

## **Bottineau, Elzéar. (b. 1842)**

Elzéar and his brother Jonas were two of the Métis 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. This is a petition requested a re-opening of the buffalo hunt between November 14<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup> each year and the granting of Métis “reserve” land. The request was for a strip of land 150 miles long along the American border beginning where the Pembina River crosses the border, running west for 150 miles into Saskatchewan.

Elzéar was born on August 25, 1842 at St. Francois Xavier, the son of Joseph Bottineau and Angelique Cardinal. His grandparents were Charles Bottineau and Margaret Ah-dick-Songab a Chippewa. He married Isabella St. Pierre, the daughter of Francois St. Pierre and Marie Laverdure in 1861 at St. Joseph. A bison-hunting family their 14 children were born across the plains; at Cypress Hills, Wood Mountain, Old Wive’s Creek, and Willow Bunch.

Elzéar’s sisters, Marie (b. 1834), Josephte (b. 1836) and Angélique (b. 1838) were married to three Ouellette brothers, the sons of Joseph Ouellette and Therese Houle. Joseph Ouellette also signed this petition.

Bottineau, Elzéar - Concerning his claim as head of family - Address, Willow Bunch - Born, St. François Xavier, 1848 - Father, Joseph Bottineau, (Métis) - Mother, Angelique Cardinal, (Métis) - Married, 1861 at St. Joe to Isabelle Pierre - Children living, two (names on declaration) - Children deceased, nine - Scrip for \$160 - Claim 1605. States that at the time of this claim he was 17 years a resident of Wood Mountain, i.e. from 1868

Bottineau, Isabelle - Concerning her claim as a head of family - Address, Willow Bunch - Born, Red River, 1837 - Father, St. Pierre, (Métis) - Mother, Marie Laverdure, (Métis) - Married, 1862 at St. Joe to Elzéar Bottineau - Children, indicated on husband's declaration - Scrip for \$160 - Claim 1606



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

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