## François Courchene. (1833-1883)

François was born in St. Boniface, the son of François Courchene (French) and his third wife Françoise Beauchamp, the Metis daughter of Jean Baptiste Beauchamp and Josephte Daze. François Jr. married Marie Louise St. Pierre, the daughter of François St. Pierre and Marie Laverdure on January 10, 1860 at St. Joseph's. They had fifteen children born variously at St. Boniface, Devil's Lake, Stump Lake Leroy, St. Peter's Mission, Montana, Marias River and Wood Mountain. In 1869, François Courchene received scrip under the 1863 Pembina treaty.

François Courchene was born in 1833 at the Métis settlement of St. Boniface Parish in Manitoba, Canada. By the 1850's, he was living in the Métis settlement area of Pembina County, North Dakota, and in the 1870s; he received scrip under the 1863 Pembina treaty. His wife, whom he married in 1860, was born in Pembina County and also had Pembina Band ancestry. Between 1860 and 1882, they had 15 children, born in various places in North Dakota (1860's), Saskatchewan (1870's), and Montana (1880's) respectively. He and his wife remained in Montana, and around 1917 became part of the federally-recognized Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation in Phillips County on the Triangle, as did as least three of his children. Some of his other children lived in Augusta or near the Fort Belknap Reservation on the Triangle. One daughter moved to North Dakota, and her children could be found in that state, as well as Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Alberta.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Summary taken from "Summary under the Criteria and Evidence for Final Determination Against the Federal Acknowledgment of the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana." Prepared in Response to a Petition Submitted to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs for Federal Acknowledgment that this Group Exists as an Indian Tribe. October 27, 2009:181.