Pierre Narcisse Dorion (Lorion), HBC Voyageur (1807-1887)
(Son of Bernard Lorion & M-Catherine Chalifoux)
& Cecile Mawishk McDonell (1813-1875)
(daughter of Allan McDonell and his Ojibwa “Country Wife”)
Married June 1837, Mission of Mattawa, Ont.


List of Records

• 1830-1840 HBC Service record. Narcisse Lorion, Voyageur (Norway House, Mattawan & Lac des Allumettes)
• 1837 Marriage: Pierre Narcisse Lorion is listed as majeur, “engagé de la Baie d’Hudson au poste de Mattawan, and Marie Cecile Mawishk McDonell is listed as “métisse”, baptisée, majeure. Witnesses: Jean-Baptiste Sabourin and Alex Benoit. Note that their two children, Narcisse Jr. (b. 1836) and Marie (b. 1834) were legitimized that day “autant que de besoin” (as it was imperative)
• 1871 Census : Cecile’s birthplace listed as Manitoba, race as Scot.
• 1875 Death : Cecile Mawishk McDonell, Mattawa, Ont. (smallpox)
• 1887 Death: Narcisse Lorion Sr. Mattawa, Ont.

CHILDREN
3. Sophie Marguerite Lorion-Dorion (1838-1921) Baptism record: Mattawa Marriage 1858: Antoine Colton
(*it is around that time that Lorion and Dorion were both used. McDonell and McDonald were also used for Marie Cecile.)
5. Daniel Donell Dorion-Lorion (1847-1874)
7. Julia Dorion-Lorion (1852-1875) Spouse: Moise Robert
8. Louisa Dorion-Lorion (1855-1877) Spouse: William Wright
1830-1840 HBC Service record. Narcisse Lorion, Voyageur (Norway House, Mattawan & Lac des Allumettes)

NAME: LAURION, Narcisse
PARISH: Point des Trembles (Montreal)
ENTERED SERVICE: 1830
DATES: (fl.1830-1840) (b. c.1806)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outfit Year*</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Post:</th>
<th>District:</th>
<th>HBCA Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1830, June 16</td>
<td>Middleman</td>
<td>Signed a three year contract at</td>
<td>Norway House</td>
<td>B.239/w/1, #1127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1830-1831</td>
<td>Middleman</td>
<td>Frot Establishment at Norway</td>
<td>House</td>
<td>B.239/g/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1831-1833</td>
<td>Middleman</td>
<td>Norway House</td>
<td></td>
<td>B.239/g/11-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1834, July 17</td>
<td>Returned to Montreal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B.239/w/1, #1127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835-1837</td>
<td>Labourer</td>
<td>Matawin</td>
<td>Fort Coulonge</td>
<td>B.134/g/10-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837-1840</td>
<td>Labourer</td>
<td>Lac des Allumettes</td>
<td>Fort Coulonge</td>
<td>B.134/g/12-14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE:

**Narcisse Lorion** was a 3rd generation Voyageur. He entered the service of the HBC as a “middle man” in 1830 and was posted to Norway House. In July 1834, he returned to Montreal with his country wife Cecile Mawishk McDonell, and their baby girl Marie, who was baptized in Pointe-aux-Trembles in 1835. In 1835, narcisse was posted at Fort Coulonge as a labourer, and then in Mattawa in 1837, where he and Cecile were married in church by Father. Charles de Bellefeuille. Narcisse left the HBC in 1840.

**Cecile Mawishk McDonell’s** Sauteux mother is not mentioned in any documents. She was a Sauteux of Red River, Manitoba where Allan McDonell, spend many years in the service of the MWCo and then the HBC. Cecile is listed in documents as Sauteux, Metisse, and native of Manitoba, which proves that she and her two siblings were not the children of Margaret Cameron as some researchers previously believed based on the records available at the time. The discovery of Margaret’s death record proves that she too much younger than Allan to be the mother of Alexander, Sophie and Cecile.

Based on that discovery, we now know that Chief Factor, Allan McDonell, had at least three children with his Ojibway “country wife”, whose identity is unknown, as is the identity of so many First Nation women of that era: Alexander (1808-1841), Sophia (1811-1835), and Cecile (1813-1875).

- Cecile married by contract to Narcisse Lorion, about 1833, Red River, MB, then in Mattawa in 1837
- Sophia married John Livingston in Red River 1834 and drowned in 1835, with her half-sister Margaret (1825-1835) in Red River, MB
- Alexander married Marianne McKay at Fort Temiscamingue, Qc in July 1837.

Allan’s Ojibwa wife died before 1825, at which time he was posted in Temiscamingue, Qc and took a second country wife: Margaret Cameron, d/o Aeneas Cameron and his Algonquin country wife. In 1834, Allan McDonell is back in Rupert’s Land until his retirement in 1843, when he and Margaret Cameron settled in Montreal, Qc.
1837 Marriage (p1 & 2): Pierre Narcisse Lorion is listed as majeur, “engagé de la Baie d’Hudson au poste de Mattawan, and Marie Cecile Mawishk McDonell is listed as “métisse”, baptisée, majeure. Witnesses: Jean-Baptiste Sabourin and Alex Benoit. Note that their two children, Narcisse Jr. (b. 1836) and Marie (b. 1834) were *legitimized* that day “autant que de besoin” (as it was imperative).
Les deux enfants, âgés de quinze mois, et ce en présence des Témoins susdits.

Ch. DelBellefeuille fecit.
1871 Census: Cecile's birthplace listed as Manitoba, race as Scot. Narcisse and Cecile have 4 children with them: Donald (Donell) 22, Alexander 20, Julia 18 and Louise 14.
1875 Death: Cecile Mawishk McDonell, Mattawa, Ont. (smallpox)

1887 Death: Narcisse Lorion Sr. Mattawa, Ont.

Thank you Penny Beachley.

Left to rt, back row: Jean Sauve/Alec Wilson, Step sons, William McCracken/son, Frank McCracken/son, Jean Sauve/Alex Wilson, step sons, don't know which of the step sons are which. Middle row: May be a wife, don't know, Juliette McCracken/daughter, Mary Wilson, Sauve, McCracken, wife of John McCracken, Mary McCracken/oldest daughter, Margaret McCracken, Frank's McCracken's wife. CHILDREN FRONT ROW: Daughter Mary had boys, that may be boys, Don't know who the girls are.
3 - Sophie Marguerite Lorion-Dorion (1838-1921)

1838 Baptism record: Mattawa

Marriage 1858: Antoine Colton, Metis

(*it is around that time that Lorion and Dorion were both used. McDonell and McDonald were also used for Marie Cecile.)

Confirmed by Jeannette Bastien:
The gentleman is Antoine Colton, the woman sitting down is his wife Sophie Dorion, the woman on the left is their daughter Marguerite Colton, and the baby is Marguerite’s daughter Eliza Dupuis...
4 - Caroline Marianne Dorion (1845-1916) no baptism located
Marriage : Joseph Lapensée-Clausier, 1864, Mattawa, Ont.

5 - Daniel Donell Dorion-Lorion (1847-1874) Baptism, 1847, Mattawa, Ont.
Marriage to Emillie Martel, 1896, Mattawa, Ont.
7 - Julia Dorion-Lorion (1852-1875) Marriage: Moise Robert, 1871, Mattawa

8 - Louisa Dorion-Lorion (1855-1877) Spouse: William Wright, 1876, Mattawa
Allan Lundie McDonell 1776-1859

NAME: McDonell, Allan  PARISH: Scotland (B.134-g) ENTERED SERVICE: 1821 DATES: b.ca.1778
[Hudson’s Bay (B.135-a)] d.15 June 1859 (B.134-h 17 fo.695)

**Family**

Brother: Hon. John McDonell, Detroit (D 4:22, fo.71)

Wife: Margaret [spouse wife], a native woman, baptized by Rev. David T. Jones 8 December 1833 (E 4:1, fo.105d)

Son: Alexander McDonell joined the Hudson’s Bay Company 14 July 1826 (A 32:40, fo.259)

Daughters: Sophia (1813-1835) married John Livingston 18 December 1834 and Margaret (1822-1835) died while boarding with Rev. David T. Jones (P.A.M., St. John’s parish recods P. Glazebrook G., Huronville Correspondence p.207)

1836 Mother and two daughters boarding at Red River, placed there by Sir George Simpson (P.A.M.,MGZ A6,fo.105)

1852 son John was in prison and his father arranged passage for him to Australia (D 5:34, fo.185)

In correspondence relating to his will (B.134-b 17 fo.109) three sons are mentioned: Angus C., Allan and John as well as a daughter who was living with her mother (B.134-b 17 fo.109). A copy of the will can be obtained from Archives Nationales du Quebec, 1945 rue Mullins, Montreal PQ, H3K 1N9: deposit reledge No.8687, Greffe, Etienne Guy

See also - Search File: "McDonell, Allan"

**Filename**: M’Donell, Allan (1778-1859) (fl. XY, NWC, HBC 1799-1840); ES: wg December 1986 ; April/99/mhd
McDONELL, ALLAN, fur trader and politician; b. c. 1776 probably in Glen Garry (Highland), Scotland, son of Donald MacDonell, seventh of Lundie, and his third wife, a Miss MacDonald of Islay; d. 16 June 1859 in Montreal.

Having lost his ancestral lands through impoverishment, Donald MacDonell immigrated to British North America with his family and settled at Martintown, Upper Canada. In February 1799 Allan, who signed his name McDonell, joined the Montreal fur-trading firm of Forsyth, Richardson and Company [see John Forsyth*; John Richardson*] as an apprentice clerk and was sent to the northwest. This firm was one of the partners in the New North West Company (sometimes called the XY Company), which was competing with the North West Company. After the union of these two companies in 1804 [see Sir Alexander Mackenzie*], McDonell served as clerk in the expanded NWC at Fort Dauphin (Man.) on Lake Dauphin, and two years later he accompanied the Nor’Westers Alexander Henry* the younger and Charles Chaboillez* on their expedition to the Mandan villages on the upper Missouri River. During the years of conflict between the NWC and the Hudson’s Bay Company, he remained in the Fort Dauphin and Red River departments, becoming an NWC partner in 1816. In June of that year he was in the Red River area and was listed by HBC officer Peter Fidler* as one of the NWC men “looking on” while the group of Métis led by Cuthbert Grant ransacked the HBC’s Brandon House. Later that summer he was one of the NWC partners arrested by Lord Selkirk [Douglas*] at Fort William (Thunder Bay, Ont.) as accessories to the murder of Governor Robert Semple*, who had been killed with about 20 Red River colonists in a battle with Grant’s men at Seven Oaks (Winnipeg) on 19 June. On 22 Oct. 1818, with 13 others, he was indicted by the grand jury at York (Toronto), but he and several others were never tried, apparently not being in custody. He does not seem to have been actively involved in the events at Seven Oaks, although the testimony of one witness, John Palmer Bourke, implied that he had a reputation for violence.

When the HBC absorbed the NWC in 1821 [see Simon McGillivray*], McDonell was made chief trader and placed in charge of the Swan River district at Fort Dauphin. One of the principal functions of this district was the collection and transport of provisions such as salt, sugar, and pemmican for the more remote northwestern posts. Each spring McDonell conducted these supplies down the Assiniboine River and up to Norway House (Man.). He did not take advantage of the furlough granted to him in 1823 and stayed in the Swan River district until 1826, when the Council of the Northern Department posted him to the Timiskaming district. Initially he shared the management of this district with Chief Trader Angus Cameron*; in 1827 he became sole commander and a year later he was promoted chief factor.

By 1834 HBC governor George Simpson was dissatisfied with McDonell’s handling of his men and the Indians, and his methods for dealing with the independent traders who were moving into the area. McDonell was therefore granted a year’s furlough and was replaced by Cameron. In 1835 he was appointed to the Rainy Lake district; he stayed there until 1841 when he was allowed two years’ furlough before officially retiring in 1843. While at Rainy Lake he had been appointed to the Council of Assiniboia on 20 March 1839.

After retirement from the HBC, McDonell settled on the mountain in Montreal with his wife and family. McDonell’s wife, who was baptized Margaret at Red River in 1833,