

Breland, Thomas. (b. 1842)

Thomas Breland, a grandson of Cuthbert Grant, was one 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 14th and February 15th 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. A number of men of the Cypress Hills Hunting Brigade were present at the Battle of the Grand Coteau in 1851.¹ These men are:

- Pascal Breland (b. 1811)
- Patrice Breland (b. 1837)
- Thomas Breland (b. 1842)

Thomas was born on September 7, 1842, the son of Pascal Breland and Maria Grant. In 1864 he married Julie Trottier, the daughter of Basil Trottier and Madeleine Fagnant then married Philomène Pagé, in 1867. She died in 1876 and he married Marie Rivet; and then in 1879 he married Therese Tanner the daughter of Thomas John Tanner and Louise Saulteaux. He had three children with Julie, born at St.François Xavier (SFX); then had four children with Philomene, born at Moose Jaw and Lebret; then three children with Marie, born at Lebret and Cypress Hills; and four children with Thérèse born at SFX and Oak Lake.

Jean Léveillé and Thomas Breland initially had farms in the Oak Lake area but then moved to Lebret in the Qu’Appelle Valley.

Scrip affidavit for Breland, Thomas; born: Sept. 7, 1842; father: Pascal Breland (Métis); mother: Marie Grant (Métis); claim no: 2967; scrip no.: 12485; date of issue: Oct. 2, 1879; amount: \$160.

Tanner, Therese; address: Oak Lake; born: at Portage la Prairie; father: Antoine Tanner (Métis); mother: Kee-na-we-pinai-si (Indian); married: 1878 at Qu'Appelle to Thomas Breland; children living: Albert and Josephine; children deceased: Elionore, Catherine, and Lucile: scrip for \$190.00; claim no. 1694.

Breland, Thomas; for his daughter Placidie Sutherland; claim no. 451; address: Lake Dauphin; born: 15 January, 1871 at Moosejaw; father: Thomas Breland (Métis and deponent); mother: Philomène Pagé (Métis); husband: Joseph Sutherland; scrip cert.: form E no. 2875.

Breland, Thomas; heir of his deceased daughter, Elenore; claim no. 446; address: St. Rose du lac; born: September, 1879 at SFX; father: Thomas Breland (Métis and deponent); mother: Thérèse Turner (Métis); died: 1882 at Oak Lake; scrip cert.: form F, no. 30.

¹ This battle took place 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.

Scrip affidavit for Breland, Thomas; as heir of his deceased wife Philomene Pajet; died: Feb. 24, 1876; heirs: Thomas Breland (Husband) & Children: Olive, Placidie, John, Philomene; claim no: 2968; scrip No: 12486 to 12489, \$40 each; date of issue: Oct. 2, 1879.

Breland, Thomas; for his children: Joseph Albert, born: January, 1883, at Oak Lake and Marie Josephine, born: November, 1884 at Oak Lake; address: St. Rose du lac; father: Thomas Breland (Métis and deponent); mother: Thérèse Turner (Métis); scrip cert.: form C, no. 210, Marie Josephine; scrip cert.: form E, no. 346, Joseph Albert; claim no. 447.

Breland, Thomas; heir of his deceased children: John, born: 1873 at Cypress Hills; died: January, 1878; Clemence, born: 1878 near Cypress Hills, died: 8 April, 1879; Philomène, born: 1875 at Cypress Hills, died: 1878; address: St. Rose du Lac; claim no. 448; father: Thomas Breland (Métis and deponent); mother: Philomène Page (Métis); scrip cert.: form D, no. 68, John; scrip cert.: form D, no. 70, Philomène; scrip cert.: form D, no. 72, Clemence.

Breland, Thomas; for his deceased children: Unnamed twins (boys), born: Summer 1877, near Cypress Hills, died: 2 June, 1877; Marie Catherine, born: 1881 at Oak Lake, died: 1882; address: St. Rose du Lac; claim no. 452; father: Thomas Brelands (Métis and deponent); mother of Twins: Marie Rivet (Métis); mother of Marie Catherine: Thérèse Turner (Métis); scrip cert.: form F, no. 74, Unnamed boy no. 1; scrip cert.: form F, no. 76, Unnamed boy no. 2; scrip cert.: form F, no. 78, Marie Catherine.



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