

Marguerite Grant. (1785-1866)

Marguerite Grant was born in the Qu'Appelle Valley circa 1785, the daughter of Marguerite Utinawasis (Son-gabo-ki-che-ta) and Cuthbert Grant Sr. She married Michel Monet dit Belhumeur (b. 1766) by custom before 1802. She then married Andre Poitras (b. 1760) sometime before 1810 at Fort L'Esperance.

NAME: POITRAS (Poitra), André		PARISH: Canada	ENTERED SERVICE:	DATES: b. 1762 or 1763 d. [1831]	
Appointments & Service Outfit Year*	Position	Post	District	HBCA Reference	
*An Outfit year ran from 1 June to 31 May					
<u>North West Company:</u>					
1793 - 1794		Fort Espérance		E. Coues, <i>New Light on the Early History of the Greater Northwest</i> (New York: Francis P. Harper, 1897), p. 301	
1804 - 1805		Qu'Appelle (Fishing Lakes)		E. Coues, <i>New Light on the Early History of the Greater Northwest</i> (New York: Francis P. Harper, 1897), p. 301	
1811 - 1818 [1818]			[Red River?]	F.4/32, pp. 1054, 1063	
1824 - 1831	free [no longer in the service of the North West Company]	colonist, Red River Settlement - Village of Grantown		F.4/32b B.239/g/4-10; E.5/1, 3, 4, 5	
Wife:	Marguerite (also Margarite) Grant			E.5/5-11	
Children:	Pierre (b. 1793, mother "an Indian woman") Ignace (b. ca. 1800, mother Marguerite); Pierre b. 1810-189, married to Mary Bruyere at St. Boniface on 27 November 1832*				
<p>Entries from Red River Census for Andre Poitras:</p> <p>1827-White Horse Plain/Grantown; age 64; Roman Catholic, {born in } Canada; married; 1 son above 16, E.5/1, fo.10 4 sons under 16; 1 daughter above 15, 2 daughters under 15.</p> <p>1829-White Horse Plain/Grantown; age 67; Roman Catholic, {born in } Canada; married; 1 son above 16, E.5/3, fo.13 4 sons under 16; 2 daughters under 15</p> <p>1830-white Horse Plain/Grantown; age 68; Roman Catholic; Canada; married; 2 sons above 16, 3 under E.5/4, fo.16 16; 1 daughter above 15, 1 daughter under 15.</p> <p>NOTE: (1828 census) does not list Andre Poitras, but there is a Henry Poitras Sr., age 70; E.5/2, E.5/5 fo.18, (1831) & E.5/6 fo.18 (1832), refer to a Marguerite Poitras, widow, age 42 in 1831 and 40 in 1832.</p>					
<p><u>New Light on the Early History of the Greater Northwest</u> ed. by Elliot Coues, New York: Harper, ca. 1897</p> <p><u>Les Bourgeois de la Compagnie du Nord-Ouest</u> ed. by L.R. Masson, 1889.</p>					
POITRASA December 1987 DSM:wg; CO 2002 October					



Marguerite was the sister of Joseph Grant Wills (b. 1785), Cuthbert Grant (b. 1793), and Marie Suzette Grant (b.c. 1796). Her nephew "Bayriss" Corbet or Charles Grant, was a counselor to Chief Little Shell II. He was born on December 28, 1835, at St. Francois Xavier, to Marguerite's brother, Cuthbert Grant and Marie McGillis. Corbet married Marie Gingras, the daughter of trader Antoine Gingras and Scholastique Trottier on August 28, 1860 at St. Joseph's. They had nine children. Marie (b. 1862) married Henri Poitras; Justine (b. 1865) married Joseph E. Marion; William (b. 1872) married Mary Petronile Monette; James (b. 1877) married Rosalie Monet; and Charles (b.1837) married Mary Vitaline Dumont. They settled on the Turtle Mountain Reservation in the late 1890s. Corbet "Bay-riss" Grant was a counselor to Chief Little Shell II.

Marguerite's sister Josephte was married to John Wills the NWC Chief Factor at Fort Gibraltar. This was the fort where the Pembina Metis and Chippewa traded.

Children of Marguerite and Michel:

- Michel, born 1802, custom marriage with Reine Lagimoniere, then married Josette Little Shell; then married Josephte Bruyere.
- Josephte, born 1805, she married Jean Baptiste Fagnant.
- Andre, born February 7, 1805 near Montreal, he married Marguerite Maron.

Children of Marguerite and Andre Poitras were:

- Pierre, born circa 1812, he married Marie Bruyere.
- Madeleine, born circa 1816, she married Charles Gladu.
- Joseph, born 1818, he married Suzanne Laverdure.
- Gabriel, born 1820 at St. Francois Xavier, he married Isabelle Malaterre.
- Helene, born circa 1825, she married Francois Gariepy.
- Francois, born circa 1825, he married Madeleine fisher.
- Ignace, born circa 1829, he married Helene McGillis.

Pierre Poitras

Pierre Poitras was born circa 1810, in Fort Esperance, Qu'Appelle Valley. His mother was Marguerite Grant, sister to Cuthbert Grant and his father was Andre Henri Poitras from St. Foye, Quebec. Both being previously married, the family was quite large with relations on both sides of the border. Pierre fought at the Battle of the Grand Coteau. This battle took place between a Metis buffalo hunting party from St. Francois 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.

Pierre Poitras married Marie Bruyere, the daughter of Jean Baptiste Bruyere and Francoise (Serpente) on November 27, 1832 at St. Boniface. They had eleven children together. At the age of sixty, he had to leave Manitoba because of the hostilities and returned to the Qu'Appelle Valley for a while and then die in Duhamel, Alberta, at the age of 79.

Pierre Poitras was one of the 24 members of the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia led by Louis Riel. On June 24, 1870, Hon. Mr Pierre Poitras seconded Hon. Mr Louis Schmidt's motion "That the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia accepts, in the name of the people, the Manitoba Act", thus entering the Dominion of Canada on the terms proposed in the Confederation Act. He would also witness the signing of Treaty Number 4 in the Qu'Appelle Valley, in 1874.

For his participation in the 1870 movement in Manitoba his life was endangered, and he would have to leave along with many others. His brother Francois was a captain and served under Ambroise Lepine, Riel's adjutant general in Manitoba. His other brother Ignace would also become involved at Batoche and be tried for felony treason. His older half brother Andre Henri Jr. Poitras lived and hunted on both sides of the border but would eventually settle in the US. The descendents of his family would become involved with the Little Shell Tribe in its struggle for recognition.

Madeleine Poitras. (b. 1816)

Madeleine married Charles "Tche quon ence" Gladu (b. 1810), the son of Charles Gladu and Marguerite Ross on November 27, 1832 at St. Boniface. The couple had seven children. They were members of Way ke ge ke zhick's band.

Charles "Tche quon ence" Gladue.

Gladue, Charles (1820) [1860 U.S.] .

Gladue, Charle [*1868] .P63.17d

Gladdue, Chas. [R.L. Scrip #437] .

U.S. Census, Becker County, 1860, family 705/699, born Wisconsin, common laborer - mulatto

Pembina Annuity Roll, Way ke ge ke zhick's Band, 1868:233

- 1 man, 1 woman, 5 children \$ 21 paid

National Archives, RG 75, Entry 363, "List of Persons to Whom Scrip was Issued under Red Lake & Pembina Treaties...." Halfbreed Scrip No. 437 issued April 7, 1875, under the authority of Secretarial Decision, June 12, 1872, delivered April 7th, 1875

National Archives, RG 75, Entry 364, "Treaty of April 12, 1864, Red Lake and Pembina Half-Breeds," Scrip Stubs, Number 437, dated April 7th, 1875, 160 Acres, delivered April 7, 1876, issued to Charles Gladdue, delivered to Agent Stowe

listed with: Gladue, Michael[e] (1824), born Wisconsin - mulatto
father of: Gladue, Isabel (1843)

Gladue, Catharine (1845)

Gladue, Joseph (1847)

Gladue, Edward (1849)

Gladue, Pierre

Scrip affidavit for Gladu, Michel; born: May 10, 1830; father: Charles Gladu (French Canadian); mother: Marguerite Ross (Métis); claim no: 2835; date of issue: September 5, 1878; amount: \$160

Scrip affidavit for Gladu, Charles; born: Fall 1830; father: Charles Gladu (Métis); mother: Madeleine Gladu (Métis); claim no: 3115; date of issue: June 1, 1882

Declaration re his claim to share in supplementary HB grant. Father-Charles Gladu, Mother-Madeleine Poitras, born 24th Dec. 1836. Reg. No. 331.

Scrip affidavit for Gladu, St. Pierre; born: March 1840; father: Charles Gladu (Métis); mother: Madeleine Poitras (Métis)

Gabriel "Su Serde Surret" Poitras. (b. 1820)

Gabriel was the son of Andre Henri Poitras Jr. and Marguerite Grant (b. 1760) and Marguerite Grant (b. 1790 at Qu'Appelle). He married Isabelle Malaterre, daughter of Jean Baptiste Malaterre and Angelique Adam, on February 1, 1842, at St. Francois Xavier. Gabriel Poitras' wife, Isabelle Malaterre, was the sister of Marie Malaterre, who was Louis Riel's wife's mother. Gabriel's brother, Pierre, was a member of Louis Riel's

provisional government of 1870. . Gabriel signed the 1878 Cypress Hills Metis Hunting Band petition for a reserve as did his brother-in-law Louis Malaterre

Scrip affidavit for Poitras, Gabriel; born: July, 1820; father: Poitras (French Canadian); mother: Marguerite Grant (Métis); claim no: 2654; scrip no: 12226; date of issue: Apr. 20, 1877; amount: \$160

Francois Poitras. (b.1825)

François was a captain in the 1869-70 Resistance and served under Ambroise Lepine, Riel's adjutant general in Manitoba. Francois married Madeleine Fisher, the daughter of Henry Munro Fisher and Marguerite Laframboise on June 24, 1850 at Assumption, Pembina. The couple had ten children. Their daughter Eleanor (b. 1866) was married to Louis Riel's brother, Joseph Riel. Their daughter Bibiane (b. 1871) married Riel's youngest brother Alexandre Riel (b. 1863)

Ignace Zenon Poitras Sr.¹ (b. 1829)

Ignace also known as "Betillet," was born at Red River, the son of Andre Poitras and Marie Grant. His mother was Marguerite Grant, sister to Cuthbert Grant and his father was Andre Henri Poitras from St. Foye, Quebec. Andre Poitras was one of the founders of St. François Xavier. This was a buffalo hunting family always active on the plains. The family was quite large with relations on both sides of the border. Andre, sometimes known as Henri died circa 1831 at St. Joseph, Dakota Territory. Ignace married Helene McGillis, the daughter of Alexandre McGillis and Marguerite Bottineau. They had thirteen children together.



Ignace Poitras

His brother, Pierre Poitras was a representative to Riel's Convention of Forty representing his home district of St. Francois Xavier. He was also a delegate to the previous Convention of 24, November 16, 1869. Pierre became one of the 24 members of the Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia led by Louis Riel. On June 24, 1870, Hon. Mr Pierre Poitras seconded Hon. Mr Louis Schmidt's motion "That the Legislative Assembly

¹ A signator of Gabriel Dumont's petition (dated St. Antoine de Padoue, 4th September, 1882) to the Prime Minister for a survey and land grants.

of Assiniboia accepts, in the name of the people, the Manitoba Act”, thus entering the Dominion of Canada on the terms proposed in the Confederation Act. Their brother François was a captain during the 1869-70 Resistance and served under Ambroise Lepine, Riel’s adjutant general in Manitoba. Pierre would also witness the signing of Treaty Number 4 in the Qu’Appelle Valley, in 1874.

For his participation in the 1870 movement in Manitoba his life was endangered, and he would have to leave along with many others. During the Reign of Terror of Wolseley’s troops Pierre was arrested on August 24, 1870 while scouting with Francois Xavier Dauphinais and Francois Xavier Page. He was abused and severely beaten and wounded by the Red River Expeditionary Force. At the age of sixty, he left Manitoba because of the hostilities and returned to the Qu’Appelle Valley for a while and then moved to Duhamel, Alberta where he died at the age of 79.

His older half brother Andre Henri Jr. Poitras lived and hunted on both sides of the border but would eventually settle in the US. The descendents of his family would become involved with the Little Shell Tribe in its struggle for recognition in Montana.²

Ignace was a member of Captain Calixte Lafontaine’s company, one of the 19 *dizaines* led by Gabriel Dumont during the 1885 Metis Resistance. They had four sons; Ignace Jr., Maxime, Jean Baptiste and Michel involved in the 1885 Resistance and two of their daughters, Elise (Vandal) and Helene (Ledoux) were married to Resistance activists. He is buried at St. Antoine de Padoue Cemetery, Batoche.



Ignace Poitras

In his testimony of August 13, 1885 at the Regina trial Father Alexis Andre says:

I have known the old man (Ignace Sr.) for fifteen years since he came and settled on the Saskatchewan. He is one of the most simple honest and peaceable men in the whole settlement, never mixing in any agitation or trouble. I am very intimately acquainted with him. I have often been his guest, and always found a welcome at his

² Reference: Joseph-Isidore Poitras at <http://www.mendel.ca/quappelle/edwardpoitras/resident.html>

hospitable house. His industry and economy made him a comfortable and well-off man. He was, fortunately for the prisoners in Riel's care, one of their guards, and I was told by several of them that he was kind and good to them always. He is about sixty (sic) years of age and has a wife and ten children, he has lost everything. The young man (Ignace Jr.) was with his father and is a harmless youth. The old man is old and feeble, and has suffered very greatly in health and prosperity. The best interests of justice would, I think be satisfied by sending him home to his poor family. (CSP, 1886, Vol. 13, p. 385)

Ignace was arrested on May 19, 1885 and on August 14, 1885 at Regina was sentenced to a jail term of one year with hard labour.



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