

McGillis, Angus “Jerome” Jr. (b. 1837)

Jerome was born on November 24, 1837, the son of Alexander “Jerome” McGillis and Marguerite Bottineau, he married Isabelle Fagnant the daughter of Jean Baptiste Fagnant and Josephte Monet dit Belhumeur, in 1858 at St. François Xavier. The family resided at Willow Bunch. The couple had fifteen children, eight of whom lived past childhood.

Jerome took part in the Battle of the Grand Coteau in 1851. This was a confrontation 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. His cousins, William and Cuthbert McGillis were also part of this brigade.

Jerome was one of the Métis scouts during the 1851 Battle with the Sioux at the Grand Coteau. On July 13, 1851 he and two other scouts were taken prisoner by the Indians. He and one other scout were able to escape thanks to their swift horses. Jean Baptiste Malaterre, the remaining prisoner, was killed by the Sioux.¹

Scrip affidavit for McGillis, Angus; born: Fall 1838; father: Alexandre McGillis (Métis); mother: Marguerite Botineau (Métis); claim no: 3134; scrip no: 12759; date of issue: June 1, 1882; amount: \$160

Scrip affidavit for McGillis, Isabelle; born: April 30, 1838; wife of Angus McGillis; father: Jean Baptiste Fagnant (Métis); mother: Josephte Monette (Métis); claim no: 3135; scrip no: 12760; date of issue: June 1, 1882; amount: \$160.

McGillis, John; address: Willow Bunch; born: 23 March near Willow Bunch; father: Angus McGillis (Métis); mother: Isabelle Fayant (Métis); scrip cert.: form C, no. 6; claim no. 25.

Isabelle also applied for scrip for their deceased children: Nathalie b. 1871, Elise b. 1874, Alfred b. 1878, Charles b. 1881, and Joseph b. 1884.



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¹ Rev. A.G. Morice, translated by Peter J. Gagne. *French Canadians of the West*. CD ROM version. St. Boniface: OMI, 1908: 329.