

Marguerite Grenon (Gourneau). (1803-1871)

Marguerite was the daughter of Joseph Grenon (b. 1765) and Nowananikkwee (b. 1774). She married Alexis Bonami Lespérance¹ on June 06, 1825 in St Boniface Parish Church, in the Red River Settlement (Manitoba); they were first married according to the custom of the Country before 1821 (without the benefit of clergy).

Their daughter Caroline² was married to Jean Baptiste Boucher. He was a member of Riel's Exovedate at Batoche in 1884-85. Caroline accompanied her husband, Charles Nolin, Maxime Lepine, Gabriel Dumont, Baptiste Boyer and Louis Riel to the first meeting with the English Metis at the Lindsay School House. Her husband was wounded at the Battle of Batoche. Their daughter Marie Marguerite married Maxime Lepine Jr. Caroline died at St. Louis on May 11, 1910.

Their daughter Marguerite Lespérance was born on March 02, 1826 in St Boniface Parish District, Red River Settlement and died on February 04, 1905 in St. Louis, Saskatchewan. She married Alfred "Rabasca" Schmidt (b: 1825 in Slave Lake District, in the North West Territories and d: April 07, 1901 in Battleford District) in 1847 in St. Boniface Parish Church, in the Red River Settlement.

Marguerite's son was Louis Laferté dit Schmidt who was born on December 04, 1844 in the Old Fort, near Fort Chipewyan, on Lake Athabasca in the North West Territories (d: November 06, 1935 in St. Louis, Saskatchewan). Thus, their grandson Louis Schmidt *dit* Laferté became secretary of Riel's Provisional Government in Red River.

Their daughter Adelaide was married to Michel Dumas II and son Andre Lespérance (b. 1835) was married to Pierre Falcon's grand-daughter Balsamie Falcon. Daughter Rosalie Lespérance (b. 1838) married Duncan McDougall and their son Alexandre was involved in the 1885 Resistance.

Their daughter Adelaide (b. 1830) married Michel Dumas II, the son of Michel Dumas and Joseph Sancheau Contree. Their oldest son Michel Dumas III was one of the three men sent to Montana in 1884 to bring Louis Riel to Batoche. Thus, Marguerite

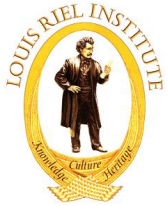
¹ Alexis was born on November 20, 1797, the son of Pierre Lesperance and Marguerite Aucoin. He was a La Loche Boat Brigade leader and prominent guide and boat pilot on the Mackenzie between the 1820s and 1840s. On June 6, 1825, at St. Boniface, he married Marguerite Grenon (b. 1803), they had thirteen children. Marguerite was the daughter of Joseph Grenon and a Saulteaux woman. Alexis supported Riel in the 1869-1870 Resistance at Red River. He eventually retired to St. François Xavier and supported Riel in the 1885 Resistance at Batoche although he was too old to participate actively.

² Caroline Lespérance, (Boucher) (1842-1910). Spouse, Jean Baptiste Boucher Sr. (1838-1911).

Caroline was the daughter of Alexis Bonami Lespérance and Marguerite Grenon. Her father was a leader of the HBC La Loche boat brigades and was a strong Riel supporter in the 1869-70 Resistance. Although not active in 1885, Alexis was a Riel supporter. Alexis died at St. François Xavier on December 11, 1890, age 94. Caroline Lesperance was the aunt of Louis Schmidt, a boyhood friend of Riel, who sent numerous petitions of Metis grievances to Ottawa from St. Louis in 1883-84, and first suggested that the Metis send for Riel in Montana.

Grenon had four grandchildren who were heavily involved in the Metis Resistance of 1885. Her great-grandson Médéric McDougall was a founder of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan and received the Order of Canada in 1986.

Their granddaughters, Emma and Caroline, entered the Order of the Grey Nuns.



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