

The Song of Pierre Falcon (1816)

Following the defeat of the Hudson's Bay Company at the Battle of Seven Oaks in 1816, the victorious Metis led by Cuthbert Grant unfurled the first flag of the Metis Nation. Metis poet Pierre Falcon composed an account of the battle which is considered a national anthem by some Metis.

The Song of Pierre Falcon (English translation):

*Oh people do you wish to listen
To a song that tells a true story?
How on June 19 a band of brave Metis
Advanced like brave warriors towards
the English?
When we met two of our men yelled
a warning:
"There are the English who want to
attack us."
We stopped immediately and like
honourable men
Sent a messenger saying:
"Englishmen stop for a moment we
want to talk to you!"
The English leader like a madman ordered
his soldiers to fire.
The first shot came from English pistols
— they missed the messenger
We shot the English captain first, then
killed nearly all his army.
Only four or five escaped.
Do you know who wrote this song?
It is Pierre Falcon the poet of the Red
River!*