

Martel, Alexandre (Standing Elk) . (b. 1854)

Alexandre was a Pembina/Turtle Mountain Michif buffalo hunter who later moved permanently to Montana and was the interpreter for Chief Rocky Boy.

Alexandre Martel was born on December 7, 1854, the son of Jean-Baptiste Martel (b.c. 1810) and Josephte Godon (b.c. 1820). Josephte Godon's grandfather Louison Godon was a voyageur with Alexandre Henry at Pembina. Louison Godon Sr. was one of the La Point Band Half-Breeds who signed the second Chippewa Treaty of Fond du Lac in 1847. Her grandmother was Louise, a Nakota (Assiniboine) from Pembina Hills.



Turtle Mountain Warriors, Alexandre Martel [Standing Elk] is in the middle row on left with Yellow Bird, Cuts Heart and Old Face [l to r]. (PAM – Indians c. 1895.)

Jean-Baptiste Martel and his family were enumerated in the Pembina Census of 1850 as Family # 40. He gives his occupation as Red River Hunter. Alexandre married Marie¹ Marcelline Latreille (b. 1859), the adopted daughter of Felix Latreille (La Tray) and

¹ Marie Latreille “Wasaneanquot” (Shining Cloud) was from White Earth, Minnesota, a Mississippi Band Chippewa. Adopted by the Latreille’s. Richard LaFromboise, conversation with Nicholas Vrooman (5/22/14)

Marguerite Jolibois on November 24, 1874 at St. Joseph's N.D. Marcelline's brother was Montana settler Jean Moise Latray² was born on 23 September 1846 in St Norbert, Manitoba, also the son of Felix Lalonde *dit* LaTrelle³ and Marguerite (Maggie) Jolibois.⁴ He died on 15 April 1938, aged 91, in Zortman, Montana and was buried in Lewiston, MT.

Alexandre's father, Jean Baptiste Martel was a member of Way ke ge ke zhick's Band and signed the Old Crossing Treaty of 1863-64.

Martil, J. B't. [1849 Petition]	P9.10
MARTELL, Baptiste (1810) [1850 U.S.]	P9.10
Martel, Baptiste [*1868]	P9.10d
Minnesota Territorial Census, Pembina County, 1850:40/40 born: Red River Br. occupation: hunter	
[1850: husband of: Martell, Josette (1838) born: Red River Br.	
[1850: father of: Martell, Mary (1838) born: Red River Br.	
Martell, Lanquette (1841) born: Red River Br.	
Martell, Angelic (1836) born: Red River Br.	
Martell, Baptiste (1846) +	
Martell, Clouin (1849) born: Red River Br.	
Pembina Annuity Roll, Way ke ge ke zhick's Band, 1868:225	
-	1 man, 1 woman, 3 children, \$ 15 paid
Martell, Baptiste Jr. (1846) [1850 U.S.]	P9.11
Martell, Battiste [*1868]	P9.11d
Minnesota Territorial Census, Pembina County, 1850:40/40 born: Red River Br.	
son of: Martell, Baptiste (1810) and Martell, Josette (1838)	
Pembina Annuity Roll, Way ke ge ke zhick's Band, 1868:229	
	1 man, 1 woman, 5 children \$ 21 paid

Alexandre and Marcelline's daughter Marie Josephine Martel was born at Turtle Mountain, North Dakota, on July 7, 1901. The family moved to Box Elder, Montana, in 1914. Josephine Martel married Daniel Lafromboise, born at Simpton Hill, Montana in 1893, at Big Sandy, Montana on April 20, 1920. Daniel who spoke French Cree was the son of François Laframboise (b. 1856 at St. François Xavier)⁵ and Suzanne Rocheblave

² Scrip affidavit for Latreille, Moise; born: September 1852; father: Felix Latreille (French Canadian); mother: Marguerite Jolibois.

³ Felix moved to St Joseph-Leroy, Dakota Territory around the end of the 1840s, when he helped build the SJ-L parish. He was also a postal carrier in the 1850s from Leroy, Dakota Territory to St Paul.

⁴ Marguerite Goulet dit Jolibois was the daughter of Jean-Baptiste Jolibois and Louise Versailles. She is believed to be the sister of Jean Baptiste Jolibois Jr. who married Marguerite Robillard.

⁵ He was the son of François Laframboise born 1827 and Marie Catherine Trottier born 1831. Catherine was the daughter of André Trottier (b. 1784) and Marie Marguerite Pacquette dite St. Denis b. (1798) and

(b. 1862) at Fort Ellice. Suzanne was the daughter of Antoine “Opocumee” (Pretty Horse Mane) Rocheblave born 1814 and Nancy Pelletier born 1815.

Daniel Lafromboise’ great-grandfather, Jean-Baptiste Lafromboise (b. 1806)⁶ 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.

Alexandre’s sister, Angélique Martel married Joseph Azure the son of Antoine Azure and Charlotte Pelletier. His sister Leocadie Martel married Moise Azure another son of Antoine Azure.

The Azure family also signed the Old Crossing Treaty and were members of Way ke ge ke zhick’s Band.⁷

Azure, Antoine [1805 N.W.C.]
AZURE, Antoine (1794) [1850 U.S.]
North West Company Payroll, 1805, Lac la Pluie, summer mid-man, one year to serve, \$15.90 in debt
Minnesota Territorial Census, Pembina County, 1850:102/102 born: Red River Br.
occupation: hunter
[1850: husband of: Azure, Charlotte (1792) +
[1850: father of: Azure, Moyese (1836) born: Red River Br.
Azure, Mary Ann (1837) born: Red River Br.

Azure, Charlotte [Pelletier] (1792) [1850 U.S.] P69.3
Azure, Madam [*1868] P69.3d
Minnesota Territorial Census, Pembina County, 1850:102/102 born: Red River Br.
wife of: Azure, Antoine (1794)
Pembina Annuity Roll, Way ke ge ke zhick’s Band, 1868:147
* 1 woman, 11 children \$ 36 paid

Azure, Antoine [1805 N.W.C.]
AZURE, Antoine (1794) [1850 U.S.]
North West Company Payroll, 1805, Lac la Pluie, summer mid-man, one year to

Suzanne Rocheblave b. 1862 at Ft. Ellice, the daughter of Antoine “Opocumee” (Pretty Horse Mane) Rocheblave born 1814 and Nancy Pelletier born 1815.

⁶ Jean-Baptiste Lafromboise was born in 1806, the son of Joseph Laframboise and Josephte (Assiniboine). Joseph was born at Mackinac in 1776. Jean Baptiste was first married to Suzanne Beaudry, the daughter of Joseph Beaudry and Suzanne Latour, in 1827. He then married Angélique Parenteau, the daughter of Joseph Parenteau and Suzanne “Cris” Richard before 1860.

⁷ Antoine Azure was the son of Joseph Azure and Lizette Ma-na-e-cha (Chippewa). The family is shown as #102, on the 1850 Pembina Census. Antoine is shown as age 56, his wife Charlotte (Pelletier) is 58, children Moyese (14) and Mary Ann (13). Antoine married Charlotte Pelletier, the daughter of Antoine Pelletier and Marguerite Saulteuse circa 1818. His niece, Amable Azure (daughter of his brother Pierre and sister-in-law Marguerite Assiniboine) was married to hunt leader Jean-Baptiste Wilkie.

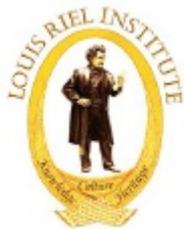
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occupation: hunter
[1850: husband of: Azure, Charlotte (1792) +
[1850: father of: Azure, Moyese (1836) born: Red River Br.
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Azure, Charlotte (1792) [1850 U.S.] P69.3
Azure, Madam [*1868] P69.3d
Minnesota Territorial Census, Pembina County, 1850:102/102 born: Red River Br.
wife of: Azure, Antoine (1794)
Pembina Annuity Roll, Way ke ge ke zhick's Band, 1868:147
* 1 woman, 11 children \$ 36 paid

Alexandre Martel's daughter, Josephine Lafromboise worked as a Michif culture preservationist in Montana and her memoirs are on file with the Montana Historical Society:

Josephine Lafromboise interview. Métis Cultural Recovery Oral History Project (OH 1915). Montana Historical Society Archives. Audio tape(s). 25-page transcript. Josephine Lafromboise was born in Turtle Mountain, North Dakota, in 1901, the daughter of Alexander "Standing Elk" Martell and Mary Marceline LaTreille. The family moved to Box Elder, Montana, in 1914. She talks about her father's storytelling; Red River carts; local Métis families; Turtle Mountain land settlement payments; Eddie Barbeau; and Bigfoot stories.

Josephine Lafromboise interview, 1994 June 08. Métis Cultural Recovery Oral History Project (OH 1654). Montana Historical Society Archives. 25-page transcript. Topics include coming to Box Elder in 1914; Turtle Island Indian lands; her father's work as interpreter for Chief Rocky Boy; Red River carts; the demise of the buffalo; Box Elder families Collings, St. Germaine, and Wiseman; her thirteen children; Moccasin Flats and its growth since 1935; the 1930s Depression; butchering elk and deer; and her work in the Beanery.



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