

## **Primeau, François.** (1864)

François was born at St. Vital, the son of François Primeau (b. 1840) and Caroline Parisien. In 1883 he married Marie Josephte Arcand. François was a member of Captain Baptiste Primeau's company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. His father Francois Primeau and uncle Jean-Baptiste Primeau were also involved in the 1885 Resistance. In his claim for Half Breed Scrip in 1885 he states:

I have lived in the North-West Territory ever since the year 1866, with my parents who left the province of Manitoba at that time to come to St. Albert where they lived with their children as of 15<sup>th</sup> July 1870, and to Edmonton and Carlton ever since. I have a homestead in Carlton. I live on it. About two months ago I was taken and forced by the people of Riel to go and act with them in these last troubles against the government of the Dominion of Canada. I stayed with them at Batoche and at Duck Lake about one week when I deserted to go home, afterward I was asked to go to Batoche to get some provisions which were scarce, and when I was there, they forced me to take up arms—and would prefer to say nothing further about these troubles, as I was not prepared to answer to your questions. My mother and father both ran off so I kept the home, as somebody had to stay home. My father and mother went as far as Calgary to escape from Riel's people.<sup>1</sup>

As a consequence his claim was reserved because of his participation in the Resistance and later allowed on October 18, 1886.<sup>2</sup>



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

---

<sup>1</sup> RG 15, D II (8) (b).

<sup>2</sup> The Deputy Minister of the Interior instructed (June 11, 1886) that all claims disallowed because of resistance activity would now be allowed.