

## **Fagnant, Cuthbert or Corbette. (1828-1893)**

Cuthbert was born at Red River, the son of François Fagnant (b. 1790) and Charlotte Falardeau. In September of 1854, he married Isabelle McGillis at St. François Xavier. Isabelle was the daughter of Alexandre McGillis and Marguerite Bottineau. A buffalo hunter, he lived at St. François Xavier, Brandon, Wood Mountain, and Batoche.

Cuthbert was a freighter who came to the area in 1872, and had resided on lots 34 and 35 at Batoche since 1873. He was active in the 1885 Resistance, as were his sons Charles, John, and Cuthbert Jr. On May 7, 1885 the Provisional Council made the following order to Cuthbert:

Sir,—Your instructions are that you must take great care of the horses, and that the best horses be carefully spared, and that the mares with colt are not to be used at all; and that the young people are not to be free to do what they please with the horses. You are the master. And that no horse be given without order from the council, or the inspector of the guard, but when the alarm is given then an order is not necessary.<sup>1</sup>

Cuthbert fought alongside Edouard and Gabriel Dumont at the last stand at Batoche near the house of Ambroise Champagne. He died on April 18, 1893 at Batoche. He is buried at St. Antoine de Padoue Cemetery, Batoche. His older sister was Madeleine (Gervais), born in November 1823 at Ste. Agathe. Madeleine was married to Alexis Gervais in 1839 at St. François Xavier. Her husband and brother were active in the Resistance and six of her daughters were married to Resistance activists.

Charlotte (b. 1840) was married to Norbert Delorme;  
Isabelle (b. 1842) was married to William Ross;  
Josephte (b. 1851) was married to Calixte Tourond;  
Elise (b. 1856) was married to Toussaint Laplante;  
Catherine (b. 1864) was married to Pierre Tourond;  
Marie (b. 1866) was married to Patrice Tourond.

Children of Cuthbert and Isabelle who were involved in the Resistance:

Fagnant, Adele (Gariépy). (b. 1855)

Adele was born on February 3, 1855. She married Daniel Gariépy, the son of Pierre Gariépy and Marie Rose Grant on February 8, 1876 at Carlton. They lived at Lot 37 in the St. Laurent Settlement. Daniel was a Captain of one of the 19 companies led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. Cloutier's journal notes that Daniel was one of the fighters at Duck Lake (Vol. 1, p. 77). He was wounded in the wrist and the chest by a single bullet during the third day of fighting at Batoche.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Canada Sessional Papers, "Minutes of the Provisional Government, April 1885." 1886, Vol. 13, (No. 43), pg. 41-49.

<sup>2</sup> Gabriel Dumont, *Gabriel Dumont Memoirs*, Edited by Denis Combet, translated by Lise Gaboury-Diallo. Winnipeg: Les Editions du Blé, 2006, pg. 92.

Their son Daniel Jr. lived at Tourond's Coulee, and then at Duck Lake. Daniel Jr. was a member of Captain A. Belanger's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Resistance.

Fagnant, Rose (Gariépy) (b. 1859).

Rose was born on December 5, 1859 at St. François Xavier. She married Romuel Gariépy (b. 1856) in 1881 at Batoche. Her husband was wounded during the fighting at Batoche. Her father and three brothers were active in the Resistance.

Fagnant, Charles. (b. 1861)

Charles was born at Brandon on October 31, 1861. Charles was a member of Captain Antoine Lafontaine's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Resistance.

Fagnant, John. (1865)

John was born at Moosehead, on December 27, 1865. He subsequently married Helene Letendré, the daughter of Andre Letendré and Catherine Godon in 1888. William and John Fagnant lived at Lot 36 in the St. Laurent Settlement. John was a member of Captain Philippe Gariépy's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Resistance.

Fagnant, Cuthbert Jr. (1868-1943)

Cuthbert Jr. was born on December 20, 1868, at St. François Xavier. He was active during the Resistance. Later, in 1896, he married Marie Letendré. He is buried in the Batoche Cemetery.



**LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE**  
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage

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