the son of Pierre C. Pambrun and Betsy Quintal. He worked for the HBC at Fort Pitt and it was there that he married Isabelle Dufresne. Isadore, Isabelle and their three daughters were taken prisoner by the Indians at Fort Pitt during the 1885 Resistance. After the Resistance Isadore worked as a guide and interpreter for the N.W.M.P. at Battleford.⁴¹

Pambrum Pierre C. Jr. (1824-1902)

Pierre Jr. born at Lesser Slave Lake, was the mixed-blood son of HBC Chief Trader Pierre Chrysologue Pambrum Sr. and Catherine “Kitty” Humphryville. Pierre Jr. was educated at Macallum’s School in Red River and became a HBC apprentice postmaster in 1841 after successfully serving for a number of years as a clerk. For a time he dropped out of the service to become a free trader and rejoined the company in his later years. In 1824, Pierre married Elizabeth Quintal at Lac La Biche.

Two of Pierre’s brothers served briefly as labourers and his brother Andrew Dominique was a HBC clerk at Nez Percé.

In 1878, Pierre retired to Battleford and was one of the original members of the Battleford Infantry Company in 1879. During the Metis Resistance of 1885, Pambrun was accidentally wounded in the guard room at Battleford by a fellow Home Guard member. As a result his arm had to be amputated.⁴²

Pangman, “Bostonaise” Peter Jr. (1791-1850)

Bostonaise Pangman was born in the Saskatchewan River Valley, the son of a notorious and colourful New Jersey born fur trader, Peter Pangman, and Wewegikabawik (Marguerite-Angélique), his Cree wife. He was married to Marguerite Suteuse and they had eight children. He is believed to have had one son from a previous marriage.

As a North West Company trader, he traveled constantly this the major influence in Bostonaise’ life was his mother. A skilled hunter, his horsemanship and hunting skills were recognized early on and he was offered a position with the NWC at age fifteen. However, he preferred the Metis “freeman” life of hunting buffalo in the Pembina region. In October of 1811, Bostonaise worked for Chief Trader John McLeod Sr. when they traveled up the Red River to establish a post at the fork of the Turtle River (present day Grand Forks). When Peter Fidler took over at this location, he refused to give the promised equipment to Pangman and Bostonaise left the HBC service.

In 1812, Bostonaise saw the beginning of conflict between the HBC, the Selkirk Settlers and the Metis when the settlers occupied traditional Metis hunting territory. For two winters, the Metis provisioned the colonists with bison meat. However, this ended in 1814 with the implementation of Governor Miles McDonnell’s Pemmican Proclamation,

⁴¹ Douglas W. Light, *Footprints in the Dust*. North Battleford: Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1987: 258.

⁴² Douglas W. Light, *Footprints in the Dust*. North Battleford: Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1987: 267.

an attempt to reserve the resource for the settlers. This action united the Metis buffalo hunters, and Pangman's determination to resist the restrictions was further reinforced when McDonnell had him arrested for hunting buffalo. This also agitated the NWC employees and they urged the Metis to destroy the colony, which they almost did on two occasions.

By June of 1815, they were demanding that the settlers leave the area. Metis treaty terms drawn up by Cuthbert Grant, Bostonais Pangman, William Shaw and Bonhomme Montour (the four "Chiefs" of the Metis) and were accepted by James Sutherland and James White on behalf of the colonists on June 25, 1815.

Ongoing tensions eventually led to the end of the peace and the Battle of Seven Oaks in 1816, when the Metis, without Pangman, decimated a group of colonists who confronted them while they were crossing Frog Plain north of the settlement. Pangman's half-brother Joseph Pelletier, also known as "Assiniboine," did take part in the Seven Oaks Battle and later sought conciliation between the groups by dealing with Captain d'Orsonnens, leader of the Swiss mercenaries brought in by Lord Selkirk to retake the colony.

Subsequently, Lord Selkirk and Chief Peguis attempted to sign a treaty. This angered Pangman since he believed that as Aboriginal people the Metis had equal right to the land and its resources. It is believed that Pangman told the Saulteaux Chief that if he made a treaty with Selkirk, without Metis input and consent, the Metis would forcibly expel the Plains Ojibway from the area. Bostonais Pangman, Cuthbert Grant and other Metis resistance fighters eventually stood trial in Upper Canada for their actions. They were acquitted.

Bostonais Pangman was an early Metis nationalist who only used force when absolutely necessary and he did so to preserve his people's way of life. He was overshadowed in history by others such as Cuthbert Grant. Bostonais is an unrecognized Metis hero. He died at St. Francois Xavier on March 4, 1850.

Paquette, Pierre. (1796-1836)

Pierre was born at St. Louis, Missouri, the son of Jean Baptiste Paquette, a trader working out of Mackinac and Ho-a-me-no-kau, a daughter of White Crow, the Chief of the Rock River Band of Winnebago.

Paquette was a Metis trader, scout and interpreter. In 1818, Paquette established an American Fur Company post at the portage between the Fox and the Wisconsin Rivers. For several years he operated as an agent for Joseph Rolette of the AFCo. Joseph's brother Laurent Rolette worked as Paquette's clerk. Paquette interpreted for the Ho-Chunk at the treaty councils in the 1830s following the Black Hawk War. At the request of the Winnebagos he received land as part of their 1832 treaty agreement. He was fluent in French, Winnebago, English and several other Aboriginal languages. He was a government scout during the battle of Wisconsin Heights and later served as an interpreter for Henry Dodge. He was assassinated by Mauzemoneka (Iron Walker) during treaty negotiations in October, 1836.

Paquette was known for his physical size and strength as well as his personal integrity. He was six-foot two and 240 pounds, and it was said that he could carry an 800-pound barrel of lead and once lifted a horse clear off the ground. Pierre was married to Therese Peltier dit Antaya of Prairie du Chien. She was the stepdaughter of Joseph Crelie. They

had four children. He later married her half-sister Florence Courville. The town of Poynette, Wisconsin is named after Pierre (a misspelling of Paquette)

Parent, Pierre “Pig’s Eye.” (c. 1777-1844)

This Half-Breed whiskey trader is credited with founding St. Paul, Minnesota when he located his trading establishment there in June of 1838. The village was originally called Pigs-Eye but was officially renamed in 1841. The Minnesota Pioneer, reported that the Priest’s invocation was:

Pigs Eye, converted thou shalt be, like St. Paul; Arise and be henceforth, St. Paul.

Parent was born at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, his father and three uncles were fur-traders. He apparently worked for the Choteau/McKenzie interests and was stationed at Prairie du Chien, Green Bay and St. Louis. From 1832 on he operated a number of whiskey shops in Iowa and on the banks of the Mississippi River in the St. Paul area.

Parent, Roger: MLA

Roger Parent was first elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature in the 2011 provincial election.



Prior to entering politics, Roger was a business consultant working with a variety of organizations developing aboriginal businesses around the province. Roger spent over 20 years prior to aboriginal business development in project management and technical advisor in equipment and building services. He is a graduate of SIAST in mechanical engineering technology and a graduate from the University of Saskatchewan in Business Administration. Roger also graduated from Purchasing Management Association of Canada at the University of Saskatchewan.

He has been involved with several initiatives within the community, including Canadian institute of Management, Purchasing Management Association of Canada, SREDA Aboriginal Economic Development committee, the Saskatoon Homelessness Initiative partnership, and most recently as a board member for the Saskatchewan Housing Corpo-

ration. Provincially Roger has been on the board of directors for the Saskatchewan Economic Development Association, Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, Action Saskatchewan Summit committee, Northern Apprenticeship committee and the Northern Labour Market committee.

Parenteau, Alexandre. (b. 1845)

Alexandre was the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. He married Philomene Patenaudein 1866. In the 1870s they lived in Batoche but in the 1880s they were living at Battleford. Alexandre provided Louis Riel's Council with scouting.

Parenteau, Angélique (Godon). (1818-1892).

Angelique was born ca. 1818 at St. Boniface, the daughter of Louis Godon and Louise (Assiniboine). She died on 26 February 1892 at Batoche, age 74. The huge Parenteau clan was deeply involved in the Resistance. Seven of her sons, three sons-in-law and three grandsons were involved in the Resistance. Her brother-in-law Pierre Parenteau was Chairman of Riel's council and her sister in law was Marie Anne Caron; five of her sons and stepsons were Resistance fighters. Angelique's great grandson's Gary and Randy Parenteau were to become presidents of the Metis Settlements of Alberta General Council.

Parenteau children;

- Jean Baptiste was married to Dumont's sister Pelagie,
- "Petit" Louis was married to Susanne Grant,
- Gabriel was married to Angelique Laverdure,
- Rosalie was married to Philippe Elzear Garipey,
- Alexandre was married to Philomene Patenaude,
- Eliza was married to Henry Smith,
- Judith was married to Isidore Dumont,
- Raphael was married to Henriette Smith,
- Agnes was married to Pierre Laverdure,
- Isidore was married to Judith Plante,
- Esdras was married to Elise Fisher, and
- Rose was married to John Ross.

Parenteau, Daniel. (1839)

Daniel was born at Red River, the son of Pierre Parenteau and Joseph Delorme. Daniel was charged with treason felony for his Resistance activities but on August 4, 1885 was discharged by Magistrate Richardson. His brother Pierre Jr. and Pierre's two sons were also active in the Resistance.

Parenteau, Donny.

This Metis country and western music star was born and raised in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. He started playing fiddle at age fifteen. Donny toured for 12 years with the Neal McCoy Band. Prior to that he performed professionally with Grant and Sean Carson and at age 19 toured with them across Canada, England, Scotland and Wales. In 1990 he returned to Prince Albert and became member of the *Number One West Show*. In 1991 he joined Neal McCoy as a fiddle and mandolin player and moved to Nashville,

Tennessee. He has appeared at the *Grand Ole' Opry*, *Nashville Now*, *Prime Time Country* and on the *Tonight Show* with Jay Leno. He retired from Neal McCoy's Band in 2002 and returned to Prince Albert to pursue his own record deal. Since then his band has played all over Saskatchewan and they have played at Batoche Days. In 2003 he was the featured performer at the Manitoba Metis Federation 35th annual General Assembly.

Donny is a lifetime member of the Saskatchewan Country Music Association. In 2003 he won the SCMA fiddlist of the Year. Previously he was awarded the International Humanitarian Award and the Merit Award.

Parenteau, Elie. (b. 1835)

Elie Parenteau was the son of Joseph Parenteau and Suzanne Daigneault. He married Marie Beriault, the daughter of Joseph Beriault and Isabelle Duval in 1862 at St. Boniface. He then married Francoise Ledoux, the daughter of Eusebe Ledoux and Louise Desjarlais in 1868 at St. Francois Xavier. Lastly, he married Marguerite Lafournaise, the daughter of Gabriel Lafournaise and Susanne Collin sometime before 1876. In 1878, Elie was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Parenteau, Gabriel. (1837-1900)

Gabriel was born at Red River, the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angelique Godon. He married Angelique Laverdure was a member of Captain Isidore Dumont's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parenteau, Isidore. (b. 1852)

Isidore was the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. He married Judith Plante at St. Boniface on June 6, 1870. During the 1885 Resistance Isidore Parenteau and Louis Letendré were sent to the Battle River district to enlist Indian reinforcements.

Parenteau, Jean Baptiste. (b. 1832)

Jean was born at St. Norbert, the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. He married Pélagie Dumont in 1858, Gabriel Dumont's sister. He was a plains buffalo hunter who wintered near Tourond's Coulee with the other Metis traders and hunters. Each spring he would take furs to sell in Winnipeg and return to Tourond's Coulee in the fall. The family settled in St. Laurent (River Lot 30) in 1872. He was a member of Riel's Exovedate and fought at Batoche. He was a member of Captain Baptiste Boucher's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. He was wounded during battle. He was not tried for these activities as he escaped to Montana.

Parenteau, Jean Baptiste. (b. 1858)

Jean Baptiste was born at Saskatoon, the son of Baptiste Parenteau and Pélagie Dumont. In 1876 he married Elise Champagne. He was a member of Captain Calixte Lafontaine's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Paranteau, Joseph Sr. (b. 1773)

Joseph Parenteau and Suzanne “Crise” Richard we married according to the custom of the country sometime before 1805. Joseph was the father of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Pierre Parenteau (see below).

Paranteau, Joseph Dodet. (b. c. 1810-1890)

Joseph was the son of Joseph Parenteau Sr. and Suzanne Richard. He married Angélique Godon c. 1830. He was part of the original 1871 St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan governing committee. Many of their children were involved in the Metis Resistance of 1885.

Parenteau, Judith (Dumont). (b. 1847)

Judith was the daughter of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. She married Isidore Dumont Jr., Gabriel’s eldest brother, and was one of the heroines of Batoche in 1885.

Parenteau, Judith (Plante).

Judith was the daughter of Antoine Plante and Angélique Dumont. She married Isidore “Wabash” Parenteau, (b. 1852) at St. Boniface on June 6, 1870. They then settled in St. Laurent where their first child was born the following year. Isidore’s older sister Judith was married to Gabriel Dumont’s brother also named Isidore. During the 1885 Resistance Isidore Parenteau and Louis Letendré were sent 120 miles on snowshoes to the Eagle Hills in the Battle River district to enlist Assiniboine reinforcements. Isidore was one of the men who rode to reinforce the fighters at Tourond’s Coulee. In the written accounts of this battle he is referred to as “le Noir Parenteau”. Gabriel Dumont reported that Isidore arrived with a buggy, a Sioux warrior and a half-barrel of powder.

After the defeat at Batoche Baptiste Parenteau, Isidore Parenteau, Patrice Joseph Fleury, Edouard Dumont and Jean Dumont all joined the Spring Creek Metis Band in Montana. Isidore and Judith Parenteau eventually settled in Flathead territory in Montana at the St. Ignatius Mission.

Isidore and Judith returned to Batoche whenever they could. Their son Joseph died in Batoche in 1890 and the family was included in the Canadian Census of 1891. Isidore also spent the summer of 1893 at his old homestead in Batoche. In his claim to the Rebellion Losses Commission he stated that he had lost his entire homestead, a log house, two stables, a fenced pasture for five horses and fourteen head of cattle.

Judith’s grandson, D’Arcy McNickle became a Guggenheim Fellow in 1963, the first Metis to receive this honour. Later, he was to serve as the founding director of the Newberry Library’s Center for the History of the American Indian, which was later named after him as the D’Arcy McNickle Center. He is believed to have been the first Metis university professor to teach in Saskatchewan. He was a founding member of the National Congress of American Indians. Two buildings are named in his honour; The Newberry Library D’Arcy McNickle Center for Native American History and the D’Arcy McNickle Library at the Salish Kootenai College, Flathead Indian Reservation, Montana.

Parenteau, Leon Esdras. (b. 1856)

Esdras was born at Pembina the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. He married Elise Fisher and lived at Duck Lake. He was a member of Captain Baptiste Boucher's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parenteau, Louis. (b. 1862)

Louis was born at St. Norbert, the son of Pierre Parenteau and Marie Ann Caron. Louis married Rosalie Letendreat Batoche in 1887. He was a member of Captain Edouard Dumont's company, one of the 19 companies led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parenteau, "Petit Louis". (1835-1890)

Petit Louis Parenteau was born at St. Norbert, the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. He was the brother of Jean Baptiste, Gabriel, Raphael and Leon Esdras, all active in the Resistance. In 1856 at Pembina he married Suzanne Grant. They were buffalo hunters but lived at Duck Lake. They had eleven children. He was a member of Captain Isidore Dumont's company, one of the 19 companies led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parenteau, Mathias. (b. 1867)

Mathias was the son of Pierre Parenteau (b. 1843) and Helene Normand (b. 1842 at St. Norbert), he was born at Red River on November 1, 1867. He married Levina "Alvina" Boucher (b. Nov. 9, 1873) the daughter of Jean Baptiste Boucher Sr. and Caroline L'Esperance. Parenteau was Louis Riel's guide and cart driver during the 1885 Resistance. His brother Patrice fought in the Resistance and is listed below. His father was killed during battle at Fish Creek.

Later, Mathias worked as a guide for Red River carts travelling from Fort Garry to the Battlefords and to Cumberland House.

Parenteau, Moïse. (1846-1890)

Moïse was the son of Pierre Parenteau and Joseph Delorme. He married Véronique St. Germain. They lived at St. Norbert, Wood Mountain and moved to St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan in 1882. He was a follower of Riel in the 1885 Resistance and was a member of Captain Edouard Dumont's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. He served a one-year gaol sentence with hard labour as a result of his participation in 1885.

Parenteau, Napoleon. (b. 1858)

Napoléon was born at St. Norbert, the son of Pierre Parenteau and Marie Ann Caron. He married Rosalie Dubois in 1877 at St. Agathe. They lived at Qu'Appelle and Batoche. He was a member of Captain Auguste Laframboise's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. His father Pierre was Chairman of Riel's 16 man Council (Exovedate) at Batoche during the 1885 Resistance.

Parenteau, Patrice. (1865-1890)

Patrice was the son of Petit Louis Parenteau and Suzanne Grant. He was active with his father and older brother in the Resistance. He died on February 24, 1890 at Duck Lake.

Parenteau, Patrice. (b. 1867)

Patrice, born at St. Norbert, was the son of Pierre Parenteau (b. 1843) and Helene Normand (b. 1842 at St. Norbert). He married Philomene Vallee and they lived at St. Norbert then at Batoche. He was a member of Captain Calixte Lafontaine's company one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. His father was killed during battle at Fish Creek

Parenteau, Pélagie (Dumont). (1835-1892).

Pélagie was the daughter of Isidore dit Ecapow (Ay-sa-pow) Dumont and Louise Laframboise. She was Gabriel Dumont's sister. Pélagie married Jean Baptiste Parenteau (b. 1832) on August 4, 1832 at St. Norbert. She was one of the heroines of Batoche.

Jean Baptiste and his brother Abraham received Half Breed Scrip pursuant to the 1864 Treaty with the Red Lake and Pembina Bands of Chippewa Indians. In 1875 they received scrip stubs for 160 acres, Scrip # 442 for Abraham and #443 for Jean Baptiste.

This was a plains buffalo hunting family who in subsequent years wintered near Tourond's Coulee with the other Metis traders and hunters. Each spring they would take furs to sell in Winnipeg and return to Tourond's Coulee in the fall. The family settled in St. Laurent (River Lot 30) in 1872. Baptiste was one of Gabriel Dumont's closest friends. Cloutier's journal notes that Johny was one of the fighters at Duck Lake (Vol. 1, p. 77).

Jean Baptiste was a member of Riel's Exovedate and fought at Batoche. He was a member of Captain Baptiste Boucher's company, one of the 19 dizaines led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. He was wounded during battle. He was not tried for these activities as the family escaped to Montana. The Parenteau family along with those of Baptiste Parenteau, Isidore Parenteau, Patrice Joseph Fleury, Edouard Dumont and Jean Dumont joined the Spring Creek Metis Band in Montana. Jean Baptiste is buried at St. Antoine de Padoue Cemetery.

Pelagie's husband was wounded in the fighting. Her son, Jean-Baptiste Jr. (b. 1858) was wounded during battle. Before the fighting began Pélagie told Father Fourmond:

*If the police come I will spear them, me. I will treat them like the buffalo of the prairie, spear, and put the meat in thin slices to dry.*⁴³

Three of Pélagie's daughters were married to Resistance fighters;

Lucie married Abraham Montour,
Marie Pélagie married Damase Carrière, and
Rosalie married Philippe Gariepy.

⁴³ Journal of Abbé Cloutier typescript , Vol. 2, page 3, translation by Rose-Marie Carey, Parks Canada, Batoche Historic Site.

Pélagie died on January 20, 1892 at 56 years of age. She is buried at St. Antoine de Padoue Cemetery, Batoche.

Parenteau, Philomene Iskwehis (Patenaude).

Philomene Patenaude was the daughter of Michel Patenaude and Josephite Bourassa. She married Alexandre Parenteau in 1866 at St. Joseph. In the 1870s they lived in Batoche but in the 1880s they were living at Battleford. Her sister Marie was married to Alexandre's older brother Joseph.

In April of 1885, she accompanied her husband part way during his scouting expedition to Battle River on behalf of Riel.

At the telegraph I saw thirty (soldiers) in the distance, and when I got there I counted the tracks. There I saw two blankets, one blue and one white. Nearer to me I saw one, he was alone and was flying as fast as he could go. I made for the river, got down the hills, and tethered my horse in some small maples. It is there I left my family. And when I left them I came and camped in the sand buttes a little way from the camp, and in the morning I got on top of the butte and saw Middleton's camp on this side of the river. Towards evening yesterday I left the place. I wanted to cross the road in the open in order to reach a grove. My wife became faint and we crouched down there. They did not see us. Thence I went to Mr. Belanger's.⁴⁴

Parenteau, Pierre. (1817-1894)

Parenteau Sr. and his Cree wife Susanne. Pierre was well known among his contemporaries as a skillful hunter in the great Metis buffalo hunts. He first married Josephite Delorme (b. 1823) and they had two children. He then married Marie McMillan in 1845 and in 1850 married Marie Anne Caron. One of his daughters was married to François Xavier Letendré *dit* Batoche. Pierre once owned part of the land upon which the Riel family finally settled in St. Vital.

Pierre was a member, and the Chairman of Riel's 16 man Council (Exovedate) at Batoche during the 1885 Resistance. A trusted friend and political ally of Louis Riel, Parenteau had been active in the struggle for Metis self-determination since the days of the 1869 Resistance in Manitoba. At that time he was an influential man, he was a Justice of the Peace at St. Norbert and was elected as a delegate to the Conventions of 1869-70, which discussed the formation of a provisional government at Red River. He was elected a Captain of the Metis troops in 1871 and worked to repel the Fenian invasion. When Lieutenant-governor Archibald visited Red River in October of 1871, Parenteau, along with Ambroise Lépine and Louis Riel, were chosen to be presented to Archibald as representatives of the Metis people.

In reaction to the political situation at Red River, Pierre immigrated to the St. Laurent-Batoche area sometime prior to 1885. On August 14, 1885, at Regina, he was sentenced to seven months imprisonment for his part in the 1885 Resistance. He was 68 years old when sentenced.

In his testimony of August 13, 1885 at the Regina trial Father Alexis Andre says: "Pierre Parenteau I have known since I met him in the Red River Settlement, now Mani-

⁴⁴ CSP, Vol. 123, No. 43, pp. 26-27.

toba, since 1862. He is a man of about 72 (sic) years of age, and has eleven children, and since I first knew him has been a man of peace, one who was remarkable for the good influence he exerted over the people of his race and kindred, who, when on the plains in days now passed, a leader of his people he prevented many a bloody deed between Indian tribes and half-breeds, and always was on the side of peace and order. This good man was misled by the wily Riel telling him that the younger men of his race required the soothing and pacifying influence of the old friend and counselor of their forefathers; that it was his duty to become a leader or counselor among the people in their peaceful efforts to secure their rights... This poor old man was borne on by the appeal to his heart and conscientiously did what he thought was right. He was not in conscience or in fact guilty of any God and man today, although in a felon's cell, an honest man. To keep such an aged and respectable man as this any longer in prison must be to strike at the heart of justice and render the law a thing of scorn. His house has been burned down and all his horses and some of his cattle are lost or stolen." (CSP, 1886, Vol. 13, p. 382-383)

Parenteau, Pierre Jr. (1841-1885)

Pierre was born at Red River, the son of Pierre Parenteau and Joseph Delorme. He was married to Helene Normand. They lived at St. Norbert then at Batoche. He fought during the Resistance of 1885 and was killed at Fish Creek. He was a member of Captain Antoine Lafontaine's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. Two of his sons, Patrice and Mathias, were also active in the Resistance.

Parenteau, St. Pierre. (1861-1885)

Pierre was born February 23, 1861 at St. Boniface, the son of Jean Baptiste Parenteau and Pélagie Dumont. He married Marie Anne Nolin the daughter of Charles Nolin and Marie Anne Harrison on April 2, 1883 at St. Antoine de Padue, Batoche. He was Gabriel Dumont's nephew. Cloutier's journal notes that St. Pierre was one of the fighters at Duck Lake (Vol. 1, p. 77).

He also fought, was shot in the face and killed at Tourond's Coulee on April 24, 1885.

Elie Dumont goes to see Pierre Parenteau who is dead. He takes him by the head and then calls Anderson over; the latter helps him remove Parenteau's coat. Elie puts it on. The collar was full of blood. Parenteau had been shot blow the eye. In the pocket Elie Dumont finds a pipe, a chunk of tobacco, and some matches. He starts smoking the pipe.⁴⁵

His brother Jean-Baptiste Jr. was wounded during this battle. St. Pierre was a member of Captain Antoine Lafontaine's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parenteau, Raphael. (1848-1925)

Raphael was born at Pembina the son of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angelique Gordon. He married Henriette Smith at St. Laurent. He was a member of Captain Antoine

⁴⁵ SHM, 30-35.

Lafontaine's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parenteau, Rosalie (Gariepy). (b. 1837)

Rosalie was born at Red River, the daughter of Joseph Dodet Parenteau and Angélique Godon. She married Phillipe Gariepy and was one of the heroines of Batoche in 1885. She melted down the lead linings of tea tins to make bullets.

Parenteau, Samuel.

Samuel was a member of Captain Isidore Dumont's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Parisien, Augustin . (b. 1810)

Augustin was born in 1810, the son of Claude Bonaventure dit Leger Parisien⁴⁶ and Isabelle (Lizette, a Chippewa).

Augustin has been identified as one of Riel's soldiers at Fort Garry during the 1870 Resistance. He was allegedly one of the men in the firing squad for the execution of Thomas Scott. On March 4, 1870, Scott was convicted, sentenced to death and executed by a firing squad in the courtyard of Fort Garry. Augustin, according to witnesses did not fire his round.

Augustin Parisien, one of the six soldiers, declared openly that he would not shoot at Scott; and, in fact, he took off the cap from his gun before the word of command — “present”—was given. Of the five balls remaining only two hit the poor victim, one in the left shoulder, the other in the upper part of the chest above the heart.⁴⁷

Augustin was first married to Therese Ducharme, they had one son, Pascal b. 1820 at St. Norbert. He then married Louise Vivier and they had six children born between 1839 and 1846. In 1848 he married Angelique McPherson (b. 1820), the daughter of George McPherson and Angelique Racette according to the custom of the country in 1848. The couple was enumerated in the Pembina census of 1850 as family # 127: he was listed as a hunter age 49. Angelique and Augustin had at least eleven children between 1848 and 1863.

Parisien, Elzéar. (b. 1849)

Elzéar was born at Pembina, the son of Hyacinthe Parisien and Marguerite Letendré dit Batoche. He married Madeleine Larance, daughter of Basile Larance and Agathe Iroquois at St. Boniface. They lived on the plains and wintered at St. Joseph, Wood Mountain and Batoche. Elzéar was a member of Captain Corbet Flamant's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. Elzéar was active as a scout and fighter. On April 22, 1885 he received a vote of thanks from the Council for reconnaissance at Clarke's Crossing (South of Tourond's Coulee). This scouting activity was to report on Middleton's progress northwards. Elzéar was part of the last stand

⁴⁶ Born October 15, 1757 in Vaudreuil, Quebec, the son of Jean Baptiste Leger dit Parisien and Marie Elizabeth Lamothe dit Brabant.

⁴⁷ *New York Times* dated: April 11, 1974

in the graveyard trenches at Batoche with Edouard Dumont, Philippe Gariépy, the two Lavallée brothers and one Cree.

Parisien, Fred E. (b. 1916)

Michif musician Fred Parisien is the son of Joe E. Parisien and Mary St. Ann Enno. He was married to the late Mavis Wilkie. His Michif songs can be heard on the Smithsonian Folkways CD, "Plains Chippewa/Metis Music from Turtle Mountain." (Washington: Smithsonian/Folkways Recordings, Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, 1992.)

Parisien, Joseph. (1835)

Joseph Parisien was the son of Hyacinthe Parisien and Josephte Carrière. He married Marie Thomas then Philomene Parisien the daughter of Bonaventure Parisien and Marguerite Saulteaux on February 6, 1872 at St. Norbert. In 1878, Joseph was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve. Joseph and Philomene lived at Duck Lake and Joseph is shown as No. S 11 on the Treaty Paylist of Beardy's Reserve in 1884. (RG 10, Annuity Paylists, 1883-1887. Treaties 4, 6 and 7, David Lee. "The Metis Militant Rebels of 1885." *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, XXI, 3, 1989: 11, 19.)

Parisien, Joseph. (b. 1847)

Joseph Parisien was born in 1847 in St. Boniface, the son of Joseph Parisien Sr. and Marguerite Lavallee Martin. He married Marguerite Gariépy, the daughter of Bonaventure Gariépy and Madeleine Larocque, in 1871 at Lebret. On September 7, 1876, he was one of 30 Metis at Fort Walsh who submitted a petition, on behalf of the Metis of the four districts of Assiniboia to join Treaty 4.

He also signed petition for a Metis reserve in Montana, sent by Louis Riel to General Nelson A. Miles, August 6, 1880.

Parisien, Laventure.

Laventure was a St. Norbert farmer; he received \$2,000 in damages for the shooting death of his son Norbert (see below).

Parisien, Norbert. (1814-1870)

Norbert was a resident of St. Norbert. In February of 1870, the Portage Gang of Riel opponents led by Thomas Scott and Major Boulton mortally wounded him. The group had come in from Poplar Point, High Bluff and Headingley to free prisoners held at Fort Garry. They first searched the home of Henri Coutu, Riel's cousin, in a search for Riel. Not finding him, they went on to Kildonan. At dusk on February 15, the men captured Norbert, who they called a "Metis spy." Norbert, who was reputed to be intellectually slow, was at the time, on his way home from sawing wood. Norbert was held overnight, in the cold, under the pulpit of the Kildonan Church. When he was led out of the church in the morning under guard he snatched a gun off the seat of a wagon and ran away, across the Red River ice. John Sutherland happened to be riding down the river when Norbert; fearing capture shot the gun, mortally wounding Sutherland. The Portage Gang shot and caught Norbert. As Major Boulton reported, when he caught up with the group "they were handling him severely." He had been struck on the head with an axe, his feet

were tied with a sash and he was being dragged down the river by another sash tied around his neck. John Sutherland died the next morning and had begged the group not to harm Parisien, as he was a "simple fellow who had acted out of fright." Norbert died a lingering death on April 4, 1870. It was only through Major Boulton's intervention that he was not lynched.

Pascal (Rondeau) Catherine Lena . (b. July 18, 1849)

Catherine was the Grand-daughter of Chief Little Shell II. Catherine was born on July 18, 1849, the daughter of Madeleine Little Shell and Dan Pascal (married in 1829). Catherine married Joseph Rondeau (d. 1907) on June 5, 1866 at Fort Garry. Joseph received Metis Scrip in 1873.

Rondeau, Joseph Jr. [R.L. Scrip #94]

National Archives, RG 75, Entry 363, "List of Persons to Whom Scrip was Issued under Red Lake & Pembina Treaties ..." Halfbreed Scrip No. 94 issued February 12, 1873, under the Authority of Secretarial Decision, June 12, 1872; delivered February 12, 1873

National Archives, RG 75, Entry 364, "Treaty of April 12, 1864, Red Lake and Pembina Half-Breeds," Scrip Stubs, Number 94 [checked], dated February 12, 1873, 160 Acres, delivered February 12, 1873, issued to Joseph Rondeau, Jr., delivered to Agent E.P. Smith

Grand Forks Herald, April 28, 1935.

Pembina North Dakota: In this historic border village lives Mrs. Catherine Lena Rondeau, 86 years old, granddaughter of Little Shell (II), noted Chief of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa in the early half of the nineteenth century.

She was born in a tepee on the site of Dunseith, North Dakota on July 18, 1849, and her life has spanned the long period from the late exploration era to the present; she lived the life of an Indian maid until she was well along in her teens and in that time her diet was confined almost exclusively to pemmican.

These facts cloak her early life with romance and make her memory a rich storehouse of information about that period. She also has memories of Father Belcourt in whose house she lived at Walhalla in the 1850's.

"Yes, I was born in a tepee made of buffalo hides." There was nothing around Dunseith then but scattered Indian lodges. "Buffalo were numerous there when I was a little girl. Later I went to live with my grandfather, Chief Little Shell, near Walhalla. My parents went out on the buffalo hunts each fall. We never had to go farther than Rolla to get all we wanted."

'My mother, was a daughter of Little Shell. Her English name was Madeleine. She had an Indian name which I have forgotten. My father was Dan Pascal, a Quebec

Frenchman. My father was away a great deal hunting and trapping and working as a voyageur and mother and I lived in grandfather's lodge.

In the Indian camp we subsisted almost entirely on pemmican, although in summer we would find wild turnips and some other wild vegetables and berries. The Chippewa had lived better many years earlier in Minnesota but, driven out onto the prairies and into the Turtle Mountains. They depended on the buffalo for food, clothing and shelter as the Sioux did.

"I had not tasted potatoes, tea or coffee, sugar, pepper, milk, or butter until we went to Fort Abercrombie at the time of the Civil War when I was about 14 years old. Father Belcourt set up a flour mill at Walhalla in 1856 and while I must have eaten some of the bread made from this flour I do not remember it. I know that the fine, white bread we had at Fort Abercrombie seemed marvelous to me."



Mrs. Rondeau thinks her grandfather, Little Shell, died when she was about four years old. He knew death was imminent and arranged for Catherine enter the home of Father Belcourt. Fortunately her mother, Madeleine, was able to accompany her as housekeeper

"But there wasn't much housekeeping to be done" Catherine chuckled. "The priest lived in a tiny log house without any floor and piles of buffalo robes and blankets served as beds. Nearby was a larger log structure which served as a mission and school. It stood on a slight eminence just west of Walhalla. There about 50 mixed bloods and Indian children were taught catechism and there were some simple

school lessons. I attended this school and I remember that Father Bel-court was assisted by two nuns. All three were French and as there were many French mixed bloods among us, most of us knew that language but the priest and the two sisters had mastered the Chippewa language also".

The records show that Father Belcourt about this time erected a mission building 28 by 50 feet with a full basement in which he lived. Mrs. Rondeau remembers this structure but asserts that the others also existed.

Mrs. Rondeau recalls Father Belcourt as a kindly, active man, who traveled about a great deal ministering to his Indian charges. At that time there was little contact with the older American settlements. Joseph Rolette and Anton Gingras, who had opened a store in St Joseph, now Walhalla, Norman W. Kittson, Charles Cavileer, W. H. Moorhead and others made trips to St Paul and St Anthony by oxcart or dog team but there was no steamboat traffic on the Red River until 1859 and little until the 70's.

When Mrs. Rondeau was a girl, Indians and mixed bloods sold furs at Fort Garry. Winnipeg did not exist then. But they could obtain little in the way of supplies, chiefly guns and ammunition, although many Indians still used bows and arrows. Trips to Fort Garry were made with ox carts and travois, the latter being a pole, one end attached to a pony's side and the other dragging on the ground. Freight to be carried was attached to the pole high enough to clear the ground.

Father Belcourt was recalled to eastern Canada in 1859 and the Catherine returned to the Indian camp. A few years later she accompanied her parents to Fort Abercrombie where the wonders of civilization were unfolded before her in a startling array.

"I could hardly believe my eyes when the clothes and dishes and food of the white women were shown to me" Mrs. Rondeau confided. "It was all so unreal to me that I was bewildered for a while".

Mrs. Rondeau explained that the season's styles did not interest Indian maidens of her time. She said the women and girls in the camp at which she lived wore waists and skirts and sometimes a one piece garment of woolen cloth woven in a form similar to blanket material.

The Indians knew nothing of the art of knitting and women's stockings were leggings made of the blanket-like material. At first the leggings were wrapped with strips of hide or cloth and later buttons were obtained from the whites. Moccasins and beads completed the costume, except on certain occasions when gaily decorated skin suits were worn

There was a young French voyageur at the fort from Montreal after a suitable courtship they were married at the fort June 5, 1866, by Father Jenny and went to live on a claim taken by the young husband on the Cheyenne River about 20 miles west of Fargo. After a few years the husband became blind. Fifty-eight years ago

the couple moved to Pembina and there Mrs. Rondeau supported her husband and provided for her children by washing and performing other menial tasks. Rondeau died 28 years ago. Of the 12 children only four are living - Mrs. Lucy Blondin, Mrs. Caroline Bouvette and Thomas, of Pembina, and Dan, Devils Lake.

Mrs. Rondeau had one brother, Frank who lived in the Indian camp, and three half-brothers, Theodore, Joseph and Louis. She is the only one of the children living.

Source: The Bouvette Family Website;
<http://www.bouvette.com/family/PASCAL> Catherine Lena 1849/

Patenaude, Cuthbert. (1838)

Cuthbert was born at SFX, the son of Michel Patenaud and Marguerite Zhezhegwegeweg (Ojibway). Cuthbert later married Marie Piche (b. 1842), the daughter of Louis Piche and Charlotte Genthon-Dauphinais on February 5, 1861 at SFX. This family were members of Little Shell and Turtle Mountain Band, although struck from the rolls in 1892.

“Corbette Pacnaud” was one of the Metis struck from the Turtle Mountain Band Rolls: National Archives, Record Group 75, Special Case 110, Exhibit "B": List of names stricken off from the Rolls as parties not entitled to the benefits of a Treaty with the Turtle Mountain Chippewa [September, 1892].

Cuthbert fought at the Battle of the Grand Coteau. This battle took place between a Metis buffalo hunting party from St. François Xavier, led by Jean Baptiste Falcon and the Cut Head (Pabaksa) Yanktonai (Ihanktonwanna), Dakota, led by Chief Medicine (Sacred) Bear, on July 15 to 16, 1851

Patenaude, Michel. (1832)

Michel was born at SFX, the son of Michel Patenaud and Marguerite Zhezhegwegeweg (Ojibway). He later married Therese Piche (b. 1837), the daughter of Louis Piche and Charlotte Genthon-Dauphinais on January 20, 1857 at SFX. He did receive Metis scrip under the Pembina and Red Lake Treaty:

HALFBREED"_LAND_SCRIP: National Archives, RG 75, Entry 364, "Treaty of APR 12, 1864, Red Lake and Pembina Half-Breeds," Scrip Stubs, Number 228 [checked], dated JUL 15th, 1873, 160 Acres, delivered JUL 16th, 1873, issued to Michael Packnaud, sent to Agent Douglass.

This family was part of the Little Shell Band and were paid annuities in 1865 and 1866:

Patnode, Michael [1866-7]
ANNUITY: MHS film M-390 (Roll 3), U.S. Chippewa Annuity Rolls:
Pembina Annuity Roll, Ais ance's Band, 1865:57
.....- 1 man, 1 woman, 5 children \$ 35 paid
Pembina Annuity Roll, Little Shell's Band, 1866:3/21
.....- 1 man, 4 children \$ 12.50pd

In 1892, Michel was one of the Metis struck from the Turtle Mountain Band Rolls: National Archives, National Archives, Record Group 75, Special Case 110, Exhibit "B": List of names stricken off from the Rolls as parties not entitled to the benefits of a Treaty with the Turtle Mountain Chippewa [September, 1892].

Michel fought at the Battle of the Grand Coteau. This battle took place between a Metis buffalo hunting party from St. François Xavier, led by Jean Baptiste Falcon and the Cut Head (Pabaksa) Yanktonai (Ihanktonwanna), Dakota, led by Chief Medicine (Sacred) Bear, on July 15 to 16, 1851

Paul, Bernard. (b. 1848)

Bernard was born at St. François Xavier, the son of Jean Baptiste Paul and Angélique Godon. He married Marie Gervais at St. François Xavier and married Marguerite Trottier at Duck Lake. He was a Captain of one of the 19 companies led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Paul, Joseph (Tourond). (1831-1928)

Joseph was the daughter of Jean Baptiste Paul and Angélique Godon. Her brother Bernard is listed above. She married Joseph Tourond and was one of the heroines of Batoche.

Paul, Paulet "Poulet." (1803-1855)

This Metis tripman was involved in the York Boat Brigades and the fur trade of the 1820s. Legends survive of his great physical prowess. He was shot and killed near Fort Edmonton, by the employee of another tripman who was jealous of his reputation and wanted his place as a guide.

Manitoba historian John J. Gunn describes Paul as follows:

He was a giant in stature and strength, beardless but shock-headed and black as Erebus; with a voice like thunder and a manner as blustery and boisterous as March, eyes like an eagle and a pair of fists as heavy and once at least, as deadly as cannonballs. This was on a time when two Stoney Indians waylaid and attempted to rob him of the horse on which he was riding.

When the different brigades met at York Factory, and the question of which could produce the best man, came to be mooted over a regal of Hudson's Bay rum, he was ever the first to strip to the waist and stand forth to claim the honour for the Blaireau... Such encounters, off-hand at first no doubt, and having their inspiration in the rum keg, came to be a recognized institution of the trip... Michael Lambert was the darling of the Taureaux... They liked Poulet because he was a hard man to beat, but they adored Michael because he could beat Poulet... Then too, there was Jimmy Short, otherwise known as Chekam who could put up an ugly fight... He too had stood up for the honour of the Taureaux against Poulet, but only to be knocked out. Still he had lived to tell the tale and that alone was an honour not to be despised.⁴⁸

⁴⁸ J.J. Gunn, *Echoes of the Red*, Toronto: Macmillan Co., 1930: 54. Blaireu (Badgers, actually Braireu in Michif) was the name of the Upper Saskatchewan River boat brigade, Taureaux (Bulls), the French name for containers of pemmican, was the name of the Red River brigade whereas the La Loche brigade was known as Poisson-blanc, or White fish (after what they carried for provisions).

Paulet was baptized at the age of fifty by Father Lacombe on March 27, 1853. At the same time, he “officially” married Josephthe Askykatepiskak (b. 1797). The parish records at Lac Ste. Anne also show that Paulet had two sons, Jean born in 1841 and Daniel born on October 31, 1845. Johnny later took treaty as a member of Passpasschiase’s band near Edmonton. He later took Metis scrip when the band lost its land (for the land loss story see the entry under Lawrence Gameau).

Reference

Foster, John E. “Paulet Paul: Métis or ‘House Indian’ Folk-Hero.” *Manitoba History*, 9, 1985: 2-7.

Paul, Paul. (1842-1888).

Paul was born at SFX, the son of Oliver Paul and Madeleine Gervais. His paternal grandparents were Francois Paul and Marguerite Grant.

Paul fought at the Battle of the Grand Coteau. This battle took place between a Metis buffalo hunting party from St. François Xavier, led by Jean Baptiste Falcon and the Cut Head (Pabaksa) Yanktonai (Ihanktonwanna), Dakota, led by Chief Medicine (Sacred) Bear, on July 15 to 16, 1851

Pelletier, (Pelloche) Alexandre.

Alexandre Pelletier was the son of Joseph Pelletier and Louise St. Denis. He married Rose Ross born June 4, 1857 at St. Francois Xavier. Rose was previously married to Gregoire Wills. Alexandre was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Scrip Certificate No. 962 Form A for \$240 in favour of Alexandre Pelletier.

Pelletier, Alexandre; heir to his deceased sons; John, born: 1883 at Pheasant Creek; died: 10 May, 1884; Israel, born: August, 1885 at Pheasant Creek; died: 9 February, 1886; address: File Hills; father: Alexandre Pelletier (Métis and deponent); mother: Rose Ross (Métis); scrip cert.: form F, no. 72, John Pelletier; scrip cert.: form F, no. 74, Israel Pelletier; file ref. 995591 on 966203; claim no. 433.

Pelletier, Alexandre; heir to his deceased daughter, Marie Louise Pelletier; address: Dunseith; born: 1878 at Wood Mountain; father: Alexandre Pelletier (Métis and deponent); mother: Caroline Bruyere (Métis); died: November or December, 1879; scrip cert.: form D, no. 942; claim no. 965.

Pelletier, Alexis. (1813)

Alexis Pelletier was one of the thirty Metis from Fort Walsh who petitioned to join Treaty Four on September 3, 1876.

Alexis Pelletier was born circa April 1813 at St. Boniface, the son of Charles Pelletier (b. 1788)⁴⁹ and Susanne Bercier. His parents were enumerated at Pembina in the 1850 census as Family # 90. Charles is listed as a hunter. Alexis married Louise Houle, daugh-

⁴⁹ He died December 28, 1853 at St. Francois Xavier.

ter of Antoine Houle and Josephite Lauzon, on 17 January 1843 at St. Francois Xavier. They had ten children:

- Virginie, born 1843, married Michel St. Denis.
- Therese, born 1848, died 1856.
- Francoise, born 1850, married Boniface Rocheblave then Charles Ouelette.
- Marguerite, born 1851, married Joseph Boyer.
- Louise, born 1853, married Cuthbert Watson.
- Marie, born 1856, married Charles Harrison.
- Julie, born 1858, married William Bradley.
- Rosalie, born 1860, married Paul Leveille.
- Emelien, born 1864, married Caroline Laframboise.
- Philomene, born 1869, died as an infant.

He made a scrip application: on 5 May 1885 at Maple Creek; he states:

I always resided in Manitoba until the year 1866 when I left altogether for the North West Territories, sometime at Cypress Hills, at Qu'Appelle and I am now here at Maple Creek residing permanently for the past three years. I was residing before & after the 15 July 1870 in the N.W. Terr. Occupation: I was a plain hunter before & I am now a farmer. Married: 1833, St. Francois Xavier, Man. to Louise Houle, now deceased. Children: 7 living: Virginie about 50 years (crossed out), Francoise 67 years (crossed out), Louise, Julie, Rosalie, Marguerite, Emilien. I don't remember their ages, therefore no use to tell it as it will mislead you of myself & Louis Houle, now deceased. 3 deceased: Therese died more than 20 years ago. Marie died about 10 years ago. Philomene died before the 15 July 1870. Bt. Cert: I can't because they were all baptised at St. Frs. Xavier, Man. Birth. Cert: I can't produce them as none died here. Value of personal property: None, except one horse & cart \$100.00. I have been actually resident of the Settlement of Maple Creek since three years ago & I was so on the 15 March last to this day.

Witnesses:

Pierre Leveille (x); Marguerite Leveille (x) (NWHBS, C-14940.).

Pelletier, Alique

Alique was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve in 1878.

Alex was at one time a Turtle Mountain Band member. Alexandre Peltier left treaty from the Cowessess Band on July 22, 1886.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Baptiste. (b. 1825)

Jean Baptiste Pelletier was born circa 1825, the son of Joseph Pelletier dit Boston dit Assiniboine (b. 1787) and Genevieve Ljikay Hallett.⁵⁰ Jean Baptiste married Madeleine Deschamps, the daughter of Joseph Deschamps and Marguerite Houle in 1843 at St.

⁵⁰ Joseph was the son of Antoine Pelletier and Marguerite (Saulteaux), Genevieve was the daughter of Henry Hallett and a Saulteaux woman.

Francois Xavier. They had nine children. Baptiste was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Baptiste Sr. (b. 1815)

Baptiste was the son of Joseph Pelletier (b. 1791) and Genevieve Birston (b. 1790). He first married Marie Chausse and they had one child. He then married Madeleine Deschamps and they had six children. He was then married to Margaret Phoenix and had two children. He last married Caroline Sanderson.⁵¹ Baptiste was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve. He died at Cypress Hills in 1878.

Deschamps, Madeleine; for her deceased husband, Baptiste Pelletier; claim no. 1277; born: 1815 at St. Boniface; died: Spring. 1878 at Cypress Hills; address: Qu'Appelle P.O; father: Joseph Pelletier (French Canadian); mother: Geneviève Beston (Métis); married: 1834 at St. Francois Xavier to Madeleine Deschamps; children living: 6; children deceased: Marie, Caroline and Joseph; heirs: Baptiste Pelletier, \$22.85; Chrysologue Pelletier, \$22.85; Alexandre Pelletier, \$22.85; Hélène Pelletier, \$22.85; Adolphus Pelletier, \$22.85; Madeleine Deschamps, \$22.85

Pelletier, Alexis (b. 1854)

Alexandre Pelletier was born October 1854 at Fort Pitt, the son of Jean Baptiste Pelletier Sr. (1825-1878) and Madeleine Deschamps. He married Caroline Bruyere, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Bruyere and Angelique Guilbault in 1875 at Cypress Hills.

On September 7, 1876, he was one of 30 Metis at Fort Walsh who submitted a petition, on behalf of the Metis of the four districts of Assiniboia to join Treaty 4.

Peltier, Baptiste. (b. 1846)

Jean Baptiste Pelletier was born on November 7, 1846, the son of Jean Baptiste Pelletier Sr. and Madeleine Deschamps. His father was from St. Francois Xavier and died at Cypress Hills in 1878. Baptiste married Caroline Sanderson, the daughter of George Sanderson and Mary Whitford in 1873 at Lebret. On September 7, 1876, he was one of 30 Metis at Fort Walsh who submitted a petition, on behalf of the Metis of the four districts of Assiniboia to join Treaty 4.

In 1878, Baptiste was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Jean Baptiste

In 1878, Baptiste was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Pelletier, Jean Baptiste; heir to his deceased children: Joseph, born: 1879 at Wood Mountain; died: 1894; Rosalie, born: 1884 at Broadview; died: 2 days old at Broadview; address: Dunseith, North Dakota; father: Jean Baptiste Pelletier (Métis and deponent); mother: Caroline Sanderson (Métis); scrip cert.: form D, nos. 790 and 792; claim no. 928.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Cuthbert. (b. 1846)

⁵¹ Born 1842, the daughter of George Sanderson and Mary Whitford.

Cuthbert was born circa 1846 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Charles Pelletier (b. 1788) and Suzanne Bercier. He married Elizabeth Swain, the daughter of John Swain and Marie Marguerite Allary in 1872 at St. Laurent (South Saskatchewan River). They had eleven children born at Duck Lake, Cypress Hills, Swift Current, Lebret and Lestock. Cuthbert was a Turtle Mountain Band member. They also lived at Cypress Hills, Qu'Appelle, Swift Current and Lebret. In 1878, Cuthbert was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Affidavit of Pelletier, Cuthbert; born: 1844; occupation: voyageur, St. Francois Xavier; father: Charles Pelletier (Métis); mother Susanne Bercier (Métis); claim no. 5866; grant no. 6121.

Pelletier, Cuthbert; heir to his deceased children; Isabelle, born: 1879 at Swift Current; died: 20 February, 1884; Felix, born: 27 October, 1883 at Qu'Appelle; died: July, 1888; address: Touchwood Hills; father: Cuthbert Pelletier (Métis and deponent); mother: Betsy Swan (Métis); scrip cert.: form no. 274, Isabelle; scrip cert.: form F, no. 276, Felix; claim no. 843.

Pelletier, Roger; address: Touchwood Hills; born: February, 1877 at Cypress Hills; father: Cuthbert Pelletier (Métis); mother: Betsy Swan (Métis); scrip cert.: form E, no. 602; claim no. 850.

Pelletier, Norman; address: Touchwood Hills; born: 1881 at Cypress Hills; father: Cuthbert Pelletier (Métis); mother: Betsy Swan (Métis); scrip cert.: form E, no. 600; claim no. 849.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Cuthbert. (b. 1838)

Pelletier, Chrysoloque; address: Fort Qu'Appelle; born: 1838 at Red River; father: Baptiste Pelletier (deceased; Métis); mother: Madeleine Deschamps (Métis); married: 1872 at Qu'Appelle to Philomene Fournier; children living: Judith; Nancy; Marie Emilie and Isabelle; children deceased: Chrisostome and Cuthbert; scrip for \$240.00; claim no. 1212.

Peltier, Cuthbert. (b. 1846)

Cuthbert Pelletier was the son of Charles Pelletier and Suzanne Bercier. He married Elizabeth Swain, the daughter of John Swain and Marie Marguerite Allary in 1872 at St. Laurent.

Pelletier, Edouard. (1836)

Edouard Pelletier was born at St. François Xavier on February 1, 1836. He was the son of Charles Pelletier and Suzanne Bercier. His brothers Joseph and Pierre were among the Metis hunters who signed the Half-Breed petition from Cypress Hills in 1878 (along with Norbert Delorme).⁵² Edouard was first married to Catherine Rocheblave then to

⁵² 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.).

Madeleine Morin. They were a buffalo hunting family who had children born at St. François Xavier, Lebret, Tourond's Coulee, Wood Mountain, Cypress Hills and Pheasant Creek. According to the family's oral history as told by Harry Pelletier, his grandson (b. 1905 at Indian Head), Edouard was active in the 1885 Resistance at Batoche and was wounded in the leg.⁵³

Pelletier, Gilbert Senator, MN-S (1939-2011)

Gilbert was born on December 12, 1939 at the Métis road allowance community of Crescent Lake, Saskatchewan. He is the son of Joseph Pelletier and Isabelle Flamant. His father was born in the Turtle Mountain area near Dunsieith, North Dakota. His mother was born near Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Gilbert comes from a long line of Metis buffalo hunters. His paternal grandfather was Abraham Pelletier⁵⁴. Gilbert's great-grandfather was Antoine Pelletier.⁵⁵ Gilbert's father spoke seven languages: French, English, Michif, Plains Cree, Nakota, Dakota and Lakota. Gilbert was a gifted Michif storyteller, like his father and grandfather before him, and enjoyed telling stories and sharing Michif culture with Métis youth and children. He recalled that when he was a youngster the Métis would meet and set up their tents along the road allowance. At night he loved to sneak out and eavesdrop as the adults told stories while sitting around the campfire. Gilbert continued this family tradition by telling various kinds of stories including those about Rougarous, Nanabush and Chi-Jean.

⁵³ Ken Zeilig and Victoria Zeilig, *Ste. Madeleine, Community Without a Town: Metis Elders in Interview*. Winnipeg: Pemmican Publications 1987: 147-149.

⁵⁴ Abraham Pelletier was born on December 7, 1869 at St. Francois Xavier. He married Helene St. Pierre the daughter of Louis St. Pierre and Marie Louise Decoteau.

⁵⁵ Antoine Pelletier (b. 1824) was a Pembina buffalo hunter. He was enumerated in 1850 at age 26 while living in his parents household. His father was Charles Pelletier (b. 1788, also listed as a hunter) and mother was Suzanne Bercier. Antoine married Julie Fournier, the daughter of Francois Fournier and Angelique Methote. He died in 1874 at Baie St. Paul. Antoine's brother, Cuthbert Pelletier (b. 1846) was one of the Metis hunting band at Cypress Hills who signed the 1878 Metis petition for a reserve along the Canada-U.S.A. border. Cuthbert was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band.



Norman Fleury (left), Gilbert Pelletier (centre) Lawrence Barkwell (right) at Metisfest 2009,
International Peace Gardens.

Gilbert married Mary Pelletier, who is originally from the Métis road allowance community of Crooked Lake, Saskatchewan. Gilbert was an organizer and community development worker for the Métis Society of Saskatchewan (now the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan) in the early 1960s and was later the president of the Métis Society local in Esterhazy, Saskatchewan. In 2000, in recognition of his years of service to the Métis people, he was appointed as the Chair of the Métis Senate of Saskatchewan. Gilbert was very community-minded and served not only the Métis Nation, but others as well, in his capacities as a potash mine worker (in Esterhazy), an employee of Saskatchewan’s social welfare department (now Community Resources and Employment), an Assistant Probation Officer for youth, a Board of Director for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Commission and as a foster parent: Gilbert and Mary have raised numerous foster children, in addition to their own children (Gale, Eleanore and Avaline).

Gilbert was actively involved with the Michif Speakers Association in Saskatchewan and worked closely with the Gabriel Dumont Institute in its efforts to revitalize and preserve this unique language of the Métis. He is featured on the film *Our Life on the Road Allowance: The Story of the Crescent Lake Métis*. (Saskatoon: Gabriel Dumont Institute, Leah Dorion (Producer), 2002). Gilbert and Mary Pelletier lived 30 miles south of Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Gilbert was a contributor of the story “Li deu kouzaens” (pp. 28-29) to *Metis Legacy Vol. II* (2006, Winnipeg: Pemmican Publications and Saskatoon: Gabriel Dumont Institute).

Gilbert passed away on November 1, 2011 at Yorkton.

Reference:

Barkwell, L.J., "Biography: Senator Gilbert Pelletier, Metis Elder," *New Breed Magazine*, Volume 33, Issue 2: 9, March-April, 2004.

Pelletier dit Assiniboine, Joseph Pierre (1791- 1851)

Joseph was born in Rupert's Land in 1791. He was the son of Antoine Pelletier and an Indian woman named Marguerite. He was also the half-brother of Peter "Bostonais" Pangman, Marguerite's son with Peter Pangman Senior. Joseph married Genevieve Hallett (born 1795) at Fort Pelly. They had eleven children together.

Joseph was involved in the battle of Seven Oaks in 1816. Joseph fought on behalf of the North West Company, in an effort to drive the Selkirk Settlers out of the Canadian west. Joseph is noted as one of the leading Bois-Brules, therefore it is likely that he was part of the small force led by Cuthbert Grant that attacked the force of Settlers and took over Assiniboia.

Joseph and Genevieve lived in St. Boniface for a number of years, and are noted in the Red River Census starting in 1829. They had settled in Grantown by 1835, and were enumerated again in the Red River Census in 1840. Joseph and Genevieve later moved to Pembina, Dakota Territory where he died in 1851. (Contributed by Heather Hallett.)

Peltier. Leonard (b. 1944)

Leonard Peltier was born in Grand Forks, N.D., the eleventh of thirteen children, to Leo Peltier and Alvina Robideau. His Metis father was three-fourths Chippewa and one-quarter French, and his mother was Lakota Sioux on her mother's side and Chippewa on her father's. Peltier's parents divorced when he was four years old. At this time, Leonard and his sister Betty Ann were taken to live with their paternal grandparents Alex and Mary Dubois-Peltier in the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation near Belcourt, N.D.. In September 1953, at the age of nine, Leonard was enrolled at the Wahpeton Indian School at Wahpeton, N.D. He graduated at Wahpeton in May 1957, and attended the Flandreau Indian School in Flandreau, S.D. After dropping out in the ninth grade, he returned to the Turtle Mountain Reservation to live with his father. In 1965, Peltier relocated to Seattle, Washington. He worked for several years and became the owner of an auto body shop. In the city, Peltier became involved in a variety of causes championing Native American civil rights, and eventually joined the American Indian Movement (AIM). In 1977 he was convicted and sentenced to two consecutive terms of life imprisonment for first degree murder in the shooting of two FBI agents during a 1975 conflict on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Peltier's indictment and conviction is the subject of the 1992 documentary *Incident at Oglala*, a film directed by Michael Apted. Peltier is often cited as a political prisoner, and his murder conviction has survived appeals in various courts over the years. Amnesty International placed his case under the "Unfair Trials" category of its Annual Report: USA 2010, citing concerns with the fairness of the proceedings. Numerous lawsuits have been filed on Peltier's behalf, but none have succeeded thus far in securing his release or retrial.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Napoléon. (b. 1866)

Napoleon was born on November 6, 1866, the son of Edouard Pelletier (b. 1836) and Madeleine Morin. He died at Lebret in June of 1884. In 1878, Napoleon was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Pelletier, Edouard; for his deceased children: Jean Marie, born: 1875 at Long Lake; died: February, 1878; Therese, born: 24 January, 1877 at Cypress Hills; died: February, 1878; Louise, born: 8 June, 1884 at Pheasant Creek; died: February, 1885; Joseph, born: 13 October, 1880 at Pheasant Creek; died: 13 April, 1886; Napoleon, born: 1870 at Souris; died: 3 June, 1884; address: Touchwood Hills; father: Edouard Pelletier (Métis and deponent); mother: Madeleine Morin (Métis); file ref. 1668821; claim no. 837.

Pelletier (Pelloche), Paul.

In 1878, Paul was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Pelletier, Paul; address: Fort Qu'Appelle; born: 1843 at St. Francois Xavier; father: Pierre Pelletier (Métis); mother: Josephite Deschamps (Métis); married: 1871 at Qu'Appelle to Louise Gonneville; children living: LaRose, Isidore, Francois, St. Pierre, Jean Baptiste and Robert; children deceased: 1; scrip for \$240.00; claim no. 1213.

Pelletier, (Pelloche), William.

In 1878, William was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve. Pelletier, William for his living son Heli Pelletier; address: Medicine Hat; born: 1885 near Medicine Hat; father: William Pelletier (Métis and deponent); mother: Caroline Laframboise (Métis); scrip cert.: form C, no. 704; claim no. 1126.

Perreault, Jean Baptiste dit Morin. (b. 1825)

Jean Baptiste was the son of Jean Baptiste Sr. and Marie Ducharme dit Charron. He married Catherine Grovotte and they had eleven children. He was a delegate from Ste. Anne des Chênes to the November 1869 Red River Council. Jean Baptiste signed the Metis Petition of August 29, 1882 from the Qu'Appelle Valley. This petition was sent to Edgar Dewdney, the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories stating that the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land company was dispossessing the Metis of their lands because the surveys that had been done showed some of them to be on railway land.

Perreault, Francois (b. 1833)

Francois was the son of François Perreault (Métis born 1813) and Marguerite Allard born 1815, the daughter of Ambroise Allard and Lizette (Cree). His paternal grandmother was Marie Grant. Francois signed the Metis Petition of August 29, 1882 from the Qu'Appelle Valley. This petition was sent to Edgar Dewdney, the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories stating that the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land company was dispossessing the Metis of their lands because the surveys that had been done showed some of them to be on railway land.

Perreault, Xavier (b. 1835)

Xavier was born on May 15, 1835; father: François Perreault (Métis born 1813); mother: Marguerite Allard born 1815, the daughter of Ambroise Allard and Lizette (Cree). His grandmother was Marie Grant.

Xavier signed the Metis Petition of August 29, 1882 from the Qu'Appelle Valley. This petition was sent to Edgar Dewdney, the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories stating that the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land company was dispossessing the Metis of their lands because the surveys that had been done showed some of them to be on railway land.

Perron, Marie-Louise B.A., B.Ed., M. ès Arts.

Marie-Louise grew up in a family which for sociological reasons did not identify their Metis ancestry. Upon discovering the dictation of her great-great-grandfather, Jean Baptiste Ladéroute, his role in the 1869-70 Resistance,⁵⁶ and ancient family folk tales all of which her aunt had collected and saved in a trunk passed down to her, she began a recovery of her Metis identity.

Ms. Perron is currently employed as the Chief of Staff to the federal Commissioner of Official Languages. Previously she was Francophone Archivist at the Saskatchewan Archives Board from 1985 to 1991. She then was on staff at the Library and Archives of Canada. Since 1992, she developed new service initiatives at the Library and Archives of Canada, first as Chief of the Decentralized Access Office, then as Project Leader Public Access Systems, Chief of the Genealogy and Personnel Records Section, and lastly as Content Specialist with the CGC. Marie-Louise Perron has presented and published papers, in both English and French, on French/Métis folksongs and folktales, distant access to archival services, and the Perron-Ladéroute-Marion-St. Arnaud families, her ancestors among the Red River (Manitoba) Métis. As a result of this work she appeared on global TV's *Past Lives* aired June 25, 2005. She continues her work as a visual artist, specializing in watercolours and mixed media on canvas.



Marie-Louise contributed a chapter on Metis folklore to *Metis Legacy Volume II: Michif Culture, Heritage and Folkways* (Gabriel Dumont Institute and Pemmican Publications 2006: 46-54). This chapter "L'Origine des canards gris," or "The Origin of the Grey Ducks" has also appeared in the French language in *Saskatchewan History*, vol. 40, no. 3, 1987: 99-108. It is one of a number of Metis folk tales handed down by seven generations in her family and told to her by her aunt Josephine Perron as "one of Grandma Ladéroute's stories." She was the author (with Gilles Lesage and Claude Roberto) of "Les

⁵⁶ These reminiscences appeared as « Mémoires des troubles du Manitoba 1869-70 », in the *Bulletin de la Société historique de Sainte-Boniface*, Numéro 4, Été 1997 : 7-25.

archives de la presence français dans l'Ouest Canadien," in Archives, Volume 36, numéro 1, 2004-2005: 117-135. She presented the paper "The "Clandestinity Question" in the Search for Identity Among Francophone Metis People: The Case of the Laderoute-Perron-Marion Family Group" at the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Genealogy and Local History for All: Satellite Pre-Conference, 6-7 August 2008, Ottawa, Canada.

Petit, Claude, C.M., C.D., SOM.

Born in Duck Lake in 1935, Mr. Petit received the Order of Canada in 1998; Citizen of the Year, Saskatoon in 1994; was inducted in the Canadian Boxing Hall of Fame in 1991, and has received countless awards for boxing and shot put. Mr. Petit was the only Canadian to win the British Army Heavyweight Boxing Championship in 1964. He was a founder of the Western Canada Native Minor Hockey Championship, Saskatoon; President of the Saskatchewan Amateur Boxing Association for nine years and organizer; and founding member of the Metis celebration, Back to Batoche, which he organized for 23 years.

Mr. Claude Petit was recognized for his individual excellence and outstanding contributions to the social, cultural and economic well-being of the province of Saskatchewan and was awarded The Saskatchewan Order of Merit on October 30, 2002. He was a founder of the Western Canadian Native Minor Hockey Championship in Saskatoon.

Claude Petit remains very involved with Aboriginal Veterans in Canada. A member of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry, and wounded during the Korean War, Claude Petit served as a paratrooper with the Canadian Armed Forces for sixteen years, in Canada, Korea, Germany and Alaska. Mr. Petit has been a key player in designating, constructing and setting in place a bronze monument in Ottawa symbolizing the contributions of Aboriginal Veterans in World War I, World War II, the Korean War and Peace-keeping. Mr. Petit also implemented the Aboriginal Veterans Millennium Medal awarded to Aboriginal Veterans from all parts of Canada and to descendants of those killed in action.

Petit, Thomas. (b. 1851)

Thomas was born at Pembina, the son of Thomas Petit Sr. and his second wife, Josephine Ouelette. Thomas was a member of Captain William Fidler's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Piché, Alexis.

Alexis Piché is credited with bringing the church presence to Lac St. Anne, Alberta. The lake is located about 45 miles northwest of the city of Edmonton. In 1841, Alexis Piché Sr., a Metis who lived in the area, traveled to St. Boniface to ask that priests be sent to live among them. Even though priests were scarce, Bishop Provencher sent Father Jean-Baptiste Thibault, who was a Cree speaker, to check things out.

Alexis Piché Sr. was married to Opeh-tah-shetoy-wishk (a Plains Cree woman). Their sons Alexis "Bobtail" Piché Jr. and Baptiste "Ermineskin" Piché were both Chiefs of Plains Cree Bands. Chief Bobtail's son Coyote (Francois) was active in the Resistance of 1885 in making raids on the HBC stores at Battleford.

Alexis has been written about in an article by Juliette Champagne entitled "The First Catholics of Alberta."

After the passage of the Pacific-bound missionaries in 1838, a strong desire for the presence of a Catholic priest manifested itself among this population, and in 1841, a freeman, known as Piché, probably on a trading mission at Red River, was delegated to visit Bishop Provencher at St. Boniface and present a formal request that a Catholic priest be sent to the "Rocky Mountains" (le fort de la Montagne). The bishop noted that Piché was a Métis, living "with and as the Indians." This Piché was well known in the Saskatchewan district and along the foothills, as he often worked for the HBC as a guide and as a hunter. Mount Peechee near Lake Minnewanka was named in his honour by the governor of the HBC, George Simpson, who was guided by him through Devil's Gap and on through the pass which bears Simpson's name. Piché was also the father of the famed Cree chiefs Ermineskin and Bobtail.

Fully aware of the HBC's policy, as he had just been refused permission to send a priest to Fort Edmonton, Provencher nevertheless promised Piché that he would have someone ready for the following spring, and Piché said he would return to accompany the missionary. Instead of Piché, Jean-Baptiste Laframboise, a Métis from the Fort Edmonton region, and probably a brother-in-law of Dumont's, guided Father Jean-Baptiste Thibault to the Upper North Saskatchewan.

They left on April 20, 1842, arriving at Fort Edmonton on Sunday, June 19, early enough to celebrate Mass. During this visit, the Fort-des-Prairies register of baptisms, marriages and sepultures was opened, as this is how Fort Edmonton was known to French speakers.

Thibault stayed in the Fort Edmonton region, although he did visit Dumont's settlement at Spirit Lake. He was looking forward to meeting Piché, but when a group of Blackfoot came to the post to trade and meet the missionary early in July, Piché was not with them. By the end of July, he still had not come, and so with Dumont for a guide, they went in search of him and his band.

They travelled due southwest, stopping briefly at Pigeon Lake. As they crossed the Red Deer River, they met a group of Métis who were on their way to the Columbia River, and who knew of Piché's whereabouts. Word was sent out to him and he immediately came to meet the missionary, leading him to his camp of 60 lodges at Dog Pound Creek, west of present-day Calgary. (*Western Catholic Reporter*, September 5, 2005.)

Piché, Alexis Jr. "Bobtail". (1826-1900)

Alexis Jr. (b. 1826) was the son of Alexis Piché Sr. (Metis) and Opeh-tah-she-toy-wishk (Magdeline O'pitaskewis a Plains Cree woman). Alexis, whose Cree name was Keskayiwew, was born in 1826 on the North Saskatchewan River, the son of Alexis Piché Sr. and Opeh-tah-she-toy-wishk (a Plains Cree woman). In 1849, he married Catherine Cardinal (Pierre) dit Mustatip at Pidgeon Lake. Her father's name was Pierre Cardinal dit Eia-io-wew and her mother was Marie Catherine Cardinal. Alexis Jr. and Catherine had four children; Cecile b. 1852 at Lac Ste. Anne, Francois b. 1847 at Fort Pitt, Angele b. 1864 at Metis Crossing (Victoria) and Alexis b. 1866 also at Metis Crossing. Bobtail's desired a reserve near Pigeon Lake and on September 25, 1877 Chief Bobtail and two of his Councillors signed an adhesion to Treaty Six. After the 1885 Resistance Bobtail, his wife and his children took Metis Scrip (1886). He had Metis scrip claim # 179 and Catherine's was # 171. Later he applied to return to treaty status. The Bobtail group then

spent several years with the Cree of Montana. After the government campaign to oust the Cree from Montana, this group became the Montana Band in Alberta



Bobtail and son.

Alexis Jr. and Catherine had four children; Cecile b. 1852 at Lac Ste. Anne, Francois b. 1847 at Fort Pitt, Angele b. 1864 at Metis Crossing (Victoria) and Alexis b. 1866 also at Metis Crossing. Bobtail's desired a reserve near Pigeon Lake and on September 25, 1877 Chief Bobtail and two of his Councillors signed an adhesion to Treaty Six.

John Buffalo was interviewed about Bobtail and Ermineskin on April 18, 1975 by Richard Lightning.

Source: <http://ourspace.uregina.ca/bitstream/10294/2001/1/IH-169,%20169%2B.pdf>

My grandmother was present at the time when they received their final payment there. That is also the time the chiefs were given their authority, and also the councillors. That is when Bobtail became a chief and Ermineskin wanted to become a chief also but he was told that he couldn't become a chief because they were related. However he was told that he could become a councillor, so he did.

This was told to me by my mother-in-law, Mrs. Smallboy. She is about 108 or 100 years old and she is being cared for in Edmonton. I hear this old woman telling the story of the treaty; she was there. Bobtail, the first chief was her grandfather. It was also during that time that they came to Hobbema. That is what the old Mrs. Smallboy said. She said that the reserve here at Hobbema was one whole reserve at the time. Then Ermineskin decided to separate to form the Ermineskin band. His older brother (Bobtail) gave him a portion of the reserve. He was then the chief and his councillor was Louis Bull, David Headman, Johnny Ermineskin another man. Finally Louis Bull asked Ermineskin if he too could have his own reserve. Ermineskin did give him some reserve land - he was the chief of that reserve. So there the Ermineskin reserve and the Bull reserve, they wanted to be on their own. When all that had taken place, Bobtail took enfranchisement. He left the reserve for his people, that was the Montana Reserve.

My mother-in-law said that Samson also asked for some reserve land from Bobtail, that was a long time ago, so old Chief Samson also received some reserve land. So Montana became a small reserve as a result. The people who now live there were transported here by freight train; they were wandering around before they were gathered and shipped here. The freight train stopped at Ponoka and the Indians were brought to the Montana Band. They stayed there for one winter and in the summer they started to wander away again. Their excuse was that they were going berry picking but they left for good and today they are the Crees of Rocky Boy, Montana - those people are from here. Some of the older people fled to Montana during the Rebellion [1885]. So that is how they made their homes in Montana, according to my mother-in-law.

Piche, François (Coyote). (b. 1847)

Coyote was born in 1847 at Fort Pitt, the son of Alexis Piche Jr. (Chief Bobtail) and Catherine Cardinal, both Metis. Coyote (François) was active in the Resistance of 1885 in making raids on the HBC stores at Battleford. He was acquitted at trial in Edmonton for lack of evidence. In 1886 his father and mother both left treaty and took Metis scrip for all the children (living and deceased) except Coyote. They later returned to Treaty status.

Piche, François. (b. 1835)

François was born at St. François Xavier, the son of Louis Piche and Charlotte Dauphinais. He married Nancy Ross, the daughter of Hugh Ross and Sarah Short. He and his son William were both active in the Resistance. Later they returned to treaty status.

Piché “Ermineskin”, Jean Baptiste Wabiskawan. (1835-1906)

Baptiste, whose Cree name was Sehkosowayanew, and was also called Ermineskin, was the son of Louis Piché (Metis) and Opeh-tah-she-toy-wishk (a Plains Cree woman). He was the younger brother of Chief Bobtail.



Ermineskin with granddaughters.

John Buffalo was interviewed about Bobtail and Ermineskin on April 18, 1975 by Richard Lightning.

Source: <http://ourspace.uregina.ca/bitstream/10294/2001/1/IH-169,%20169%2B.pdf>

My grandmother was present at the time when they received their final payment there. That is also the time the chiefs were given their authority, and also the councillors. That is when Bobtail became a chief and Ermineskin wanted to become a chief also but he was told that he couldn't become a chief because they were related. However he was told that he could become a councillor, so he did.

This was told to me by my mother-in-law, Mrs. Smallboy. She is about 108 or 100 years old and she is being cared for in Edmonton. I hear this old woman telling the story of the treaty; she was there. Bobtail, the first chief was her grandfather. It was also during that time that they came to Hobbema. That is what the old Mrs. Smallboy said. She said that the reserve here at Hobbema was one whole reserve at the time. Then Ermineskin decided to separate to form the Ermineskin band. His older brother (Bobtail) gave him a portion of the reserve. He was then the chief and his councillor was Louis Bull, David Headman, Johnny Ermineskin

another man. Finally Louis Bull asked Ermineskin if he too could have his own reserve. Ermineskin did give him some reserve land - he was the chief of that reserve. So there the Ermineskin reserve and the Bull reserve, they wanted to be on their own. When all that had taken place, Bobtail took enfranchisement. He left the reserve for his people, that was the Montana Reserve.

My mother-in-law said that Samson also asked for some reserve land from Bobtail, that was a long time ago, so old Chief Samson also received some reserve land. So Montana became a small reserve as a result. The people who now live there were transported here by freight train; they were wandering around before they were gathered and shipped here. The freight train stopped at Ponoka and the Indians were brought to the Montana Band. They stayed there for one winter and in the summer they started to wander away again. Their excuse was that they were going berry picking but they left for good and today they are the Crees of Rocky Boy, Montana - those people are from here. Some of the older people fled to Montana during the Rebellion [1885]. So that is how they made their homes in Montana, according to my mother-in-law.

Piche – Cantara Scrip Record

Piché, Josephte - Concerning her claim as a head of family - Address, Victoria - Born, 1842 at Mission St. Paul - Father, Modeste Cantara alias Cotteret, (French Canadian) - Mother, Marie Clare, (Métis) - Married, 1859 on Plains to Baptiste Piché - Children living, four (names on declaration) - Children deceased, three - Scrip for \$160 - Claim 1095.

Scrip Certificate No. 332 Form A for \$47.00 in favour of Josephte Cantara. Refund of Treaty Money.

Piche, Josephte dit Wabikaskawan; for her deceased children; Jean Marie, born: 1865 at Vermillion; died: 1878; Marie, born: 1875 at Bears Hills; died: 1881 at St. Albert; address: St. Albert; father: Jean Baptiste Piche dit Wabikaskawan; (Métis); mother: Josephte Cantara or Omilkis (Métis and deponent); claim no. 2103.

Reference: RG15, Interior, Series D-II-8-c, Volume 1363, Reel C-14997, Access code: 90

References:

Botting, Gary. Chief Smallboy: In Pursuit of Freedom. Calgary: Fifth House Ltd., 2005. Information was also provided by Katrina Bull and George Littlechild.

Piche, William. (b.1864)

William was the son of Francois Piche and Nancy Ross. He was born at St. Francois Xavier on September 7, 1864. He moved to Duck Lake where he married Marie Charette in 1887. William was a member of Captain Jonas Moureau's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Pieton, Jerome.

Jerome was a member of Captain Auguste Laframboise’ company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Pilon, Alexandre. (b. 1864)

Alexandre was the son of Joseph Pilon Sr. and Angelique Normand. He was born at St. Norbert in 1864. Alexandre was the youngest of Joseph Pilon’s sons participating in the Resistance.

Pilon, Christine (Dumas). (1862-1954)

Christine Dumas and her husband Barthélemy Pilon arrived at the Metis settlement of Batoche in the spring of 1882. They had recently married in the Cathedral in St. Boniface, Manitoba. Her widowed mother, Henriette Landry (1822-1909), accompanied her. Many of her brothers and sisters had preceded them to the new “homeland.” The young couple settled near their family and began building a comfortable home on their river lot on the South Saskatchewan River. Barthélemy pursued mixed farming and supplemented the family income with freighting and carpentry work. There were many hardships but Christine was resourceful and was often asked to write personal and business letters for relatives and neighbours.

Mme. Pilon was proud of her family's dual Canadian and Metis heritage, a value which she instilled in her eight children: five boys and three girls, born between 1883 and 1904. These convictions and her strength in times of adversity were revealed in a poignant account of her trials during the “Guerre Nationale” at Batoche in 1885 (referred to as the North-West Rebellion in Euro-Canadian literature). She defended the actions of the Metis leader, Louis Riel, a distant cousin on the Landry side, “Ce n'est pas Louis Riel mais le gouvernement lache qui est venu en guerre chez les pauvres gens de la Saskatchewan.”⁵⁷

Christine and her daughters, Mme. Adelaide Ranger, Christine Pilon and Mme. Octavie Lepine
Photo courtesy of Omer Ranger, Duck Lake.



Christine and most of the women and children had sought refuge in dugouts and tents down by the trenches; the advancing Government troops had burned their new home. She was cold, there was little food and after the debacle on May 12, she was forced

⁵⁷ From a letter Christine wrote to Monseigneur Prud’homme in Prince Albert in 1885. A copy of this letter was given to Lawrence Barkwell by her grandson, Omer Ranger of Duck Lake (November, 2009).

to flee in the woods (Minatinas Hill area) with her young “bibi” (Louis, 18 months). She was with Mme Riel (who had been coughing blood for three days) and her two children. After days of hiding in the bush, they walked the 18 miles back to Batoche.... There, they found a stray calf, which they butchered and ate. “Riel returned three times to say adieu to his family before he gave himself up. It was so sad.”

Christine and Barthélemy had lost everything. “All the houses were burnt down when we came back home. No house, no bed, no covers. Il nous restait que le courage de Canadien et de Metis pour vivre.” But they persisted. A new home was built, crops were sown and a second homestead was acquired. Christine and her “cher mari” celebrated their golden anniversary in 1932. Independent to the end, she died in a little house next door to her daughter Adelaide at the age of 92. (With contributions by Diane Payment.)

Pilon, Joseph. (1837)

Joseph was the son of Joseph Pilon Sr. and Angelique Normand. He was born at St. Norbert in 1837. He married Julienne Branconnier in 1893 at Batoche. Joseph was a member of Captain William Boyer’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

In his testimony of August 13, 1885 at the Regina trial Father Alexis Andre says: “Joseph Pilon is a farmer, and has a family of ten children and is about fifty years of age. He lived a half a mile from Batoche; he was always an industrious and hard working man. When the trouble broke out this man was ordered by Riel to come into camp or he would force him to come, as he had protested against Riel’s movements, and had refused to attend any of his meetings, and never contributed one cent towards Riel’s support last winter. Pilon, when he was threatened by Riel, came to the priests, and cried when telling what was wanted of him. Riel by force and threats against his life compelled him to serve his purpose. Poor man, he deserves pity rather than punishment. (CSP, 1886, Vol. 13, p. 386)

Pilon, Raymond Barthelemy. (b. 1861)

Barthelemy was born at St. Norbert on September 30, 1861. He was the son of Joseph Pilon and Angelique Normand. In 1822 he married Christine Dumas, the daughter of Michel Dumas and Henriette Landry. They then moved to Batoche. Barthelemy was a member of Captain Calixte Lafontaine’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. Please see the more extensive family history under Christine Dumas.



Pilon, Rich. (b. 1968)

National Hockey League defenseman Rich Pilon is a Metis from St. Louis, Saskatchewan.. Metis defenseman Rich Pilon was born April 30, 1968 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan is a retired NHL ice hockey player who was known for his aggressive play. A

stay-at-home defenseman, Pilon played for three teams throughout his 15-year NHL career, the New York Islanders, New York Rangers and St. Louis Blues, but is primarily recognized for his time with the Islanders.

Pilon made his debut in the 1988–89 NHL season, playing 62 games, recording 14 assists and 242 penalty minutes for the New York Islanders. He would play 10 seasons there before being claimed on waivers December 1, 1999 by the New York Rangers. He played parts of two seasons as a Ranger. He was traded to the San Jose Sharks for a 7th round draft pick, days before he became an unrestricted free agent in 2001. He was then signed by the St. Louis Blues on July 10, 2001. He played 8 games for the Blues until he suffered a broken left wrist in a game against the Rangers. This ended his hockey career.

Pineau, Peter. (b. 1776)

Pineau was the son of Joseph Pineau and an unnamed Missouri Indian woman. He was a member of the Lewis and Clark's Expedition of Discovery in 1804, but is not mentioned in the journals after that year. He had probably returned to St. Louis with Pierre Dorion's returning raft crew.

Pinette, Gilles. (b. 1972)

Gilles is a Metis family physician and freelance writer living in Winnipeg. He grew up in Binscarth, Manitoba and was the first in his family to go to medical school. He writes a regular medical column for several prairie newspapers and has authored several books, including the *Aboriginal Healthy Life Series*, due shortly from Ningwakwe Learning Press. Gilles hosts *Medicine Chest* a regular program on the Aboriginal People's Television Network.

Dr. Pinette is also an Urgent Care physician at Winnipeg's Misericordia Hospital, a lecturer and instructor at the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Medicine and Associate director of the university's Special Premedical Studies Program which recruits and supports Aboriginal students enrolled in health sciences.

In 2001, he was given a National Metis Youth Role Model Award from the Metis National Youth Advisory Council. In 2002, Gilles was recognized in *Maclean's* magazine honour roll, which acknowledges Canadians who are making a difference. He was the recipient of an Aboriginal Achievement Award in 2002.

Pinette, Monica. (b. 1977)

Monica Pinette was born on Feb. 5, 1977 at Langley B.C. Monica received a National Aboriginal Achievement Award in 2010 for contribution to sport. The Foundation's write-up of her achievements says:

Known as the only Aboriginal athlete at the 2004 and 2008 Olympic Games, Ms. Pinette helped raise the profile of the pentathlon in Canada. A pentathlete must excel in five disciplines which include pistol shooting, epee fencing, 200 m freestyle swimming, show jumping and a 3 km cross-country run. Ms. Pinette was also



the first Canadian female to ever qualify for the Olympics in the pentathlon

In order to show people how Ms. Pinette prepares herself as an elite Olympic athlete, she agreed to do a documentary called *The Journey* - her journey to the Beijing Olympics. It motivated her to devote more time mentoring other young women in the sport and helping coach the Canadian Juniors to the World Championships in Taiwan.

Monica has qualified for the world championships every year since 2002, was the first female pentathlete to ever qualify for the Olympic Games, and her 13th place in Athens in 2004 was the highest a Canadian pentathlete has ever finished in the Olympics,



male or female. She was also the lone Canadian Aboriginal athlete competing in Athens. She has also had the best world cup and world cup final results of any Canadian pentathlete ever.

In her first Pan American Games, where she finished 7th. In 2003, Pinette also made it to the World Cup Final in Athens, finishing in 16th spot. She improved that to 10th place at two different World Cups in 2004. In her third World Championship appearance, Pinette improved again to 33rd in 2004. That set the stage for her very successful 13th place finish at the 2004 Olympic Games. Monica continued her progression by winning the Gold medal in the Pan American Championships in Mexico City in June 2006 and a silver medal in the 2007 Pan American Games. June 1, 2008, Pinette was in Budapest to compete in the modern pentathlon world championships. When she crossed the finish line in 11th place, it was perhaps her best result yet. In the 2008 Beijing Olympics she placed 27th. She received the British Columbia Premier's Athletic Award in 2009.

Plante, Basile. (b. 1854)

Basile was born on May 10, 1854 at St. Boniface, the son of Magloire Plante and Isabelle Lowe *dit* Nault. He married Madeleine Laplante on June 26, 1879 at St. Françoise Xavier. They later moved to Fort Ellice then to Duck Lake. The couple had four children. Basile was a member of Captain Baptiste Primeau's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Plouf *dit* Villebrune, Daniel. (1845)

Daniel was born November 7, 1845, the son of Louis Plouf *dit* Villebrune and Louise Collin. In 1868, at Carlton, he married Catherine Chatelaine and after her death he married Marie Louise Chatelaine in 1871. He and his brother Francis are shown on Garnot's list of Resistance participants.

Plouf *dit* Villebrune, Francis.

Francis the son of Louis Plouf *dit* Villebrune and Louise Collin. He and his brother Daniel are shown on Garnot's list of 1885 Resistance participants.

Plourde, François dit Jacques. (b. 1793)

Jacques was born in 1793 at the Red River Settlement, the son of Joseph Plourde and Ursula Arbour. On November 3, 1829 he married Suzanne Dubois at St. Boniface. Plourde, his wife and five children (Adelaide, Francois Jr., André, Monique and Oliver), were members of the James Sinclair-led group of Red River Half-Breed and Metis emigrants for the Columbia. This 1700-mile trip took them from White Horse Plains to Fort Vancouver and finally Fort Nisqually. Jemmy Jock Bird acted as their guide for the part of the journey that crossed Blackfoot territory. On October 12, 1841, after a 130-day journey the group reached Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River.

In the Oregon Territory there are records that indicate the children's marriages. Monique (b. 1838 in Red River) married Pascal Paquette, May 21, 1855 at St. Louis, Oregon; Alexander (b. 1842) married Marguerite Paloquin on January 21, 1863 at St. Louis, Oregon; Albert (b. December 28, 1844 at Gervais, Oregon) married Mary Smith in 1868 at Marion County, Oregon; Basile (b. September 21, 1846 at Gervais, Oregon) married Elizabeth Barker in 1868; Ambrose (b. July 20, 1848 at Gervais, Oregon) married Katherine Boucher and Eleanor Plourde was born on July 30, 1849 in Oregon.

Postras, Amelie.

Amelie was married to Georges Fisher and was one of the heroines of the 1885 Resistance.

Postras, Audrey. (b. 1950) See Audrey Dumont.

Postras, Charles "Tchee-Non". (b. 1843)

Charles was born in St Francis Xavier on 28 February 1843 he died November 2, 1922 at Belcourt. He was the son of Joseph dit Beaucasque Postras (b. 1806, died 1849) and Susanne Laverdure (b. 1820). Charles "Tchee Non" married Marie Breland on August 7, 1875 at Leuret Mission and had 6 children. He passed away on 1908. He married Marie Malvina Breland (b. 1853). Their daughter Emelie (b. 1878 at Wood Mountain) married Louis 'Pah-dway-we-dug' Marion dit Lenoir (b: June 11, 1861 born on the Prairies.) Louis was a councillor to Chief Little Shell III. Charles was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Scrip affidavit for Postras, Charles; born: Winter, 1849; father: Joseph Postras (Métis); mother: Susanne Laverdure (Métis); claim no: 3179; scrip no: 12807; date of issue: Dec. 3, 1883; amount: \$160

Postras, David. (1834-1898)

David Postras was born on May 11, 1834 at Red River, the son of Pierre Postras and Marie Bruyere. He married Magdeleine St. Denis. His brother served on Riel's Council in 1870, his cousin Jean was married to Louis Riel's sister, Henriette. In 1878, David was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

David was arrested for alleged 1885 Resistance activities, however on July 26, 1885 Judge Rouleau dismissed the charges at Battleford. (Douglas W. Light, *Footprints in the Dust*. North Battleford: Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1987: 512.)

Postras, Edward. (1953)

Metis artist Edward Postras studied at the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural College in Saskatoon in 1974 under Sarain Stump,⁵⁸ who emphasized that artists must reflect on all Aboriginal histories. Postras used art and literature as a way to understand his cultures, and found Black Elk's visionary writings to be spiritually influential. Postras also studied at Manitou College with Domingo Cisneros, who accentuated the use of organic materials. The influence of Stump, Cisneros, Black Elk, plus an appreciation for the art of Marcel Duchamp have been vital to Postras' artistic production. He combines natural and man-made materials into complex installations that explore the dichotomies of Aboriginal identity, and questions the effect of technology on culture and the environment.⁵⁹

In 1978, Postras was a lecturer at the University of Winnipeg, and through much of the 1980s he lectured at the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. He has been an artist-in-residence at the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs in Ottawa. Postras' work has been exhibited in galleries all over North America, and he was the first Aboriginal artist to represent Canada at the prestigious 1995 *Venice Biennale*. His work was included in the *IVth Havana Bienale* at the National Museum of Modern Art in Cuba and in the *INDIGENA* exhibit at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in 1992. The museum holds his work in their permanent collection. (Contributed by Catherine Mattes.)

Postras, François. (b. 1825)

Francois was born on February 17, 1825 at Fort Ellice, the son of Andre Postras and Marguerite Grant. He married Madeleine Fisher, the daughter of Henry Munroe Fisher and Marguerite Laframboise in 1850 at Pembina, North Dakota. In 1878, Cuthbert was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

Postras, Gabriel "Su Serde Surret". (b. 1820)

Gabriel was the son of Andre Henri Postras Jr. and Marguerite Grant (b. 1760) and Marguerite Grant (b. 1790 at Qu'Appelle). He married Isabelle Malaterre, daughter of Jean Baptiste Malaterre and Angelique Adam, on February 1, 1842, at St. Francois Xavier. Gabriel Postras' wife, Isabelle Malaterre, was the sister of Marie Malaterre, who was Louis Riel's wife's mother. Gabriel's brother, Pierre, was a member of Louis Riel's provisional government of 1870. Gabriel signed the 1878 Cypress Hills Metis Hunting Band petition for a reserve as did his brother-in-law Louis Malaterre. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chipewyan Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

⁵⁸ Stump was also of mixed-descent, born in Italy in 1945, he was the son of an Italian woman and a Cree soldier. Stump taught at the Saskatoon campus of the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural College in the early seventies, for a year and a half until his untimely death.

⁵⁹ Edward Postras, artist statement in *Indigena – Contemporary Native Perspectives* Hull, Québec, Canadian Museum of Civilization, 1992: 160.

Scrip affidavit for Poitras, Gabriel; born: July, 1820; father: Poitras (French Canadian); mother: Marguerite Grant (Métis); claim no: 2654; scrip no: 12226; date of issue: Apr. 20, 1877; amount: \$160

Poitras, Gabriel “La Swis” Jr.. (b. 1847)

Born 1847 at White Horse Plains, the son of Gabriel Poitras Sr. and Isabelle Malaterre. He married Marie Anne Amyotte February 1869 at Dirt Hills. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Poitras Jr., Gabriel - Concerning his claim as a head of family - Address, Turtle Mountain - Born, 1847 at White Horse Plains - Father, Gabriel Poitras Sr., (Métis) - Mother, Isabelle Mallaterre, (Métis) - Married, February, 1869 at Dirt Hills to Marie Anne Amiot - Children living, five (names on declaration) - Children deceased, two - Scrip for \$160.00 - Claim 1637 =

Poitras, Henry “Sus-swain” Chasseur. (b. 1823)

Henry was born in August of 1823, the son of Henry Poitras Sr. (b. 1794) and Marie George (b. 1807), the daughter of Frederick George and Josephite. Henry Jr. married Catherine Fagnant, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Fagnant and Josephite Monet dit Belhumeur in 1851 at St. Joseph. The couple had nine children. Henry, his wife and their nine children are shown as receiving Turtle Mountain Band annuities in 1868 onward. They also appear on the Turtle Mountain Band census counts. In 1893, they have three adopted daughters living with them; Philomene Ladeux (11); Marie Ladeux (6) and Demi Anna Ladeux (3). Henry was a counselor for Chiefs Little Shell II and III. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Poitras, Homer. (1941)

Homer was born at the Wolf Lake Metis Settlement in Alberta. His grandfather Joseph F. Dion gave him his first fiddle. Homer has received many awards for his preservation and promotion of Metis fiddle music and Metis dance. His work can be heard on the recently released CD, *Drops of Brandy* (Saskatoon: Gabriel Dumont Institute, 2001). He currently lives at Elk Point, Alberta.

Poitras, Ignace Zenon Sr. (b. 1829)

Ignace was born at Red River, the son of Andre Poitras and Marie Grant. He married Helene McGillis. He was a member of Captain Calixte Lafontaine’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

In his testimony of August 13, 1885 at the Regina trial Father Alexis Andre says: “I have known the old man (Ignace Sr.) for fifteen years since he came and settled on the Saskatchewan. He is one of the most simple honest and peaceable men in the whole settlement, never mixing in any agitation or trouble. I am very intimately acquainted with him. I have often been his guest, and always found a welcome at his hospitable house. His industry and economy made him a comfortable and well-off man. He was, fortunately for the prisoners in Riel’s care, one of their guards, and I was told by several of them

that he was kind and good to them always. He is about sixty (sic) years of age and has a wife and ten children, he has lost everything. The young man (Ignace Jr.) was with his father and is a harmless youth. The old man is old and feeble, and has suffered very greatly in health and prosperity. The best interests of justice would, I think be satisfied by sending him home to his poor family. (CSP, 1886, Vol. 13, p. 385)

Poitras, Ignace Zenon Jr. (b. 1850)

Ignace was the son of Ignace Zenon Poitras Sr. and Helene McGillis. He married Florence Dubois. Ignace participated in the 1885 Resistance and was with Gabriel Dumont at the Battle of Fish Creek. He was a member of Captain Daniel Gariépy's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. Ignace Jr. served a gaol sentence of one year with hard labour as a result of his participation in the Metis Resistance of 1885.

Poitras, Jean Baptiste. (1865-1885)

Jean Baptiste was the son of Ignace Poitras and Helene McGillis. In 1878, Jean Baptiste was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve.

He was one of four Poitras brothers who fought during the 1885 Resistance. He died at age 20 on August 14, 1885 at Batoche.

Poitras dit Beucasque, Joseph. (b. 1818)

Joseph was born in 1818, the son of Andre Poitras and Marguerite Grant.⁶⁰ He married Susanne Laverdure, the daughter of Alexie Laverdure and Angelique Montour. She was born 1820 in Northwest Territories. He listed himself as a plains hunter. Joseph was a Turtle Mountain Band member. Joseph signed the 1878 Cypress Hills Metis Hunting Band petition for a reserve

Poitras, Joseph “Knee Crosh” “Cornence”. (b. 1849)

Joseph was born on April 5, 1849 (d. 1908 in Bel-court, North Dakota). He was the son of Joseph dit Beucasque Poitras (b. 1806) and Susanne Laverdure (b. 1820). He married Marie Josephine Rainville (b. 1864) in 1880. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Poitras, Joseph B. (b. 1844)

Joseph was born at Red river, the son of Pierre Poitras Sr. and Marie Bruyere. He married Elise Breland. In the 1860s they were living along the North Saskatchewan River and then moved to the Bresaylor Settlement. During the 1885 Resistance he was on the Canadian side, employed as a scout. (Douglas W. Light, *Footprints in the Dust*. North Battle-ford: Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1987: 171.)

Poitras, Lloyd, MNA Senator. (b. 1919)

⁶⁰ Marguerite was the daughter of Cuthbert Grant Sr. and Utminiwas. She was born 1790 in Qu'Appelle, and died April 09, 1866 in St Boniface.

Lloyd Poitras is the son of Francis Poitras and Maggie Boudreau. He married Val Dion, daughter of Joe Dion the first president of the Metis Nation - Alberta. The couple celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 2002. When Lloyd got involved in Metis politics he was Joe Dion's bodyguard and chauffeur. He went on to become a board member of Metis Nation Alberta and served on the Elder's Council and as a Senator.

During WWII Lloyd served in the Canadian Forces in France, Holland and Belgium. On September 27, 2002 the Metis National Council awarded him the Golden Jubilee Medal. The Metis National Council was provided with 20 Golden Jubilee Medals by the Governor General of Canada, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Her Majesty's reign. They chose to award these medals to 20 Metis Veterans who accepted them on behalf of themselves, their fallen comrades and their fellow Metis Veterans across Canada. The ceremony, held in Edmonton, recognized the outstanding contributions of Metis Veterans to their fellow citizens, their community and to Canada.

Poitras, Maryanne. (b. 1923) See Maryanne Denomie

Poitras, Maxime. (b. 1863)

Maxime was the son of Ignace Poitras and Helene McGillis. After the Resistance he married Elizabeth Henry. His father and three brothers also fought at Batoche.

Poitras, Michel. (b. 1867)

Michel was the son of Ignace Poitras and Helene McGillis. He married Emelie Carriere, the daughter of Damase Carriere in 1901. He was a member of Captain Auguste Laframboise' company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Poitras, Modeste "Ko Tah Mash" (b. 1850)

Modeste was born in 1850 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Gabriel Poitras (b. 1816) and Isabelle Malaterre. Modeste married Elmire Bonneau (born in 1851), at St. Francois Xavier in 1872. Elmire, however, was widowed when Modeste was, according to family legend, killed during a buffalo hunt in the Dakota territories. Out of this union, there arose four children, three sons, and a daughter. The daughter, however, died, again according to legend, during the trip north to the Qu'Appelle valley, near present day Le-bret. Elmire's three sons survived. Their names were Baptiste, Zachary, and Gregoire. All three children produced large families. Gregoire, married Celina Parisian, daughter of Solomon Parisian and Liza Melanie Major. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Poitras, Morris. (b. 1921)

Morris was born in Lebret, Saskatchewan, May 10, 1921. His mother was Emily Brabant from Ituna, and his father, Tom Poitras. Emily's father was Clem Brabant and her mother was Joe Larocques' sister. Tom's parents were Pierre Poitras and Freisen Desjarlais. As a young child, Morris moved to File Hills to live with his grandfather, Pierre. Later, at eight years of age, his grandfather took him to Lestock where he was adopted by Norbert Lafontaine and his wife Melanie (nee Desjarlais). Morris has one sister Nora

(now late), married to George Braun who currently lives in Saskatoon. His wife, Maryanne Denomie, Maryanne was born in Lestock on March 30, 1923. Her mother was Francis Denomie, nee Boucher, the daughter of Hilliard Boucher. December 13, 2002 marked their 57th year of marriage. Together they raised nine of their own children, adopted two more, raised two grandchildren and also raised 18 foster children.

As a young man, Morris worked for a farmer in Cupar before joining the army in Saskatoon in 1941. During WWII, Morris served in the Canadian Forces. He first went to Dundurn, then to Petawawa. From there he went to Nova Scotia and later shipped out of Halifax on the Empire Pride for an 18 day trip to Liverpool, England. From Liverpool, Morris went to Sicily and then to Italy. He also served in theatres of war in Holland, Belgium and France, with the 9th Field Battalion and the 1st Division Royal Canadian Engineers (1st Div.). Morris was wounded three times, once sustaining a head wound and another time, a bullet in the back. He was also hurt another time when he was caught in a collapsing building. Morris received a number of medals in recognition of his contribution to the war effort for world peace. Upon his return in 1945, Morris recalls that he only received a small amount of lumber to help build a house, along with a small amount of unemployment insurance. He had however bought Savings Bonds with his army pay, and after the war was able to buy land upon which to build his house.

In the meantime, Maryanne recalls that during the war she picked apples in B.C., getting 10 cents for every box full she picked. She had also married her first husband, who died before the war was over.

When the war ended, she became reacquainted with Morris, who used to be a childhood friend through his activities with her brothers. Shortly after his return they got married.

In terms of schooling, both Morris and Maryanne recalled that they could not take advantage of going to school as Morris lived four miles from the school and Maryanne, over three miles. While Morris missed out on an education and can't read, Maryanne was more fortunate as her father taught his children at home. Morris is also proud to say that although he can't read, he does speak Cree, Saulteaux and Michif, that the people who adopted him, the Lafontaines, spoke Michif. He also speaks English, and says that he picked up some Italian while stationed in Italy.

After the war, Morris recalls that they used to pick Seneca roots, receiving \$1.00 per pound, which Maryanne stated certainly beat picking apples at 10 cents a box. Morris also trapped and hunted, stating that his favorite meals were partridge and rabbit. Both Morris and Maryanne recalled that the Métis around Lestock lived on the road allowances in log shacks. The log shacks were spread out, with about 12 of them. The shacks were chinked with clay and generally not whitewashed. They also had sod roofs, with weeds growing on them.

Morris stated that a lot of the Métis trapped. He recalls trapping muskrats, getting about \$2.00 per rat, and 10 cents for each rabbit fur. Generally, Morris recalls that the Métis around Lestock made a living in a similar way, that is, trapping, picking Seneca roots, shooting rabbits and so on. He further stated that they would have other Métis give them fish from the Qu'Appelle Lakes.

In terms of Métis culture, Morris and Maryanne relate that a lot of the Métis men from around Lestock and Fort Qu'Appelle played the fiddle, including one of her brothers. They recalled a lot of dances being organized, including at their house. Morris recalled that in those days it cost about \$2.50 to "make a dance", by supplying sandwiches,

tea, and coffee. They also fondly recall that their daughters, Lyla and Lisa won the jigging contest at Batoche in 1995 or '96.

Morris and Maryanne eventually moved to Regina where Morris worked as a welder. However, due to his injuries in the war, Morris finally had to receive medical attention in order to have corrective surgery to his back in the late 1950s. Maryanne, in order to cope with this new development decided to move her family back to Lestock. By that time they had 5 young children. So Maryanne rented their Regina house out at \$75 a month, and rented a small farm house in Lestock for \$10. She next sold their television and other non-essential household goods and purchased a cow and calf. Soon she was able to sell \$60 worth of cream a month. She also put up hay with her brother and shared in the profits. Soon she was able to get more livestock. Maryanne emphatically stated, with great pride, that she did all of this because she did not want to rely on welfare. After Morris' successful surgery, and his convalescence, everything was sold and they moved back to Regina around 1961. Further, after a lot of inquiries, Morris was finally provided with a pension from DVA beginning in 1961 due to the back injuries sustained in the war.

In 1962, Morris went to work at Ipsco as a welder until his retirement 19 years later, at which time they moved to Maryanne's father's farm in Lestock. Thirteen years later they moved back to Regina, buying the current house they are now living in. In reference to the farm, Maryanne quite emphatically states that the farm which her father left to his family will never be sold. She firmly believes that one of her sons will take it over, and keep it in the family.

Maryanne proudly displayed her crafts. Being the industrious person that she is, Maryanne continues to generate income by making crafts which she sells at farmers markets, especially at Fort Qu'Appelle. The crafts made by Maryanne are many, including quilts, knit socks, wrap around moccasins, pin cushions, hat sets, wall hangings, earrings, dream catchers, mitts, and many more. She actually made a good sale when I bought a number of these beautiful pieces.

Morris, reflects that while he has lived a good life, he still is waiting for justice to happen for the Métis veterans who proudly served their country and the world, but did not receive the same treatment accorded non-Aboriginal Veterans.

On September 27, 2002 the Metis National Council awarded Morris the Golden Jubilee Medal. The Metis National Council was provided with 20 Golden Jubilee Medals by the Governor General of Canada, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Her Majesty's reign. They chose to award these medals to 20 Metis Veterans who accepted them on behalf of themselves, their fallen comrades and their fellow Metis Veterans across Canada. The ceremony, held in Edmonton recognized the outstanding contributions of Metis Veterans to their fellow citizens, their community and to Canada. (Contributed by Kathy Hodgson-Smith.)

Poitras, Norbert. (b. 1860)

Norbert was born on May 4, 1860 at SFX, the son of Gabriel Poitras and Isabelle Malaterre. He married Melanie Laframboise in 1884, the daughter of Francois Laframboise and Marie Trottier. They had three children. He then married Celina Delorme, the daughter of Urbain Delorme and Elizabeth Belanger before 1897. They had eleven children. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain

Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Poitras, Pierre. (1810-1889)

Pierre fought at the Battle of the Grand Coteau. This battle took place between a Metis buffalo hunting party from St. François Xavier, led by Jean Baptiste Falcon and the Cut Head (Pabaksa) Yanktonai (Ihanktonwanna), Dakota, led by Chief Medicine (Sacred) Bear, on July 15 to 16, 1851.

Pierre Poitras was born in 1810, at Fort Esperance, Qu'Appelle Valley, Northwest Territories. His mother was Marguerite Grant, sister to Cuthbert Grant and his father was Andre Henri Poitras from St. Foye, Quebec. Andre Poitras was one of the founders of St. Francois Xavier. This was a buffalo hunting family always active on the plains. The family was quite large with relations on both sides of the border. Andre, sometimes known as Henri died circa 1831 at St. Joseph, Dakota Territory. Pierre Poitras married Marie Bruyere, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Bruyere and Francoise (Serpente) on November 27, 1832 at St. Boniface. They had eleven children together.

Pierre Poitras was a representative to the Convention of Forty representing his home district of St. Francois Xavier. He was also a delegate to the previous Convention of 24, November 16, 1869. Pierre became one of the 24 members of the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia led by Louis Riel. On June 24, 1870, Hon. Mr Pierre Poitras seconded Hon. Mr Louis Schmidt's motion "That the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia accepts, in the name of the people, the Manitoba Act", thus entering the Dominion of Canada on the terms proposed in the Confederation Act. He was seized and mistreated by Wolseley's troops when they came to Red River in August of 1870 (along with François Xavier Dauphinais and François Xavier Pagée).

He would also witness the signing of Treaty Number 4 in the Qu'Appelle Valley, in 1874.

Poitras, Pierre Jr. (b. 1836)

Pierre Poitras was born on November 11, 1836 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Pierre Poitras and Marie Bruyer. He was the grandson of Andre Poitras, the founder of St. Francois Xavier. Pierre married Isabelle Bremner, the daughter of William Bremner and Marguerite Allard on February 14, 1860 at St. Francois Xavier. They had eleven children. Pierre was found wintering at Wood Mountain NWT in 1873. In 1874, he sold his land at St. Francois Xavier and later applied for Scrip in 1877. In the 1870s they had children born at St. Laurent on the South Saskatchewan and at Lebret in the Qu'Appelle valley. Pierre signed a September 2, 1880 Petition from Peter LaPierre and other Halfbreeds of Qu'Appelle Settlement concerning Metis land claims that subsequently goes unanswered by the government.⁶¹ This petition was addressed to the Marquis of Lorne, "This humble

⁶¹ They ask you, 1st, That the Government allow to the Half-breeds the right of keeping the lands which they have taken or which they may take along the River Qu'Appelle. The right of fishing in all the lakes of the above mentioned river. The right of hunting freely in the prairies west and south-west of the lakes Qu'Appelle without being arbitrarily hindered by the Indians but only in virtue of the regulations that the Indians, in concert with the Half-breeds and the Government, shall establish hereafter for the good of all. The right of trading at the Lakes and environs of the Lakes Qu'Appelle.

petition of Peter LaPierre, Simon Blondin, John Fisher, Alexander Fisher, John Simpson, Xavier Denomme, and others.

The name Pierre Poitras is among eleven signatories on the Qu'Appelle petition of 1873 asking that the Lieutenant Governor, "give us lands in compensation of our rights to the lands of the country as Métis." Pierre also signed the Metis Petition of August 29, 1882 from the Qu'Appelle Valley. This petition was sent to Edgar Dewdney, the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories stating that the Ontario and Qu'Appelle Land company was dispossessing the Metis of their lands because the surveys that had been done showed some of them to be on railway land. A Pierre Poitras also signed as witness to Treaty Four, Fort Qu'Appelle in 1874.



Signing Treaty Four. Pierre Poitras centre seated.

Poitras, Termie. (b. 1842)

Theodore Poitras was the son of Pierre Poitras and Marie Bruyere. He married Cecile Lafournaise, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Lafournaise and Marguerite Gosselin. In 1878, Theodore was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve. His brothers-in-law Jerrome and William Lafournaise also signed this petition.

Poitras, Solomon. (1867)

Solomon was the son of David Poitras and Magdeleine St. Denis. In 1878, Solomon was a member of the Cypress Hills Metis hunting band that petitioned for a reserve. Note he signed as an eleven year old.

Poitras, William. (b. 1863)

William was born on January 10, 1863 in St. Francois Xavier, the son of Gabriel Poitras and Isabelle Malaterre. He married Marie Alphonsine Delorme (b. 1871) in 1888. She was the daughter of Urbaine Delorme and Elizabeth Belanger. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Poitras. Zachariah “May zha keg wan abe” (b 1848)

Zacharie was born on June 8, 1848 in St Francois Xavier. Zacharie's parents were Joseph dit Beucasque Poitras (b. 1806) and Susanne Laverdure (b:1820). He and Marie Marguerite Ross married in Cypress Hills. He was a member of the Turtle Mountain Band who signed the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians agreement with P.J. McCumber on October 22, 1892 at the Belcourt Agency.

Pontbriand, Jean Baptiste.

See the entry under Jean Baptiste Sansregret.

Pontbriand, Louis.

See the entry under Louis Sansregret.

Potoski, Bernice. (b. 1943) See Bernice Guilbeault.

Potts, Jerry. (1838-1896)

Jerry Potts, also known as Kiaayo Ko'si or Bear Child, was the son of trader Andrew R. Potts and Namopisi (Crooked Back) a Blood Indian woman of Black Elk's band. Potts was a hard drinking, unmatched fighter, superb guide, and a life-long North West Mounted Police supporter. He was of small stature (five feet six inches tall) and his sloped shoulders gave him the appearance of always slouching. His father died shortly after he was born and he was given to Alexander Harvey of the American Fur Company to raise when Namopisi decided to return to her band. Harvey abused and mistreated Jerry before abandoning him in 1845. Fortunately, Andrew Dawson another AFC trader from Fort Benton, Montana adopted Jerry. He was a gentleman, called “the last King of the Missouri.” He saw to the boy's education, and ensured that he learned Indian customs and languages. In his late teens, Potts joined his mother's people. He started working for the AFC and would drift between the band and Dawson's home. At age 23 he killed Antoine Primeau in a duel sparked by an argument.

Potts' first wife was Mary, a Crow woman, their first child Mitchel, was born in 1869. Later, when he moved north, Potts married two sisters, Panther Woman and Spotted Killer, the daughters of Piegan Chief Sitting in the Middle. In the 1880s after his two Piegan wives died, Potts married for the fourth time to Isum-its-tsee (Long Time Laying Down), the daughter of Blood Chief One Spot. Shortly before his death in 1896 his last child, Blue Gun, was born to them.

From 1869 to 1874, Jerry worked as a hunter for various whiskey traders. During this time, he gained fame as a warrior fighting the Plains Cree, Crow and Sioux. His feats were legendary and he was believed by the Indians to be invincible. In October of 1870, Piapot and Big Bear's groups of Cree and Assiniboine attacked a group of Blood Indians at Oldman River. Potts led a group of Piegan's to fight alongside the Bloods (Piegan along with the Blood were part of the Blackfoot Confederacy). Under his leadership they routed the Cree and slaughtered about 300 of them. During this battle, Potts was shot in the leg by an arrow.

Potts came to hate the whiskey traders because he could see the effects liquor was having on his people (although he never quit drinking himself). This was one of the reasons for his long career as a scout interpreter and guide for the NWMP—he respected the

work they did in curtailing the whiskey trade. In 1872, his mother, Namo-pisi was killed by a drunken Blood Indian while retrieving the body of one of her other sons. Soon after this, Potts avenged her death by shooting the killer.

In the fall of 1874, Potts arranged the first meeting between Assistant Commissioner Macleod and Crowfoot and Red Crow, Blackfoot leaders. This was the beginning of many years of friendly relations between the Blackfoot and the NWMP. Potts went on to serve with the NWMP for 22 years. No major patrol was ever undertaken without his assistance. In 1877, Potts contributed to the success of the Treaty No. 7 negotiations. His abuse of alcohol contributed to his death from tuberculosis in 1896. The *Macleod Gazette* and the *Alberta Livestock Record* both mourned his loss and saluted his contributions to law enforcement in the West when they reported his death.

Reference

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Dempsey, Hugh. "Jerry Potts: Plainsman." Occasional paper no. 2. Calgary: Glenbow-Alberta Institute, 1966.

Powley, Steve. (1948-2004)

Steve challenged the provincial right to contro Metis hunting and thus became a great hero of the Metis Nation. In 1992, near Sault Sainte Marie, he and his son Rod shot a moose for family food. He left the animal in the bush along with a note with his Ontario Metis Aboriginal Association membership number. The note read: "Shot to feed my family for the winter." Subsequently, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources charged them for hunting without a licence. He fought for his rights right up to the Supreme Court. On March 17, 2003 he was successful in this decade long battle to reaffirm Metis rights under Section 35 of the Constitution Act of 1982. Steve succumbed to his long battle with diabetes on February 23, 2004. He is survived by his wife Brenda and children, Paul, Evelyn, Roderick and Kimberley.

Primeau (Primot), Jean Baptiste. (1841- c. 1900)

Baptiste, born at St. Boniface on June 14, 1841, was the son of Joseph Primeau and Marguerite Stevenson. He married Rosalie Smith at St. Norbert in 1859. He was a member of the Carlton community and was involved with Gabriel Dumont in 1875 in enforcing the Laws of the Hunt against a Metis party led by HBC employee Peter Ballantyne. Baptiste was a Captain of one of the 19 companies led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. He married Rosalie Smith dit Cabry at St. Norbert on September 6, 1859. They lived at Grand Rapids and Portage la Loche then moved to Duck Lake and then Carlton.

In July of 1885, Jean Baptiste applied for Half Breed Scrip on behalf of his children Sophie and Basile. He refused to answer questions put to him as to his participation in the 1885 Resistance. As a consequence his claim was reserved because of his participation in the Resistance and later allowed on September 30, 1886.⁶²

⁶² The Deputy Minister of the Interior instructed (June 11, 1886) that all claims disallowed because of Resistance activity would now be allowed

Primeau, Jean Baptiste Jr.

Jean Baptiste was the son of Jan Baptiste Primeau and Rosalie Smith. He married Eliza Lafond on February 1, 1887 at Duck Lake. Jean Baptiste was a member of Captain Baptiste Primeau's (his father) company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance.

Primeau, François. (1840-1925)

François was born at Fort Alexandre in 1840. He was the son of Joseph Primeau and "Betsy" Stevens. He married Caroline Parisien then Marie Larocque. When married to Caroline he lived at St. Boniface/St. Vital, St. Albert and Saddle Lake. While married to Marie they lived at Grand Point, Duck Lake and Carlton. In his claim for Half Breed Scrip he asserted that he had fled to avoid being conscripted to fight in the Resistance. His claim was accepted and approved in July 1885.

Primeau, François. (1864)

François was born at St. Vital, the son of François Primeau and Caroline Parisien. In 1883 he married Marie Joseph Arcand. François was a member of Captain Baptiste Primeau's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. In his claim for Half Breed Scrip in 1885 he states: "I have lived in the North-West Territory ever since the year 1866, with my parents who left the province of Manitoba at that time to come to St. Albert where they lived with their children as of 15th July 1870, and to Edmonton and Carlton ever since. I have a homestead in Carlton. I live on it. About two months ago I was taken and forced by the people of Riel to go and act with them in these last troubles against the government of the Dominion of Canada. I stayed with them at Batoche and at Duck Lake about one week when I deserted to go home, afterward I was asked to go to Batoche to get some provisions which were scarce, and when I was there, they forced me to take up arms—and would prefer to say nothing further about these troubles, as I was not prepared to answer to your questions. My mother and father both ran off so I kept the home as somebody had to stay home. My father and mother went as far as Calgary to escape from Riel's people."⁶³ As a consequence his claim was reserved because of his participation in the Resistance and later allowed on October 18, 1886.⁶⁴

Pritchard, George. (b. 1903)

On March 1st, 2003, George Pritchard celebrated his 100th birthday at the Battleford Legion Hall, Saskatchewan, along with numerous family and friends. George comes from a healthy and famous line, his father Soloman (Sam) Pritchard, who lived to celebrate his 105th birthday, was featured on Front Page Challenge 1954 for saving three women at the Frog Lake Massacre. George Pritchard was born to Soloman and Rosalie (nee Trotter) Pritchard in 1903 at Lake Pelletier, fifteen miles north of Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Of the twenty-two children born to Soloman and Rosalie, seven children lived: George, Rosia, Adeline, Mary, Pat, Ed and Margerise.

⁶³ RG 15, D II (8) (b).

⁶⁴ The Deputy Minister of the Interior instructed (June 11, 1886) that all claims disallowed because of Resistance activity would now be allowed.

George married Priscilla Whiteford in 1925 and brought forth fifteen children, most of whom are still living today: William (Pritchard - Late); Florence (Roy); Leona (Falcon - Late) Hilda (Falcon); Victoria (Pritchard); Henry (Pritchard Late); Bert (Pritchard - Late); Helen (Trottier); Esther (Wuttunee); Dennis (Pritchard Late); Myrtle (Littlebear); Fern (Atchenym); Steven (Pritchard Late); Georgie (Pritchard); Ronnie (Pritchard); Darlene (Thomas); most of whom are more likely known by their nicknames. George Pritchard celebrates his 347 grandchildren and great-grandchildren and great-greatgrandchildren. Lori Church, a gifted singer and artist in her own right and one of the many descendants of George Pritchard, led the singing of Happy Birthday to her Mooshum.

his family, they recounts that George had belonged to the Métis Society for 100 years. As part of this celebration, President of the Métis Nation Saskatchewan, Clem Chartier, presented George Pritchard with the 1st President's Recognition Award for his lifelong struggle on behalf of Métis people and Métis land and harvesting rights. In the 1960's George Pritchard successfully defended his son on a court charge for hunting without a license. George continued his struggle well into the 80's meeting with lawyers in Edmonton and Saskatoon on land research and the struggle for Métis land rights.

This was the first time I had met George Pritchard and when I approached him to wish him birthday greetings, he shook my hand and said: "Never stop fighting for our land. Never stop fighting for our rights." His weathered hand and blue eyes held my attention and his words etched themselves in my memory forever. New Breed Magazine commemorates the life and times of a Métis Warrior, Role Model and Family Man - George Pritchard. (Contributed by Kathy Hodgson-Smith from an article she wrote for New Breed Magazine.)

Pritchard, John. (1840-1925)

John Pritchard was born at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Metis parents, William Pritchard and Marie Fleury. He was educated at Red River where he had taken training for the Anglican ministry. As a young adult he worked in the office of Metis trader Urbaine Delorme and in 1863, John married Delorme's daughter Rose.

Later, he worked for the HBC at Rocky Mountain House, Fort Carlton and Fort Edmonton. He left the HBC to become a buffalo hunter and free-trader. In the early 1880s John became an interpreter for the Indian Department and in 1884 he and his family moved to Frog Lake.

John was caught up in the 1885 Resistance and events near the Fort Pitt area. From April of 1885 onward, Norbert Delorme (his brother-in-law) was in communication with him. Wandering Spirit captured John Pritchard and Adolphus Nolin. Pritchard, Pierre Blondin and Adolphus Nolin are credited with protecting the white women who were prisoners in Big Bear's camp.

Pritchard, Salomon. (1869-1967)

Salomon was born at Rocky Mountain House in 1869, the son of John Pritchard and Rose Delorme. As a sixteen-year-old, he witnessed the Frog Lake massacre. He freighted and trapped in Saskatchewan and Montana. He was active in the Saskatchewan Metis Society and unveiled the plaque commemorating the Battle of Frenchman's Butte in 1965. (Douglas W. Light, *Footprints in the Dust*. North Battle-ford: Turner-Warwick Publications Inc., 1987: 135.)

Proulx, Paul. (1839-1918)

Paul Proulx was born January 25, 1839, the son of Michel Proulx (b. 1818) and Angèle Guiboche. He was a member of Riel's Provisional Government in 1870. Proulx is often listed as a French Canadian but was Metis as his maternal grandmother, Therese, was an Assiniboine Indian. Paul was married to Angélique Nault, Louis Riel's cousin.

Pruden, Arthur. (b. 1820)

Arthur Pruden was the son of a HBC Chief Factor John Peter Pruden and his Cree wife, Nancy. Arthur married Charlotte Small and they had three children. Arthur was hired as an apprentice in 1835 and was promoted to Chief Trader in 1862.

Pruden (Sinclair), Caroline . (b. 1830)

In the mid-1800s Caroline Pruden was considered to be one of the "Belles of Red River" and one of the trend-setting Metis women of the Settlement and Upper Fort Garry.

Caroline was the daughter of Nancy Patasagawis (a Cree woman from Oxford House) and John Peter Pruden Sr. (1778-1868), an Englishman, who was chief trader at Carlton House.

Caroline married Thomas Sinclair the son of former Chief Factor William Sinclair and Margaret Nahovway on April 3, 1850 at St. Johns. Thomas (b. 1809) was a widower, first married to Hannah Cummings. At the time of his second marriage he had seven children, born between 1832 and 1846). Caroline and Thomas lived at St. Andrews between Miss Davis's School (Twin Oaks) and St. Andrews Church. Thomas Sinclair died in 1870 and Caroline married again in 1874 to Albert Sargeant.

Caroline and Thomas Sinclair had the following children:

- Ann Harriet, born August 13, 1851. She married Andrew Strong.
- John Edward, born circa 1855. He married Myrtle Armstrong then Lydia McKenzie.
- James Alexander Henry, born June 5, 1858, he married Mary Ross then Emily Patten.
- Caroline, born on March 17, 1861, she married Fred Hershmer.
- Frederick Clare, born June 5, 1865, he married Virginia McKay.
- Maria Louise, born August 5, 1868, died December 29, 1870.



William Healy, writing about the Women of Red River⁶⁵ notes:

In a letter dated at Upper Fort Garry, March 12th, 1848, written by John Bunn to Donald Ross, Chief Factor at Norway House, Bunn says “the Misses Caroline Pruden and Margaret and Harriet Sinclair, were, I believe, considered the belles of the evening.” Margaret Sinclair was Mrs. Cowan’s cousin; she married one of the English officers. “Caroline Pruden was the most beautiful girl in Red River,” said Mrs. Cowan, when this letter was shown to her. “And she kept her beauty all her life. When she was a grandmother she was lively and spirited and as fond of fun as a young girl, almost. At that ball in 1848 the polka was new. Somebody had just brought it from New York.

There was a great deal of talk about it before the ball, and Mr. Pruden, who was a severe man with his family, had forbidden Caroline to dance it. She had been trying it, and had shown her stepmother how it was danced, and at the ball she begged to be allowed to dance it, and her stepmother said she saw no harm in it. Mr. Pruden came to the door of the ballroom while the polka was being danced, and when he saw Caroline dancing it, he stood there scowling and waiting. The moment the dance was ended he held up his finger to her and said, ‘Miss Disobedience, come here!’ And he made her put on her wraps and made his wife come, too, and drove home with them. Poor Caroline! Her father was harsh and unreasonable at times, and grew worse as he grew older. As for me, for all that I thought myself a grown-up young lady, I had to go to school two years more after that ball at Fort Garry.”

⁶⁵ William Joseph Healy. *Women of Red River; being a book written from the recollections of women surviving from the Red River era.* Winnipeg: Russell Lang and Co. Ltd. 1923.: 26-27.

Caroline Pruden's husband Thomas Sinclair Sr. (1809-1870) was born circa 1809, the Metis son of Chief Factor William Sinclair (a Scot) and his Cree wife Margaret Nahovway. Thomas first married Hannah Cummings the daughter of North West Company clerk Cuthbert Cummings and Susette McKee (Métisse) on February 9, 1832 at St. John's. Hannah died October 23, 1846. He then married Caroline Pruden on April 3, 1850 at St. John's. He had seven children with Hannah and six more children with Caroline Pruden. Thomas was a Magistrate and councillor of Assiniboia. He was a boat brigade captain who worked as an independent freighter and trader out of St. Andrews and he also operated a windmill near the rapids on the Red River in St. Andrews parish. He died on March 23, 1870 after a long illness, and the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia made a motion of condolences to the family on March 26, 1870 and noted that his son, Thomas Sinclair Jr. (a son from his first marriage) was to continue with the offices held by his father.

Pruden, Caroline (1853-1924)

Caroline was the Metis daughter of John Pruden (Metis b. 1829) and Sarah Ross (Metis, 1853-1857) the daughter of George Ross and Catherine Berland. John was the son of Nancy Patasagawis (a Cree woman from Oxford House) and John Peter Pruden Sr. (1778-1868), an Englishman, who was chief trader at Carlton House.

Caroline's mother, Sarah Ross Pruden, died in August of 1867 at the age of 35, leaving John Peter with five children; Caroline (age 13), John Peter Jr. (age 11), George (9), Paul (5) and James (age 3). Around 1868 John (now 39) re-married to 18 year old Annie Rowland, the daughter of Suzette Slater and William Rowland on Mar 10, 1869. They had one boy, "Long Tom" Pruden.

Caroline married Thomas Truthwaite Jr. (b. July 27, 1847), the Metis son of Thomas Truthwaite (b. 1820) and Catherine McDermott the daughter of Andrew McDermott and Sarah McNab, on June 25, 1874 at St. Andrews. Caroline died on November 24, 1924 at age 70.

Scrip affidavit for Truthwaite, Caroline; born: Dec. 27, 1853; husband: Thomas Truthwaite Jr.; father: John Pruden (Métis); mother: Sarah Pruden (Métis); wish to partake in allotment and distribution of land set apart for Métis children

Pruden, Charlotte (McLeod). (1808-)

Charlotte was the second child of John Peter Pruden an English HBC Chief Factor. In 1828, she married Chief Trader John McLeod (a Scott) at Norway House. Their son Malcolm graduated from McGill Law School and was a district judge of Ottawa and Pontiac in 1874-76.

Pruden, James. (1820-1902)

James was the fifth son of John Peter Pruden an English HBC Chief Factor. He married Genevieve, a woman from the Peace River district. Their family left for the Oregon Territory in 1854 from Red River with James Sinclair's party. Later, they returned to Canada to homestead in the Edmonton area.

