

Biographies of Petitioners at Fort Qu'Appelle: Metis Petition of 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.

Dewdney forwarded the petition to Sir. John A. Macdonald and the Minister of the Interior and when no reply was forthcoming he wrote again on March 19, 1883 expressing urgency.

John Hall, Acting Secretary of the Department of the Interior replied to Dewdney on July 6, 1883 saying the matter had been referred to Commissioner James Walsh for investigation. When no action was taken, lawyer T.W. Jackson wrote on December 8, 1883 on behalf of the Metis. On March 13, 1884, Hall wrote to Jackson — again stating that Walsh had been ordered to investigate, but due to the pressures of other business had not yet visited the Metis. Nothing more was heard.

Within a year, most of the Metis had moved.

This August 29, 1882 Petition from John Simpson and other Metis from Fort Qu'Appelle concerns Metis land claims which subsequently the government ignored:

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| John Simpson | Pollyon Blondeau |
| Antoine Larocque | Joe Gosselin |
| Simon Blondeau | Francoise St. Denis |
| Louis Flammand | Gustave (Augustine) Flammand |
| Pierre Poitras | Joseph Desmarais |
| Baptiste Robillard | Baptiste Desjarlais |
| Matthias Desjarlais | Leon Neault |
| Xavier Perrault | Baptiste Dauphinaise |
| Antoine Hamelin | Antoine Fayant |
| Kenneth McKenzie | Jean Blondeau |
| Pierre St. Denis | Antoine Larocque |
| Napoleon Hamelin | Antoine Fayant Jr. |
| Louison Blondeau | Simon Blondeau Jr. |
| Louison Blondeau | William Fayant |
| Zacherie Blondeau | Isadore Plante |
| Baptiste Roy | John A. Cline |
| Francoise Perreault | Chrysostome Robillard |
| Joseph Marion | Norman Welsh |
| Augustine Brabant | Andre Flammand |
| Camille Perreault | Alphonse Martin |
| Edouard Brabant | Maxime Flammand |
| Baptiste Perreault | |

Alexander Brabant

44 signatures

Blondeau, Simon (b. 1827)

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. He 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 1869.¹

Blondeau, Simon Jr. (b. 1852) 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 Josdeph Gosselin and Marie Vallee in September 1884 at Lebret.

Blondeau, Jean (b. 1851) Jean was born in October 1851, the son of Simon Blondeau and Francoise Desjarlais. Jean was first married to Caroline Brabant, the daughter of Augustin Brabant and Julie Philippe. He then married Elise Malaterre, the daughter of Alexis Malaterre and Marguerite Ward in 1882 at Lebret.

Blondeau, Louison (b. 1853) 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, Aug., 1878 at Fort Qu'Appelle to Marie Robillard - Children living, two, Philomene born Dec., 1881, Alfred born Sept., 1883 - Children deceased, one, Adeline born 1879, died 1881 - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 171

Blondeau, Pollyon (Napoleon) (b. 1862) Napoleon (born 1862 at Moose Mountain) was the son of Simon Blondeau and Francoise Desjarlais.

Blondeau, Zacharie (b.1856) 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.

¹ Blondeau, Louis. (1846-1877)

Louis Blondeau was the son of Louis Blondeau Sr. and Josèphte Desfonds. He was married to Philomène Martel the daughter of Joseph Martel and Marie Richot.

Brabant, Augustin (b. 1828) Augustin was born at St. Boniface, the son of Augustin Brabant Sr. and Marguerite Genevieve L'Hirondelle. He married Julie Philippe the daughter of Jacques Philippe and Marguerite Jolicoeur before 1851. He died on June 29, 1907 at Lestock, Saskatchewan. Their daughter, Elizabeth was married to John Fisher. In June of 1868 Isaac Cowie met free-traders Augustin Brabant and St. Pierre Poitras along the Grande Coteau de Missouri going to trade with the Qu'Appelle Valley Saulteaux and Cree hunting parties. The two Metis had ten or twelve carts each.

Brabant, Alexandre (b. 1870) Alexandre was born on February 1, 1870 at Fort Qu'Appelle, the son of Augustin Brabant and Julie Philippe.

Brabant, Edouard (b. 1865) Edouard was also the son of Augustin Brabant and Julie Philippe. He married Ernestine Charette, the daughter of Joseph Charette and Rosalie Collin.

Dauphinais dit Genthon dit Laboucane, Baptiste. (b. 1828) Baptiste was born in November 1828, the son of Michel Genthon dit Dauphinais and victoire Ouellette (Family # 107 in the 1850 Pembina Census). He was a buffalo hunter. He married Marguerite Collin at Pembina, she was the daughter of Jean Baptiste collin and Elizabeth Henry.

Desmarais, Joseph (b. 1837) Joseph "Tcheer Kuhk" was the son of Michel Desmarais and Josephte Rochon. He married Adelaide Gesson dit Jannot.

Desjarlais, Baptiste (b. 1855) Jean Baptiste was the son of Michel Desmarais and Josephte Rochon. He married Eliza Fisher, the daughter of John Fisher and Elizabeth Brabant in 1875 at Lebret.

Desjarlais, Mathias (b. 1847) Mathias was the son of Jean Baptiste Desjarlais and Marie Martin. He married Melanie Pelletier, the daughter of Joseph Pelletier and Louise St. Denis in 1882 at Lebret.

Fayant, Antoine (b. 1825) Antoine was the son of Antoine Fagnant Sr. And Josephte Pelletier. He was first married to Brigitte Desjarlais, daughter of Jean Baptiste Desjarlais and Charlotte Cardinal, then to Marie Ledoux, daughter of Eusebe Ledoux and Suzanne Bonneau, then to Julie St. Denis, the daughter of Francois St. Denis and Therese Martin. In 1883 at Lebret.

Fayant, William "Kee-tar-kiss." (b. 1852) William Fagnant was born on November 8, 1852 the son of Francois Fagnant Sr. and Madeleine Lemire. He married Betsy Parisien, daughter of Joseph Parisien and Marguerite Lavallee at Lebret in 1872.

Flammand, Andre (b. 1857) Andre Flammand was born on February 12, 1857 at Baie St. Paul, the son of Louis Flammand and Josephte Bellehumeur.

Flammand, Louis (b. 1829) Louis Flammand was born in 1829, the son of Joseph Flammand and Marguerite Moreau. Louis married Josephthe Bellehumeur, the daughter of Andre Bellehumeur and Marguerite Maron in 1853 at St. Francois Xavier. Scrip affidavit for Flammand, Louis; born: 1840; father: Joseph Flammand (Métis); mother: Nanette Bousquet (Métis); claim no.: 673; scrip no.: 5225; date of issue: June 22, 1876; amount: \$160

Flammand, Gustave (Augustin)

Flammand, Maxime (b. 1862) Maxime was born on May 30, 1862 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Louis Flammand and Josephthe Bellehumeur.

Gosselin, Joseph (b. 1834) Joseph was the son of Michel Gosselin dit Commis and Josette Deschamps. He married Marie Vallee, the daughter of Louis Vellee and Louise Martel in 1856 at Pembina.

Gosselin Jr., Joseph - Concerning his claim as a child - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, Feb. 23, 1865 at Pembina Mountain - Father, Joseph Gosselin, (Métis), deceased - Mother, Marie Vallee, (Métis) - Scrip for \$240 - Claim 153

Hamelin, Antoine (b. 1842) Antoine Hamelin was born on August 7, 1842, the son of Solomon Hamelin and Isabelle Vandal. He married Philomene Perrault, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Perrault and Marie Charon dit Ducharme in 1862 at St. Boniface. His sister Isabelle was married to Leon Nault who also signed this petition.

Hamelin, Napoleon (b. 1856) Napoleon was born on May 15, 1856, the son of Joseph Hamelin and Josephthe Sayer. He married Marie Hamelin, the daughter of Antoine Hamelin and Philomene Perreault, he then married Virginie Fisher, the daughter of George Fisher and Emelie Boyer in 1895 at LeBret.

Klyne, John A. (b. 1864) John was born on March 23, 1864 at St. Joseph N.D. son of, Michel Klyne, (Métis) and Helene Davis, (Métis). He married Rosalie Morin.

Larocque, Antoine Larocque, Antoine - Concerning his fractional 1/4 section - Father, Antoine Larocque, (Métis) - Mother, Francois Laliberte, (Métis) - 1878, entered possession of SW 1/4 1-21-13 W2, land which fronts on lake at Fort Qu'Appelle - 1881, survey left only E 1/2 of said SW 1/4, cutting off buildings from the lake - Claims \$80.00 as the difference - Scrip for \$80.00 - Claim 1554 Scrip affidavit for Larocque, Antoine; born: August 19, 1845; father: Baptiste Larocque (Métis); mother: Louise Dease (Métis); claim no: 804; scrip no: 6353 to 6360; date of issue: July 12, 1876; amount: \$160 Larocque, Jean Baptiste; address: LeBret; claim no. 276; born: 18 November, 1879 at LeBret; father: Antoine Larocque (Métis); mother: Rosalie Laplante (Métis); scrip cert.: form C, no. 90

Marion, Joseph (b. 1848) Joseph was born on August 16, 1848 at St. Boniface, the son of Narcisse Marion and Marie Bouchard. He married Annie McDermott, the daughter of Thomas McDermott and Elisabeth Collin in 1870.

Martin, Alphonse (b. 1838) Alphonse was born on September 29, 1838, the son of Abraham Martin dit Barnabe and Euphrosine Gariepy, the daughter of Louis Gariepy and Josephite (Saulteaux). He married Isabelle Racette, the daughter of George Racette and Francoise Guilbeault in 1861 at SFX. They had nine children, the last three were born at Qu'Appelle. Their son Gilbert (b. 1862) married Clemence Simpson the daughter of John Simpson who also signed this petition. Scrip affidavit for Martin, Alphonse; born: Fall, 1838; father: Abraham Martin (French Canadian); mother: Euphrasine Gariepy (Métis); claim no: 2926; scrip no: 12442; date of issue: May 9, 1879; amount: \$160 Scrip affidavit for Martin, Isabella; born: May 30, 1834; wife of Alphonse Martin; father: George Racette (Métis); mother: Francoise Gilbeau (Métis); claim no: 2927; scrip no: 12443; date of issue: May 9, 1879; amount: \$160

McKenzie, Kenneth. (b. 1841) Kenneth McKenzie was the son of John McKenzie and Josephite Margaret (Saulteaux). He married Elise Sayer, the daughter of Edouard Sayer and Madeleine Delorme, on September 4, 1865 at SFX. Their children were: George born 1869 at SFX, Elizabeth born 1870, Elzear born 1871 at Fort Qu'Appelle and Joseph born 1873 at Wood Mountain.

Neault (Nault), 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.

Perreault dit Morin, Baptiste. (b. 1825) Baptiste Perreault was born on July 21, 1825 at St. Boniface, the son of Jean Baptiste Perreault Sr. And Marie Charon dit Ducharme. He married Catherine Grouette, the daughter of Antoine Grouette and Madeleine Nolin. They had twelve children.

Perreault, Camille.

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.

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.

Plante, Isidore

Postras, Pierre Jr. (b. 1836) Pierre Postras 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.² This petition was addressed to the Marquis of Lorne, "This humble 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." A Pierre Poitras also signed as witness to Treaty Four, Fort Qu'Appelle in 1874.



Signing Treaty Four. Pierre Poitras centre seated.

² 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.

Ray, Baptiste (b. 1857) Scrip affidavit for Roy, Jean Baptiste; born: June 8, 1857; father: Joseph Roy (French Canadian); mother: Henriette Cayen

Robillard, Baptiste (b. 1820) Jean Baptiste Robillard was the son of Jean Baptiste Robillard Sr. and Rose Antoinette Lagimodiere. He married Catherine Ducharme, their daughter Catherine was married to John Simpson noted below. He then was married to Isabelle Comtois.

Robillard, Chrysostome (b. 1862) Chrys was born on January 18, 1862 at St. Boniface, the son of Jean Baptiste Robillard and Isabelle Comtois. He married Francoise Caroline Blondeau, daughter of Simon Blondeau and Francoise Desjarlais in 1885 at Lebret.

Simpson, John Simpson, John - Concerning his claim as a head of family - Address, Fort Qu'Appelle - Born, 1833 at Winnipeg - Father, Thomas Simpson, (Scot) - Mother, Jane Sutherland, (Métis) - Married, 1855 at Cumberland to Catherine Robillard - Children living, seven (names on declaration) - Children deceased, four - Claim 47

St. Denis, Francois (b. 1787) Francois was the son of Francois St. Denis Sr. and Lizette Cree. He was married to Sophia Lyons and died in 1883 at Lebret.

St. Denis, Pierre (b. 1832) Pierre was born on May 8, 1832, the son of Francois St. Denis and Sophia Lyons. He married Adelaide Genthon dit Dauphinais, the daughter of Maximilian Genthon and Marie Louise Jerome.

Welsh, Norman



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