

Bruyère (Brière), Brisebois, Jean-Baptiste. (b. 1811)

Baptiste was one of the Métis patriarchs who signed the Cypress Hills Petition. In 1878, the Half-Breeds living in the vicinity of Cypress Hills petitioned the government for their own reserve. His sons, Baptiste Jr., Cleophas, Jérémie and Louison as well as son-in-law Alexandre Pelletier (married to Caroline) also signed the Cypress Hills Petition.

Jean-Baptiste Brière or Busebois or Bruyere was the son of Jean-Baptiste Bruyère Sr. and Françoise (Serpente). He married Angélique Guilbault (b. 1820), the daughter of Joseph Guilbault and Mary Anne his Nakoda wife. The Bruyrès had 12 children born at St. François Xavier (SFX) and Turtle Mountain. He had land at Baie St. Paul and was living there when he applied for scrip.

Children:

- Angélique, born November 7, 1839, married William Swain. Scrip affidavit for Swain, Angélique; born: Winter 1831 [sic]; husband: Wm. Swain; father: Jean Baptiste Bruyère (Métis); mother: Angélique Guilbeau (Métis); claim no: 2956; scrip no: 12472; date of issue: Sept. 23, 1879; amount: \$160.
- Louis, born January 21, 1842 at SFX, married Joseph Berard.
- Jean-Baptiste, born October 18, 1844, at SFX, married Marie Allary. As buffalo hunters this family travelled to Qu'Appelle, Lebret, Moose Jaw, Regina, Wood Mountain, St. Michel [N.D.], Montana and the Cypress Hills. They lived at SFX whenever they returned to Red River.
- Marie, born May 4, 1847 at SFX, died July 31, 1870 at age 23.
- Lucie Cecile Agathe, born January 1851 at SFX, married Michel Richard then married Elzéar Boyer. Scrip affidavit for Richard, Lucie; born: January 1851; father: Jean-Baptiste Bruyère; mother: Angélique Guillebauch (Métis); claim no: 1436; scrip no: 10380; date of issue: August 21, 1876; amount: \$160; husband: Michel Richard.
- Jérémie, born January 29, 1854, married Marie Louise Allary.
- Cleophas (Tchee-gus-tosh), born December 22, 1856 at SFX. He was also known as Kitaface or Kiliface Tchee-gus-tosh Briere.
- Caroline, born April 9, 1859, married Alexandre Pelletier.
- Emerence, born May 1861, she married Ambroise Boyer.
- Two other children, Ambroise (b. 1868) and Rose (b. 1868) died as young children.

Scrip affidavit for Bruyère, Jean-Baptiste; born: July 18, 1811; father: Baptiste Bruyère (French Canadian); mother: Françoise Serpent (Indian); claim no.: 2966; scrip no.: 12484; date of issue: September 29, 1879; amount: \$160.



LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage

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