

Genealogy of Three North Slave Métis Families

By: J. Michael Thoms

Method:

In 1920, H.A. Conroy, the treaty commissioner responsible for Treaty 11 named seven Métis families he described as "old and respected" and "historic". Three of the seven families (Lafferty, Bouvier, and Camsell) are central progenitors to the membership of the North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA). A genealogy of these three Métis families was partially re-constructed from the claims (scrip applications) filed by members of the families in the Red River in 1875, Treaty 8 (1899), and Treaty 11 (1921). These records were originally created by the federal Department of the Interior and are now accessioned in the National Archives of Canada, RG 15. The records provide evidence of Métis ethnicity and information on genealogy, residence, and employment history. The records are restricted to Métis and their children who filed claims. The scrip claim information is corroborated and supplemented with employment data from the Hudson's Bay Company and Northwest Company employment records, census data, and published sources. The data confirms that the three named families have long historic roots in the North Slave region and were part of an endogamous Métis society that was an interactive satellite of the Red River Métis nation.

Descendants of Joseph Lafferty

Generation No. 1

1. It is not known when JOSEPH LAFFERTY was born or when he entered the fur trade in the Athabasca district. JOSEPH appears in the Northwest Company records in 1814 and in the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC)'s records for Athabasca from 1821 to 1827.¹ At an unknown date, JOSEPH married MARIE GOYETTE.² JOSEPH and MARIE's children (PIERRE and LOUIS) are identified as Métis by some of their children, which suggests that JOSEPH or MARIE, or both, were aboriginal.³

Children of JOSEPH LAFFERTY and MARIE GOYETTE are:

- i. PIERRE LAFFERTY b. abt. 1798
- ii. LOUIS LAFFERTY b. abt. 1801
- iii. ANTOINE LAFFERTY b. abt. ?

Generation No. 2

In 1814, PIERRE LAFFERTY began employment as a voyageur with the NWC. In 1819, LOUIS, his younger brother, joined him. By the end of 1819, the two brothers left the NWC and joined the HBC in the Athabasca District. HBC account books indicate that PIERRE and LOUIS worked alongside each other. In 1825, both men were assigned to the Great Slave Lake district.⁴

In their first years of work (1814-1821), PIERRE and LOUIS worked alongside other Métis whose names would figure in the lives of their descendants for generations: BOUCHER, BOUVIER, FABIEN, FAILLE, GENEUREUX, MANDEVILLE, ST. GERMAIN, and VILLENEUVE.

- 2 In 1819, a HBC manager described LOUIS LAFFERTY as, "a grumbling fellow, but a good voyageur". Six years later, he described LOUIS as an "indefatigable voyageur". In 1832, after 13 years of service, LOUIS left employ with the HBC and the next year, married a Métis, AGATHE CARON (born July 15,

1815), daughter of ANTOINE CARRON and ANGELIQUE ST. GERMAIN.⁵ ANTOINE CARRON was a NWC employee who appears in the NWC records for Athabasca in 1819-1821, and was transferred to the HBC in 1821. The ST. GERMAIN family is one of the most researched Métis families in the subarctic. The historian H. W. Duckworth compiled the biography of PAUL ST. GERMAIN.⁶ C. Stuart Houston has researched and written the biography of PIERRE ST. GERMAIN, the well-known guide to Sir John Franklin.⁷ PIERRE ST. GERMAIN first appears in the NWC employment records in 1816 and was transferred to the HBC in 1821. In 1835, PIERRE ST. GERMAIN bought lot 47 in St. Vital and retired to the Red River settlement.⁸ In 1838, at the age of 39, LOUIS LAFFERTY retired to farming in the Red River.⁹ LOUIS LAFFERTY bought lot 173 in St. Norbert, next to his wife's family lot (CARRON, Lot 174 ST. Norbert).¹⁰ From 1849 to 1855, LOUIS returned to the fur trade as a steersman between Norway House and Lake Athabasca. The next year he acted briefly as a freeman in the Red River settlement. LOUIS and AGATHE had 7 children. LOUIS' children identify him as Métis in their scrip applications.¹¹

Children of LOUIS LAFFERTY and AGATHE CARON are:

- i. LOUIS LAFFERTY b. 18 July 1834
- ii. ANGELIQUE LAFFERTY, b. February 03, 1839; m. JOSEPH BERTHELET b. 1810¹²
- iii. MARIE LAFFERTY, b. May 10, 1847, St. Boniface; m. I. MIGNEAULT.¹³
- iv. MARGUERITE LAFFERTY, b. 1849
- v. JEAN LAFFERTY b. ca. 1851¹⁴
- vi. JOSEPH LAFFERTY, b. October 18, 1861.¹⁵
- vii. ALEX JOSEPH LAFFERTY.¹⁶

- 3 In 1825, a HBC manager described PIERRE LAFFERTY as a "good middleman. Excellent fisherman, industrious, honest, respectful to his officers, careful of the company's property, and always ready to perform his duty with cheerfulness". PIERRE stayed in the Great Slave Lake fur trade until 1843. By 1826, HBC records show he was married. Indeed, he married a Métis, MARIE ANNE GENEUX, a relation of one of the three GENEUX men he worked with. NWC and HBC records indicate that JEAN PIERRE, JOSEPH, and LOUIS PIERRE GENEUX had long careers in the Athabaska district.¹⁷ In 1843, PIERRE LAFFERTY took up farming in the Red River.¹⁸ From 1860 to 1864, PIERRE acted as a freeman in several districts and died in 1865. LOUISON identifies his father PIERRE as Métis. MARIE ANNE GENEUX is consistently identified as Cree in her children's scrip applications.¹⁹

Children of PIERRE LAFFERTY and MARIE GENEUX are:

- i. ALFRED LAFFERTY, b. unknown:
- ii. OLIVIER LAFFERTY, b. Unknown; d. 1873²⁰
- iii. LOUISON LAFFERTY, b. 1822/32, Fort Resolution.²¹
- iv. CATHERINE LAFFERTY, b. October 25, 1839; m. WILLIAM SAUNDERS.²²
- v. MARIE ANNE LAFFERTY, b. 1833.

4. In 1819, a HBC manager described ANTOINE LAFFERTY as "a good voyageur". HBC records register ANTOINE's employment in the Athabasca district from 1819 to 1821. No other records for ANTOINE have been located and his children, if any, are not known.

Generation No. 3

In 1854, OLIVIER LAFFERTY began employment with the HBC at the newly established Fort Rae and continued to work there until 1864. In 1860, LOUISON joined his brother OLIVIER at Fort Rae and made it his place of work and home until his death around 1900.

5. In 1828, OLIVIER³ (PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) LAFFERTY entered the service of the HBC at Lac la Pluie and in 1831 and 1832 tripped to Montreal for the company. From 1832 to 1853, OLIVIER worked for the HBC in British Columbia. In 1854, OLIVIER LAFFERTY began employment with the HBC at the newly established Fort Rae and continued to work there until 1864.²³ He married a Métis, MADELAINE

FAILLE (born June 12, 1829) daughter of TOUSSAINT FAILLE and ANGELIQUE SANCHEAU.²⁴ OLIVIER's father (*PIERRE*²) had worked with MADELAINE's father, TOUSSAINT, from 1821 to 1832. TOUSSAINT had a long career with the HBC and NWC in the Athabasca district.²⁵ In 1865, TOUSSAINT appears in the HBC records as a freeman in the Red River settlement where he held land at lot 87 in Ste. Agathe. The children of MADELAINE and OLIVIER describe both parents as Métis.²⁶

Children of OLIVIER LAFFERTY and MADELAINE FAILLE are:

- i. CATHERINE LAFFERTY
 - ii. PIERRE⁴ LAFFERTY, b. January 01, 1858.
 - iii. ELISE LAFFERTY, b. June 15, 1860.
 - iv. CAROLINE LAFFERTY, b. November 25, 1861.
 - v. LOUISE LAFFERTY
 - vi. JOSEPHINE LAFFERTY
 - vii. VERONIQUE LAFFERTY, b. May 17, 1867.
 - viii. AGATHE LAFFERTY, b. April 13, 1869
 - ix. NAPOLEON LAFFERTY.
 - x. BONIFACE LAFFERTY.
 - xi. MARIE LAFFERTY.
6. LOUISSON³ LAFFERTY (*PIERRE*², *JOSEPH*¹) was born in 1822 at Fort Resolution. In 1848, he married a Métis, MARIE LESPERANCE in Winnipeg, likely during a visit to his dad's (*PIERRE*²) farm. MARIE was the daughter of ALEXIS LESPERANCE (and MARGUERITE GUERNON), who worked with LOUISSON's dad (*PIERRE*) in the Athabasca district in 1821, and retired to a nearby farm in 1835 (lot 251).²⁷ MARIE's sister also married a Métis from the Athabasca district, JEAN BAPTISTE BOUCHÉ, who had employment connections with her dad (ALEXIS LESPERANCE) and in-laws (LOUISSON and PIERRE LAFFERTY).²⁸ The NSMA consider LOUISSON and MARIE to be among the founding parents of their society. LOUISSON and MARIE had 13 children, with the last eight born at Fort Rae. The children of LOUISSON and MARIE describe both parents as Métis.²⁹

Children of LOUISSON LAFFERTY and MARIE LESPERANCE are:

- i. MODESTE LAFFERTY⁴, b. 1850, Vermillion; d. 1891, Fort Good Hope.
 - ii. HENRI (HARRY) LAFFERTY, b. 1854, Fort Chipewyan.
 - iii. MARGUERITE LAFFERTY, b. Bet. 1854 - 1858, Winnipeg.³⁰
 - iv. OCTAVE LAFFERTY, b. 1856, Vermillion.
 - v. BONIFACE LAFFERTY, b. Bet. 1856 - 1861, St. Boniface, Winnipeg.³¹
 - vi. ALEXIS LAFFERTY, b. 1862, Fort Rae.³²
 - vii. VITAL LAFFERTY, b. June 30, 1862, Fort Rae.³³
 - viii. LOUIS LAFFERTY, b. June 11, 1863; d. 1900, Fort Rae.
 - ix. ANTOINE LAFFERTY, b. 1866, Fort Rae.
 - x. MARIE LAFFERTY, b. 1870, Fort Rae.³⁴
 - xi. ROSE LAFFERTY, b. 1872, Fort Rae; d. 1887, Fort Rae.
 - xii. ADELE LAFFERTY, b. 1874, Fort Rae; d. 1894, Edmonton.
 - xiii. MONIQUE LAFFERTY, b. 1876, Fort Rae.
7. MARIE ANNE³ LAFFERTY (*PIERRE*², *JOSEPH*¹) was born in 1833. She married a Métis, ALEXANDER WENTZEL, who worked with her dad from 1821 to 1832, including his posting to Great Slave Lake with her dad and uncle (*PIERRE* and *LOUIS*) in 1825.³⁵ In 1835, ALEXANDER is reported to be farming lot 30 in St. Boniface, Red River settlement. When MARIE ANNE married the former co-worker of her dad and uncle, all three men were farming in the Red River settlement.

Children of MARIE LAFFERTY and ALEXANDER Wentzel are:

- i. ALEXANDER⁴ WENTZEL, b. September 17, 1857.³⁶
 - ii. JOSEPH WENTZEL, b. January 12, 1858.
 - iii. BONIFACE WENTZEL, b. May 27, 1861.
 - iv. OLIVIER WENTZEL, b. June 04, 1866.
8. ALFRED LAFFERTY began work for the HBC in 1841. His ethnicity is given as "Nwest" in the HBC ledgers. In 1854, he was listed as a member of an arctic expedition (possibly with John Rae). ALFRED

later returned to the Red River where he was re-engaged by the HBC in 1857.³⁷

Generation No. 4

9. MODESTE LAFFERTY⁴ (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born 1850 in Vermillion, and died in 1891 at Fort Good Hope. In 1870, he was listed in the HBC account book for Fort Resolution. MODESTE married a Métis, SOPHIE BEAULIEU.

Children of MODESTE LAFFERTY and SOPHIE BEAULIEU are:

- i. MARIE⁵ LAFFERTY, m. AUGUSTIN LIZOTTE, November 03, 1895, Fort Vermillion.³⁸
 - ii. JOSEPH WILLIAM LAFFERTY, b. August 15, 1873, Fort Good Hope; m. LOUISE ANDREWS, February 15, 1897, Lesser Slave Lake.³⁹
 - iii. JEAN BAPTISTE LAFFERTY, b. June 24, 1875, Fort Good Hope.⁴⁰
 - iv. ELIZABETH LAFFERTY, b. June 24, 1877, Fort Simpson; m. JOSEPH LIZOTTE, April 18, 1898, Fort Vermillion; b. November 02, 1876.⁴¹
 - v. PHILIP LAFFERTY, b. 1883.
 - vi. ANTOINETTE LAFFERTY, b. 1889
 - vii. ADELINÉ LAFFERTY, b. 1891
 - viii. LOUISON MODESTE LAFFERTY, b. 1892
10. HENRI (HARRY)⁴ LAFFERTY (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born in 1854 at Fort Chipewyan. He married a Métis, CATHERINE BOUVIER, consolidating a long social relationship between two key ancestor groups. HENRI's dad (*LOUISON³*) and granddad (*PIERRE²*), long interacted with CATHERINE's dad (BAPTISTE) and granddad (JOSEPH) in their NWC and HBC employment histories.⁴² HENRI LAFFERTY worked as a steersman and middleman for the HBC at Fort Rae from 1868 to at least 1901, and probably longer (Fort Rae account books stop in 1901). Two of his children married into very old Great Slave Lake Métis families: FABIEN and MANDEVILLE. JOSEPH MANDEVILLE, for example, joined the NWC at Fort Chipewyan in 1798.⁴³ HENRI's son HARRY "Legas" LAFFERTY became an important leader to the Fort Rae Métis community.

Children of HENRI LAFFERTY and CATHERINE BOUVIER are:

- i. PETIT LOUIS, b. 1877.
 - i. HARRY (Legas)⁵ LAFFERTY, b. September 1880; m. ELLEN FABIEN, 1907, Fort Rae.⁴⁴
 - ii. MARIE MARGUERITE LAFFERTY, b. February 03, 1882; m. FRANÇOIS MANDEVILLE, 1902, Fort Rae.⁴⁵
 - iii. CELINE LAFFERTY, b. 1895.
 - iv. PHILIP LAFFERTY, b. 1898
 - v. PATRICE LAFFERTY, b. 1900
 - vi. VITAL LAFFERTY, b. 1901
 - vii. ADELINÉ LAFFERTY, b. August 17, 1892; m. JAMES WAITE, 1921, Fort Rae.⁴⁶
 - viii. JONAS LAFFERTY, b. 1906.
11. MARGUERITE⁴ LAFFERTY (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born between 1854-1858 in Winnipeg. In 1876, she married JOSEPH BOUVIER, further consolidating a long family connections described above. In 1887, JOSEPH came to work at Fort Rae. MARGUERITE later married MICHAEL MANDEVILLE, a Métis from another family with long connections to the LAFFERTYS.
- Children of MARGUERITE LAFFERTY and JOSEPH BOUVIER are:
- i. MARIE⁵ BOUVIER, b. June 10, 1878, Fort Providence.
 - ii. ROSINA BOUVIER, b. August 24, 1890, Fort Providence.
 - iii. MICHEL BOUVIER, b. December 16, 1893, Fort Providence.
 - iv. MARGUERITE BOUVIER, b. June 10, 1897, Fort Providence.
 - v. BAPTISTE BOUVIER, b. January 02, 1879, Fort Providence; d. July 1899, Fort Providence.
12. BONIFACE⁴ LAFFERTY (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born between 1856 and 1861 in St. Boniface, Winnipeg. He married a Métis, MADELINE BOUVIER in 1879 at Fort Providence, the daughter of JOSEPH BOUVIER. His children married Métis: GARDINER, LA ROULETTE, LAVIOLETTE, and

MANDEVILLE

Children of BONIFACE LAFFERTY and MADELINE BOUVIER are:

- i. MARIE ROSE³ LAFFERTY, b. 1881, Fort Providence.
- ii. JULIE LAFFERTY, b. 1882, Fort Providence; m. ARCHIBALD GARDINER, 1906, Fort Nelson.
- iii. GEORGE LAFFERTY, b. 1884, Fort Wrigley; m. ELIZABETH LA ROULETTE, Fort Providence; d. January 10, 1922.
- iv. JEAN BAPTISTE, b. 1896.
- v. VICTOR LAFFERTY, b. Bet. 1886 - 1887, Fort Liard; m. MARY ROSE MADELINE MANDEVILLE, 1912, Fort Resolution.
- vi. MARGUERITE LAFFERTY, b. 1890, Fort Nelson.
- vii. CHARLES LAFFERTY, b. 1893, Fort Liard; d. 1898, Fort Providence.
- viii. JOSEPH LAFFERTY, b. 1895, Fort Liard; m. CELINE LAVIOLETTE.
- ix. MICHEL LAFFERTY, b. 1898, Fort Nelson.
- x. ISADORE LAFFERTY, b. 1903
- xi. ALBERT LAFFERTY, b. 1906

13. ALEXIS⁴ LAFFERTY (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born 1862 at Fort Rae. He married ELIZA MCIVOR 1887 in Fort Providence, daughter of JOHN MCIVOR and MARIE. ELIZA MCIVOR was born 1869 in Great Bear Lake. ALEXIS worked for the HBC's rival, the independent trading company of Hislop and Nagle. ALEXIS' assistance in building Hislop and Nagle's establishment at modern Rae was instrumental to the HBC and community's move to that location after 1900.

Children of ALEXIS LAFFERTY and ELIZA MCIVOR are:

- i. NAPOLEON⁵ LAFFERTY, b. 1888, Fort Norman.
- ii. CELINE LAFFERTY, b. 1890, Fort Wrigley; m. JOSEPH BOUVIER, 1912, Fort Providence; b. 1888, Fort Providence.
- iii. HARRIET LAFFERTY, b. 1892.
- iv. FRANÇOIS LAFFERTY, b. 1893, Fort Resolution.
- v. HENRI LOUIS LAFFERTY, b. 1894
- vi. JAMES LAFFERTY, b. June 07, 1900, Fort Resolution.
- vii. PHILIPPE LAFFERTY, b. 1906
- viii. JONAS LAFFERTY, b. 1907
- ix. MARIE ROSE, b. 1908

14. VITAL⁴ LAFFERTY (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born June 30, 1862 in Fort Rae. In 1884, he married a Métis, CAROLINE LAMALLICE, daughter of THOMAS LOGAN and ANNIE BOUCHER. The BOUCHER DIT LAMALLICE family can be traced back to LOUIS BOUCHER's contract with the NWC signed at Fort Chipewyan in 1798 (HBCA F 5/1) and men of this family worked with the LAFFERTYs since 1814. When CAROLINE died, VITAL re-married to ELIZABETH MANDEVILLE, another Métis with deep family roots in the region. When she died, he married CELINE BOUCHER.

Children of VITAL LAFFERTY and CAROLINE LAMALLICE are:

- i. HENRY⁵ LAFFERTY, b. October 01, 1885, Fort Nelson.
- ii. MARY LAFFERTY, b. September 17, 1886, Fort Simpson.
- iii. LOUIS VICTOR LAFFERTY, b. January 03, 1889, Fort Nelson.
- iv. ROSALIE LAFFERTY, b. January 18, 1891, Manitoba Lake; d. January 10, 1896, Fort Rae.
- v. ALEXIS LAFFERTY, b. May 10, 1894, Fort Providence; d. August 22, 1899, Fort Rae.
- vi. ADELINE LAFFERTY, b. July 18, 1895, Fort Rae.
- vii. VERONIQUE LAFFERTY, b. September 23, 1897, Fort Rae; m. ERNEST RAYMOND GOWER, 1913, Fort Rae.
- viii. ANGELIQUE ROSALIE LAFFERTY, b. July 31, 1900, Fort Rae.

15. LOUIS⁴ LAFFERTY (*LOUISON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹*) was born June 11, 1863, and died in 1900 at Fort Rae. He married ELMER CHALLON.

Children of LOUIS LAFFERTY and ELMER CHALLON are:

- i. MARY ADELAIDE⁵ LAFFERTY, b. December 04, 1886, Fort Rae; m. FIELD.
- ii. MONIQUE LAFFERTY, b. January 03, 1886; d. February 08, 1900.
- iii. FRANK LAFFERTY, b. January 20, 1888.
- iv. MARIE MADELINE LAFFERTY, b. August 03, 1891.
- v. ALEXIS LAFFERTY, b. June 12, 1893.
- vi. FRED VITAL LAFFERTY, b. December 02, 1895.
- vii. MARIE ANNE LAFFERTY, b. July 27, 1898.

16. ANTOINE⁴ LAFFERTY (LOUIS³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) was born in 1866 at Fort Rae. He married MADELIEN BEAULIEU. MARIE'S marriage to LEON J. MERCREDI marked a union between two families that worked together in the fur trade since 1822.

Child of ANTOINE LAFFERTY and MADELIEN BEAULIEU are:

- i. HENRI LAFFERTY.
- ii. NAPOLEON LAFFERTY.
- iii. MARIE ROSE⁵ LAFFERTY, b. 1894, Fort Rae; m. LEON J. MERCREDI, 1912, Fort Chipewyan.
- iv. PHILIPPE LAFFERTY
- v. LOUIS LAFFERTY

17. MARIE⁴ LAFFERTY (LOUIS³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) was born in 1870 at Fort Rae. In 1884, she married BAPTISTE BOUVIER in Fort Providence. This marriage marked the continuance of intermarriage between two families involved in the fur trade since least the 1810s. In 1912, her son JOSEPH married back into the LAFFERTY family.

Children of MARIE LAFFERTY and BAPTISTE BOUVIER are:

- i. JOSEPH⁵ BOUVIER, b. 1888, Fort Providence; m. CELINE LAFFERTY, 1912, Fort Providence; b. 1890, Fort Wrigley.
- ii. MARIE ROSE BOUVIER, b. February 28, 1890, Fort Providence; m. JOACHIM LEMOUEL, March 31, 1907, Fort Providence.
- iii. GEORGE BOUVIER, b. 1893, Fort Providence; m. VERONIQUE LECOQ, July 1914, Fort Providence.
- iv. JAMES BOUVIER, b. 1895, Fort Providence.
- v. ELIZABETH BOUVIER, b. 1898, Fort Providence.

18. ROSE⁴ LAFFERTY (LOUIS³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) married a Métis, JOSEPH VILLENEUVE. Her grandfather PIERRE² had originally worked with MICHEL VILLENEUVE in 1824. JOSEPH and ROSE had no known children.

19. MONIQUE⁴ LAFFERTY (LOUIS³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) married JOHNNY BERENS, a famous Métis river pilot on the Mackenzie River.

Children of MONIQUE LAFFERTY and JOHNNY BERENS are:

- i. HELEN⁵ BERENS, b. 1902
- ii. MARIE LOUISE, b. 1900
- iii. JOSEPH BERENS, b. 1903
- iv. ALICE BERENS, b. 1905
- v. BILLY BERENS, b. 1909
- vi. DOROTHY BERENS, b. 1915
- vii. MARIE BERENS, b. 1917
- viii. FREDDY BERENS, b. 1918
- ix. FREDERICK BERENS, b. 1919.

Generation No. 5

There are too many members of this generation to list here. To illustrate the continuing Métis marriage

preference for regional Métis and to complete the pedigree of the complainant, Mr. CLEM PAUL⁷, this genealogy report will continue with CLEM PAUL'S lineage only.

20. MARIE⁵ LAFFERTY (VITAL⁴, LOUISSON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) married a Métis, ROBERT ERASMUS. ROBERT was the son of the famous Métis, PETER ERASMUS who published his autobiography in the 1920s.⁴⁷

Children of MARIE LAFFERTY and ROBERT ERASMUS are:

- i. ALICE ERASMUS
- ii. CAROLINE ERASMUS
- iii. LYASA ERASMUS
- iv. PETE ERASMUS
- v. JOE ERASMUS
- vi. JIM ERASMUS
- vii. CATHERINE ERASMUS, m. JIM TURNER
- viii. VIRGINIA ERASMUS
- ix. THERESA ERASMUS, m. JOHN PAUL
- x. FRED ERASMUS
- xi. FLORENCE ERASMUS

Generation No. 6

21. THERESA⁶ ERASMUS (MARIE⁵, VITAL⁴, LOUISSON³, PIERRE², JOSEPH¹) married a Métis from Vermillion, JOHN PAUL.

Children of THERESA ERASMUS and JOHN PAUL are:

- i. JIMMY PAUL, b. 1943
- ii. PATRICK PAUL, 1944-1944
- iii. JOHN PAUL, b. 1946
- iv. MARGARET PAUL, b. 1948
- v. EDDIE PAUL, 1950-1974
- vi. KATHY PAUL, 1952
- vii. PETER PAUL, 1954
- viii. CLEM PAUL⁷, 1956
- ix. TERRY PAUL, 1958

Descendants of Baptiste Bouvier

Generation No. 1

1. JEAN BAPTISTE¹ BOUVIER was a French Canadian voyageur who joined the NWC in 1801. He worked as a voyageur in the English River, Athabasca, and Isle a la Crosse districts before his death in 1838. JEAN BAPTISTE married a Métis, MARGUERITE LARAUTE. Their children describe MARGUERITE as a "Cree halfbreed".⁴⁸

Children of BAPTISTE BOUVIER and MARGUERITE are:

- i. JEAN BAPTISTE BOUVIER
- ii. MICHEL BOUVIER
- iii. JOSEPH² BOUVIER, b. Abt. 1810, Isle a la Crosse; d. 1877.
- iv. ANTOINE BOUVIER
- v. MARGUERITE BOUVIER

Generation No. 2

2. JOSEPH² BOUVIER (*BAPTISTE*¹) was born abt. 1810 in Isle a la Crosse, a Métis community located at a strategic portage between the Red River settlement and the Athabasca district. JOSEPH'S daughter later reported, "he lived at Isle a la Crosse when young, he went to Red River & hired to the HBCo for the Mackenzie River in about 1830, he lived there [until] he died at Fort Resolution 18 years ago [1877]"⁴⁹ He married a Métis, CATHERINE BEAULIEU in 1840 at Fort Smith. Throughout the 1840s, he worked as a steersman at Fort Simpson, on the Mackenzie River.

Children of JOSEPH BOUVIER and CATHERINE BEAULIEU

- i. MARGUERITE³ BOUVIER, b. 1853, Fort Simpson.
- ii. JOSEPH BOUVIER, b. 1855, m. MARGUERITE LAFFERTY
- ii. JEAN BAPTISTE BOUVIER, b. Bet. 1855 - 1859, Fort Simpson.⁵⁰
- iii. CATHERINE BOUVIER, b. 1858, Fort Simpson.
- iv. MADELINE BOUVIER, b. 1859.

Generation No. 3

3. MARGUERITE³ BOUVIER (*JOSEPH*², *BAPTISTE*¹) was born 1853 in Fort Simpson. She married GEORGE GAIRDNER.

Children of MARGUERITE BOUVIER and GEORGE GAIRDNER are:

- i. JANE CATHERINE⁴ GAIRDNER, b. August 14, 1878, Fort Providence.
- ii. HENRY GAIRDNER, b. October 21, 1880; d. January 20, 1881.

4. JOSEPH³ BOUVIER, (*JOSEPH*², *BAPTISTE*¹) was born in 1855. In 1887 and 1890 he worked at Fort Rae. In 1876, he married MARGUERITE LAFFERTY. MARGUERITE later re-married MICHAEL MANDEVILLE, a Métis from another family with long connections to the LAFFERTYS and BOUVIERS.

Children of MARGUERITE LAFFERTY and JOSEPH BOUVIER are:

- i. MARIE⁵ BOUVIER, b. June 10, 1878, Fort Providence.
- ii. ROSINA BOUVIER, b. August 24, 1890, Fort Providence.
- iii. MICHEL BOUVIER, b. December 16, 1893, Fort Providence.
- iv. MARGUERITE BOUVIER, b. June 10, 1897, Fort Providence.
- v. BAPTISTE BOUVIER, b. January 02, 1879, Fort Providence; d. July 1899, Fort Providence.

5. JEAN BAPTISTE³ BOUVIER (*JOSEPH*², *BAPTISTE*¹) was born between 1855 and 1859 in Fort Simpson. He worked as an interpreter for the HBC at Fort Rae in 1883. In 1884, he married MARIE LAFERTÉ in Fort Providence.⁵¹

Children of JEAN BOUVIER and MARIE LAFERTÉ are:

- i. JOSEPH⁴ BOUVIER, b. 1888, Fort Providence.
- ii. ROSE BOUVIER, b. 1890, Fort Providence.
- iii. GEORGE BOUVIER, b. 1893, Fort Providence.
- iv. JAMES BOUVIER, b. 1895, Fort Providence.⁵²
- v. ELIZABETH BOUVIER, b. 1898, Fort Providence.

6. CATHERINE³ BOUVIER (*JOSEPH*², *BAPTISTE*¹) was born in 1858 at Fort Simpson. She married HENRY LAFERTÉ. CATHERINE reports that shed lived "all her life at Fort Rae". HENRY worked for the HBC at Fort Rae from 1868 to 1901.

Children of CATHERINE BOUVIER and HENRY are:

- i. PETIT LOUIS, b. 1877.
- ii. HARRY (LEGAS)⁵ LAFFERTY, b. September 1880; m. ELLEN FABIEN, 1907, Fort Rae.

- iii. MARIE MARGUERITE LAFFERTY, b. February 03, 1882; m. FRANÇOIS MANDEVILLE, 1902, Fort Rac.
- iv. CELINE LAFFERTY, b. 1895.
- v. PHILIP LAFFERTY, b. 1898.
- vi. PATRICE LAFFERTY, b. 1900.
- vii. VITAL LAFFERTY, b. 1901.
- viii. ADELINE LAFFERTY, b. August 17, 1892; m. JAMES WAITE, 1921, Fort Rac.
- ix. JONAS LAFFERTY, b. 1906.

7. MADELINE³ BOUVIER (*JOSEPH², BAPTISTE¹*) was born in 1859. In 1879, she married a Métis, BONIFACE LAFERTÉ.

Children of MADELINE BOUVIER and BONIFACE LAFFERTY are:

- i. MARIE ROSE³ LAFFERTY, b. 1881, Fort Providence.
- ii. JULIE LAFFERTY, b. 1882, Fort Providence; m. ARCHIBALD GARDINER, 1906, Fort Nelson.
- i. GEORGE LAFFERTY, b. 1884, Fort Wrigley; m. ELIZABETH LA ROULETTE, Fort Providence; d. January 10, 1922.
- ii. JEAN BAPTISTE, b. 1896.
- iii. VICTOR LAFFERTY, b. Bet. 1886 - 1887, Fort Liard; m. MARY ROSE MADELINE MANDEVILLE, 1912, Fort Resolution.
- iv. MARGUERITE LAFFERTY, b. 1890, Fort Nelson.
- v. CHARLES LAFFERTY, b. 1893, Fort Liard; d. 1898, Fort Providence.
- vi. JOSEPH LAFFERTY, b. 1895, Fort Liard; m. CELINE LAVIOLETTE.
- vii. MICHEL LAFFERTY, b. 1898, Fort Nelson.
- viii. ISADORE LAFFERTY, b. 1903.
- ix. ALBERT LAFFERTY, b. 1906.
- i. JULIA LAFERTÉ⁴ (LANOLX), b. 1882, Fort Providence.

Generation No. 4

8. JOSEPH⁴ BOUVIER (*JEAN BAPTISTE³, JOSEPH², BAPTISTE¹*) was born in 1888 in Fort Providence. He worked at Fort Providence as an interpreter for the Northern Trading Company. In 1912, he married a Métis, CELINE LAFERTÉ at Fort Providence, daughter of ALEXIS LAFERTÉ and ELIZA MCIVOR.⁵³

Children of JOSEPH BOUVIER and CELINE LAFERTÉ are:

- i. CORINE⁵ BOUVIER, b. 1913.
- ii. PAULINE BOUVIER, b. 1915.
- iii. JOSEPH GEORGE BOUVIER, b. 1920.

9. MARY ROSE⁴ BOUVIER (*JEAN BAPTISTE³, JOSEPH², BAPTISTE¹*) was born February 28, 1891 in Fort Providence. She married JOACHIM LEMOUEL on March 31, 1907 in Fort Providence.⁵⁴

Children of MARY BOUVIER and JOACHIM LEMOUEL are:

- i. JEAN MARIE⁵ LEMOUEL, b. 1911, Fort Rae.
- ii. DORA LEMOUEL, b. 1913, Arctic Red River.
- iii. JOACHIM LEMOUEL, b. 1915, Fort Wrigley.

10. JULIA LAFERTÉ⁴ (*MADELINE³ BOUVIER, JOSEPH², BAPTISTE¹*) was born in 1882 at Fort Providence. She married ARCHIBALD GARDINER in 1906 at Fort Nelson.⁵⁵

Children of JULIA and ARCHIBALD GARDINER are:

- i. GEORGE⁵ GARDINER, b. 1906, Fort Nelson.
- ii. EDWARD GARDINER, b. 1908, Fort Nelson.
- iii. LIZA GARDINER, b. 1914, Fort Simpson.
- iv. PAULINE GARDINER, b. 1916, Fort Simpson.

Descendants of Julian Stewart Camsell

Generation No. 1

1. In 1859, the HBC hired JULIAN STEWART¹ Onion as a clerk for Fort Simpson. JULIAN worked at posts all along the Mackenzie River before his retirement in 1900. In 1873, he was appointed Chief trader at Fort Simpson and Chief Factor in 1884.⁵⁶ In 1876, while on furlough to England, he changed his name to CAMSELL (his mother's name). He died in 1907 in Winnipeg. JULIAN married a Métis, SARAH FOULDS.

Children of JULIAN CAMSELL and SARAH FOULDS are:

- i. WILLIAM EDWARD, b. 18 November 1869
- ii. ARTHUR FREDERICK² CAMSELL, b. 1870. married Margaret Sebbeston
- iii. GEORGE, b. 1870
- iv. LOUISA, b. 1872
- v. CHARLES, b. 1876
- vi. CECELIA, b. 1880
- vii. FRANK ERNEST CAMSELL, b. 1878, Fort Simpson; d. 1924.⁵⁷
- viii. PHILIP SCOTT, b. 1883
- ix. ETHEL, b. 1885

Generation No. 2

2. WILLIAM EDWARD² CAMSELL (*JULIAN STEWART*¹) apprenticed as a clerk in the Athabasca district before acting a clerk in New Caledonia, English River, Cumberland, and the James Bay. He retired in 1918.⁵⁸ His children, if any, are not known.
2. ARTHUR FREDERICK² CAMSELL (*JULIAN STEWART*¹) was born in 1870. In 1889, he started his career as an apprenticing clerk at Fort Rae. In 1892, he was promoted to clerk at Fort Rae. From 1895 to 1936, he acted as a post manager at Fort Simpson, Hay River, and Fort Norman. He received his pension in 1936. In 1901, he married (1) MARGARET SIBBESTON at Fort Simpson. He later married (2) ROSE KIRKLY in 1908 at Fort Simpson.⁵⁹

Child of ARTHUR CAMSELL and MARGARET SIBBESTON is:

- i. JAMES HENRY³ CAMSELL, b. 1902.

Children of ARTHUR CAMSELL and ROSE KIRKLY are:

- ii. MARY³ CAMSELL, b. 1911.
- iii. MABLE CAMSELL, b. 1913.
- iv. CHARLES CAMSELL, b. 1917.

4. FRANK ERNEST² CAMSELL (*JULIAN STEWART*¹) was born in 1878 at Fort Simpson. He worked as a clerk and post manager in the Mackenzie River district.⁶⁰ In 1909, he married a Métis, MARIE MADELINE BUSHIE at Fort Smith. In 1918, FRANK left the HBC to be the store manager for Lamson and Hubbard, an independent fur trading business at Rae. In 1922, FRANK drowned between Old Fort Rae and the present day Rae when his dog team broke through the ice in the North Arm. His young daughter MARGARAT EDNA CECILIA died with him.⁶¹ The location of his drowning is now known as Frank's Channel.

Children of FRANK CAMSELL and MARIE BUSHIE are:

- i. ETHEL MAY³ CAMSELL, b. 1914, Fort Smith.
- ii. FRANK ALBERT CAMSELL, b. 1916, Fort Smith.
- iii. MARGARAT EDNA CECILIA CAMSELL, b. 1919, Fort Rae; d. 1922.
- iv. FLORENCE MARY CAMSELL, b. 1921.
- v. ERNEST CAMSELL, b. 1924.

Generation No. 3

3. ERNEST³ CAMSELL (*JULIAN STEWART*¹) was born in 1924. In the early 1940s, ERNEST worked for the HBC at Rae, and in the early 1960s as a "patrol man" for the federal government. In 1948, ERNEST married a Métis, CELINE LAFFERTY. ERNEST is on the current board of Directors of the NSMA.

¹ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.

² National Archives of Canada (hereafter NAC), RG 15 volume 1322, claim of Louis Laferté, no. 79.

³ NAC, RG 15 volume 1322, birth certificate no. 915, certified by Louis Laferté.

⁴ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.

⁵ NAC, RG 15 volume 1322, claim of Agathe Laferté, no. 494.

⁶ Harry W. Duckworth, "Paul St. Germain" Appendix B, in Harry W. Duckworth, ed., *The English River Book: A Journal and Account Book of 1786* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1990): 168.

⁷ C. Stuart Houston, "Pierre St. Germain", Commentary, in C. Stuart Houston, ed., *Arctic Ordeal: The journal of John Richardson, Surgeon-Naturalist with Franklin, 1820-1822* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1984): 215.

⁸ D.N. Sprague and R.P. Frye, *The Genealogy of the First Metis Nation* (Winnipeg: Pemmican Publications: 1983): table 2.

⁹ Provincial Archives of Manitoba (hereafter PAM), Red River Census records for 1838, 1840, 1843, 1846-7, 1849, and 1856.

¹⁰ D.N. Sprague, *op. cit.*, table 2.

¹¹ NAC, RG 15 volume 1323, claim of Marie Migneault, no. 507; RG 15 volume 1319, claim of Angelique Berthelet.

¹² NAC, RG 15 volume 1319, claim of Angelique Berthelet.

¹³ NAC, RG 15 volume 1323, claim of Marie Migneault, no. 507.

¹⁴ PAM, 1870 census.

¹⁵ NAC, RG 15 volume 1322, birth certificate of Joseph Laferté no. 915, certified by Louis Laferté.

¹⁶ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, Treaty 11 scrip application, Alex Joseph Lafferty, no. 38.

¹⁷ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.

¹⁸ PAM, Red River Census records for 1843, and 1846-7.

¹⁹ NAC RG 15, volume 1353, claim of Louis Lafferty, 1900, no. 205; RG 15, volume 1322, claim of Catherine Saunders, 1876, no. 361.

²⁰ NAC RG 15, volume 1322, claim of Antoine Berthelet, 1875, no. 916.

²¹ NAC RG 15, volume 1353, claim of Louis Lafferty, 1900, no. 205.

²² NAC RG 15, volume 1322, claim of Catherine Saunders, 1876, no. 361.

²³ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.

²⁴ NAC RG 15, volume 1322, claim of Madeline Laferté, no. 916.

²⁵ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.

²⁶ NAC RG 15, D-II-1, volume 702, file 352024, claim of Marie Beaulieu, née Laferté.

²⁷ HBCA, personnel profile of Alexis Bonamie (dit L'Esperance).

²⁸ NAC RG 15, series D-II-8-a, volume 1319, claim of Caroline Boucher.

²⁹ NAC RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Marguerite Bouvier, 1924, no. 54; RG 15, volume 1353, claim of Boniface Lafferty, 1900, 190-197; RG 15, file 1169601, claim of Alexis Lafferty RG 15, D-II-1, volume 986, file 1169601, 1900-1908; NAC, RG 15, D-II-1, volume 832, file 626214, claim of Vital and Caroline Laferty, 1900; NAC RG15, volume 1337, 1900, claim of Marie Bouvier.

³⁰ NAC RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Marguerite Bouvier, 1924, no. 54.

³¹ RG 15, volume 1353, claim of Boniface Lafferty, 1900, 190-197.

- ³² NAC, RG 15, file 1169601, claim of Alexis Lafferty RG 15, D-II-1, volume 986, file 1169601, 1900-1908.
- ³³ NAC, RG 15, D-II-1, volume 832, file 626214, claim of Vital and Caroline Laferty, 1900
- ³⁴ NAC RG15, volume 1337, 1900, claim of Marie Bouvier.
- ³⁵ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.
- ³⁶ NAC, RG 15, volume 1324, claim of Alexander Wensell, 1875, no. 4290.
- ³⁷ D.N. Sprague, *op. cit.*, table 3.
- ³⁸ NAC, RG 15, volume 1356, claim of Marie Lizotte, 1899, no. 375.
- ³⁹ NAC, RG 15, volume 135, claim of Joseph William Laferty, 1899, no. 26.
- ⁴⁰ NAC, RG 15, volume 1359, claim of Jean Baptiste Laferty, 1899, no. 413.
- ⁴¹ NAC, RG 15, volume 1356, claim of Elizabeth Lizotte, 1899, no. 376.
- ⁴² See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.
- ⁴³ HBCA F 5/1.
- ⁴⁴ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Harry Lafferty, 1924, no. 64.
- ⁴⁵ NAC, RG 15, file 5034187, claim of Marie M. Maindeville, 1925-26.
- ⁴⁶ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Adeline Waite, 1921, no.2.
- ⁴⁷ Peter Erasmus, *Buffalo Days and Nights* (Calgary: Fifth House Publishers, 1999)
- ⁴⁸ NAC, RG 15, D-II-1, volume 702, file 351495, claim of Joseph Bouvier, 1894-1901.
- ⁴⁹ NAC, RG 15, D-II-1, volume 702, file 351495, claim of Joseph Bouvier, 1894-1901.
- ⁵⁰ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Jean Baptiste Bouvier, 1921, no.18.
- ⁵¹ NAC, RG 15, volume 1337, claim of Jean Baptiste Bouvier, 1900, no.55-60; RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Jean Baptiste Bouvier, 1921, no. 18.
- ⁵² NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of James Bouvier, 1921, no.20.
- ⁵³ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Joseph Bouvier, 1921, no.19.
- ⁵⁴ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Mary Rose Lemouel, 1921, no.21.
- ⁵⁵ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Julia Gardiner, 1921, no.16.
- ⁵⁶ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.
- ⁵⁷ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Frank Ernest Camsell, 1921, no.31.
- ⁵⁸ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.
- ⁵⁹ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Arthur Frederick Camsell, 1921, no.9.
- ⁶⁰ See NSMA ancestors' employment records database.
- ⁶¹ NAC, RG 15, volume 1372, claim of Frank Ernest Camsell, 1921, no.31.