

## **Simon Blondeau (Blondin) Sr. (b. 1827)**

Simon Blondeau was a Métis leader in the Qu'Appelle River Valley. On September 2, 1880 the Métis of the Qu'Appelle Settlement petitioned Governor Alexander Morris for land, hunting rights and trading rights. The leaders of this group were Pierre Bonneau Sr. (b. 1803), Peter Lapierre (b. 1827) and Simon Blondeau [Blondin] (b. 1827) and Augustin Brabant Sr. (b. 1828).

Simon Blondeau was born on the Pembina River, the son of Louis Blondeau and Marie Louise Laframboise dit Franche. Louis Blondeau worked as an interpreter for the North West Company at Fort des Prairies in 1804 and at Cumberland House in 1815-16. Louis Blondeau was present during the aftermath of the Battle of Seven Oaks.

Simon Blondeau married Francoise Desjarlais, the daughter of Antoine Desjarlais and Marie Catherine Allery, in 1850 at St. Boniface. Their son John was married to the Augustin Brabant's daughter Caroline. Simon worked for his father-in-law Antoine Desjarlais at Fort Desjarlais in the Souris River Valley in the 1850s. His nephew Louis Blondeau Jr. was one of the men who manned the barricades on the La Salle River to prevent the entry of Canadian government officials in October of 1869. Simon Blondeau was present at the Battle of the Grand Coteau in 1851. 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.

Simon and Liza Blondeau moved to the Qu'Appelle Valley from White Horse Plain in the 1860s. They homesteaded on the south side of Mission Lake where the Catholic Seminary was later located. For many years the family worked for Archie McDonald, then Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company at Qu'Appelle. They had ten children: John (b. 1851), Simon (b. 1852), Louis (b. 1853), Zacharie (b. 1856), Napoleon (b. 1859), Ambroise (b. 1867), Peter (b. 1867), Joseph (b. 1871), Melanie (b. 1864) and Francoise Caroline (b. 1861).

Blondeau, Simon - Concerning his claim as a head of family - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Pembina River, spring of 1827 - Father, Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Laframboise, (Métis) - Married, spring of 1850 to Francoise Desjarlais at St. Boniface, Manitoba - Children living, ten (names on declaration) - Children deceased, one - Scrip for \$160 - Claims 2 and 148

Blondeau, Francoise (b. 1864) - Concerning her claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, North West Territories, 1864 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Françoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Married, January 5, 1885 at Fort Qu'Appelle to Chrysostome Robillard - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 15

## **John Blondeau. (b. 1851)**

John married Caroline Brabant the daughter of Augustin Brabant and Julie Philippe on November 26, 1873 at Lebret. He subsequently married Elise "Liza" Malaterre Glaeaux

(a widow), the daughter of Alexis Malaterre and Marguerite Ward on July 30, 1882 at Lebret. Liza had two children from her first marriage, Cleo and Janvier Gladeaux. John and Caroline had five children; John and Liza had three children. In 1871, John helped Father Decorby erect the first church in Lebret.



Blondeau, John; for his children: Samson, born: 1883; Jean Baptiste, born: 1885; address: Qu'Appelle; father: John Blondeau (Métis and deponent); mother: Alaiza Malaterre (Métis); scrip cert.: form C, no. 330, Samson Blondeau; scrip cert.: form C, no. 332, Jean Baptiste Blondeau; claim no. 595.

Blondeau, John; for his four deceased children: John, born: 1874 at Moosejaw, died: 8 August, 1874; Joseph, born: 1879 at Qu'Appelle, died: 13 July, 1879; Marie Thérèse, born: 1878 at Qu'Appelle, died: 15 June, 1889; Philomène, born: 1876 at Moosejaw, died on the day of her birth; address: Qu'Appelle; father: John Blondeau (Métis and deponent); mother: Caroline Brabant (Métis); claim no. 521.

Amyotte, Josephine; address: Le Bret; claim no. 580; born: 8 April, 1877 at Qu'Appelle; father: John Blondeau (Métis); mother: Caroline Brabant (Métis); Land Scrip: scrip cert.: form E, no. 430; see John Blondeau's application for deceased children.

**Simon Blondeau (Blondin) Jr.** (b. 1853)

Simon Jr. was born on the Assiniboine River near the Beaver River, the son of Simon Blondeau and Francoise Desjarlais. He married Julienne Hamelin, the daughter of Gaspard Hamelin and Louise Landry on February 9, 1874 at Duck Lake, he then married Clemence Gosselin, the daughter of Joseph Gosselin and Marie Vallee in September 1884 at Lebret.

Blondeau Jr., Simon - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle P.O. [Post Office] - Born, on Assiniboine River near Beaver River in 1853 - Father, Simon Blondeau Sr., (Métis) - Mother, Francoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Married, 1873 to Julie Hamelin, 1884 to Clémence Gosselin - Children living, two - Children deceased, two - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 1499

**Louison Blondeau (Blondin).** (b. 1855)

Louis was born on May 18, 1853 at Fort Ellice, the son of Simon Blondeau and Francoise Desjarlais. He married Marie Antoinette Robillard, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Robillard and Isabelle Comtois.

Blondeau, Louison - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Fort Ellice, spring of 1855 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Françoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Married, August, 1878 at Fort Qu'Appelle to Marie Robillard - Children living, two, Philomene born December, 1881, Alfred born September, 1883 - Children deceased, one, Adeline born 1879, died 1881 - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 171

**Zacharie Blondeau (Blondin).** (b. 1858)

Zacharie was born at Fort Qu'Appelle on December 19, 1856, the son of Simon Blondeau and Francoise Desjarlais. He married Florence Desmarais, the daughter of Michel Desmarais and Josephte Rochon in 1877 at Lebret.

Blondeau, Zacharie - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Fort Qu'Appelle, January 25, 1858 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Francoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Married, Florence Desmarais - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 3

**Napoleon, Blondeau (Blondin).** (b. 1862)

Blondeau, Napoleon - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Moose Mountain, February 25, 1862 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Francoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 1500

**Melanie Blondeau.** (b. 1866)

Sherry Farrell Racette, writing in the *Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan*, says: "Melanie Blondeau was a Métis woman who played a prominent role in the preservation and evolution of traditional Indigenous arts. She was born on April 9, 1866, on the Little Saskatchewan. The last of the plains buffalo hunters, the Blondeaus settled near the Qu'Appelle mission on Lake Katepwa. Following her father's death, Melanie supported

her elderly mother and aunt with her skills in beadwork, quillwork and embroidery. In 1913 she came to the attention of the Canadian Handicraft Guild. Melanie's excellent work and personal qualities resulted in the guild's urging the Department of Indian Affairs to hire her at the local Indian Residential School; as a result, the Qu'Appelle school was the only residential school in Canada to employ a full-time craft instructor. She was employed from 1914 to 1931, working for \$20 a month and never earning more than \$240 annually."

Blondeau, Melanie - Concerning her claim as a child - Address - Born, Saskatchewan, April 9, 1866 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Francoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 158

**St. Pierre Blondeau (Blondin).** (b. 1867)

Blondeau, St. Pierre - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Fort Qu'Appelle, February 23, 1867 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Francoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 4

**Ambroise Blondeau (Blondin).** (b. 1867)

Ambroise was born on February 25, 1867 at Fort Qu'Appelle. He married Rose Larose Pelletier (b. 1875, Swift Current) the daughter of Joseph Pelletier and Marguerite Primeau.

Blondeau, Ambroise - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Fort Qu'Appelle, February 25, 1867 - Father, Simon Blondeau, (Métis) - Mother, Francoise Desjarlais, (Métis) - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 5



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