

Courtepatte dit Le Poteau, Jean-Baptiste. (1829-1918)

The son of a Voyageur, Jean-Baptiste was born at Jasper House in 1829 to Jean-Baptiste Courtepatte and Jane Brière (Bruyer) both Métis. After his marriage at Lac Ste. Anne to Josephte Bellecourt, the daughter of Joseph Bellecourt and Catherine L'Hyronnelle (Métis), Jean-Baptiste and his bride settled in the Big Lake area, River Lot 3, prior to the establishment of the Mission, to raise their family of nine. His reliability in the employ of the HBC earned him the nickname "Le Poteau" – steady as a post. Josephte, a midwife as well an expert in herbal medicines, delivered many babies in the community and treated the illnesses of many others. Joseph passed away on November 7, 1918 at Onoway.

Jean Baptiste signed the Métis Petition from the residents of Edmonton (1880) to have the federal government confirm their land claims:

We your petitioners, do humbly pray that you will cause a commission to be issued at an early date to enquire into and confirm the said claims, not only with regard to scrip and allotments of land as provided for in Manitoba, but moreover to confirm the titles to land occupied by or purchased by parties from occupants of claims taken previously to the transfer of the Territories to the Dominion of Canada.

They also requested that the railway lands grants and regulations of 1879 "be so modified as to admit our scrip at its face value in the purchase of lands within the railway reserve."

Family Métis scrip claims:

Courtepatte, Baptiste - Concerning his claim as a head of family - Address, St. Albert - Born, 1829 at Jasper House - Father, Courtepatte, (Métis) - Mother, Jane Briere, (Métis) - Married, December 28, 1850 at Lac Ste. Anne to Josephte Bellecourt - Children living, five (names on declaration) - Children deceased, four - Scrip for \$160 - Claim 806.

Courtepatte, Josephte - Concerning her claim as a head of family - Address, St. Albert - Born, October 5, 1833 at Lesser Slave Lake - Father, Joseph Bellecourt, deceased, (Canadian) - Mother, Catherine L'Hyronnelle, (Métis) - Married, January, 1850 at Lac Ste. Anne to Baptiste Courtepatte - Children living, five (names on declaration) - Children deceased, four - Scrip for \$160 - Claim 641.

Courtepatte, Baptiste; heir to his deceased son, Baptiste Courtepatte; claim no. 1374; born: 1877 at St. Albert; deceased: day of birth; father: Baptiste Courtepatte (Métis and deponent); mother: Josephte Bellecourt (Métis); address: St. Pierre near St. Albert; scrip cert.: form F, no. 1854.

Courtepatte, Nancy; address: St. Albert; claim no. 2519; born: 1874 at St. Albert; father: Baptiste Courtepatte (Métis); mother: Josephte Bellecourt (Métis); scrip cert.: form E, no. 1736.

Courtepatte, Albert and Olive Courtepatte - Baptiste Courtepatte, concerning the claims of his deceased children Albert and Olive Courtepatte, Métis children - Address, St. Albert - Born, Albert, 1854 at Lac Ste. Anne, Olive, July 30, 1867 at Edmonton - Father, Baptiste Courtepatte, (Métis), deponent - Mother, Josephte Bellecourt, (Métis) - Died, Albert, autumn, 1870 and Olive, October 10, 1882 - Heir, their father, Baptiste Courtepatte - Scrip for \$480 - Claim 813.

Courtepatte, Marguerite - Concerning her claim as a child - Address, St. Albert - Born, August 12, 1864 at Edmonton - Father, Baptiste Courtepatte, (Métis) - Mother, Josephte Bellecourt, (Métis) - Scrip for 240 acres of land - Claim 574.

Courtepatte, Joachim - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, St. Albert - Born, June 1, 1861 at Edmonton - Father, Baptiste Courtepatte, (Métis) - Mother, Josephte Bellecourt, (Métis) - Scrip for 240 acres of land - Claim 717.

Courtepatte, Diendonnie - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, St. Albert - Born, May 9, 1855 at Lac Ste. Anne - Father, Baptiste Courtepatte, (Métis) - Mother, Josephte Bellecourt, (Métis) - Scrip for 240 acres of land - Claim 542.

Courtepatte, Baptiste; for his deceased granddaughter, Clothilde Marie Courtepatte; claim no. 2748; born: 1877 at St. Albert; died: 1881 at St. Albert; address: St. Pierre near St. Albert; father: Gabriel Courtepatte (Métis); mother: Nancy Hamelin (Métis); scrip cert.: form F, no. 1994 to Alexander McDonald; sole heir.

Courtepatte, Gabriel - Nancy Macdonald (née Hamelin) concerning the claim of her deceased husband Gabriel Courtepatte, a Métis child - Address, St. Albert - Born, 1856 at Lac Ste. Anne - Father, Baptiste Courtepatte, (Métis) - Mother, Josephte Bellecourt, (Métis) - Married, January, 1877 at St. Albert to Nancy Hamelin - Died, July 30, 1878 - Children deceased, one, Clothilde, born December 16, 1877, died 1881 - Heir, his wife, Nancy Macdonald - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 812.



LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage

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