Nault, Derrick M. (PhD.)

Derrick M. Nault is a professor in the School of Innovation Foundations at Taejae University in Seoul, Republic of Korea. A citizen of the Red River Métis Nation, he is a great-great-grandson of André Nault, Louis Riel's cousin and captain during the Red River Resistance. He is also a great-great-grandson of Damase Carrière and a third great-grandson of Jean-Baptiste Parenteau, two councillors in Riel's 1885 Provisional Government. His third great-grandmother Marie Pélagie (née Dumont) Parenteau was a sister of Gabriel Dumont. His academic contributions include published works in human rights history, development studies, and Métis history.

Derrick reports on his blog:

"Found out recently that my great-great-grandfather, Andre Nault (1830-1924), was a pallbearer at Métis leader Louis Riel's funeral in 1885. Of the 19 pallbearers at the funeral, 9 were Naults. Andre Nault was Louis Riel's cousin and spent one year in jail for his role in the Red River Resistance (1869-70). The other Naults who served as pallbearers were: Benjamin Nault, Chas. Nault, Elie Nault, Prosper Nault, Roman Nault, Alfred Nault, and Martin Nault. There were so many pallbearers and all were armed as there were rumours members of the Orange Order were going to attack the funeral in retribution for the execution of Thomas Scott. The attack never came, fortunately."

Coulee des Nault is the name of a waterway in Manitoba that "Flows northwest into Rat River. Probably named after Romain Nault [b. 1838, brother of Andre Nault, Sr.] who homesteaded SE 9-5-4E in 1877." Source: Manitoba Conservation, Geographical Names of Manitoba, 2000, p. 188.



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