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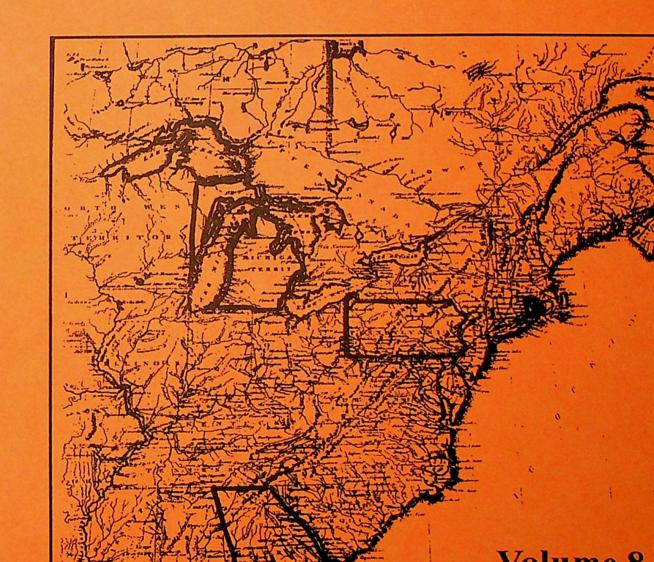
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Canadian-American Journal of History and Genealogy for Canadian, French and Metis Study

Number 8

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Memoirs of Ulric Dubois

Contributed by Karen Corbeil with the permission of Lois Kraft daughter of Ulric Dubois

Endnotes and parentheses are mine; otherwise, it is copied exactly as written. Thanks to Lois Kraft for permission to publish and verifying the author - her father, Ulric Harold Dubois (1903-1989)

Karin Corbeil

June, 1982

Claudia asked me to write a résumé of my short life and as that isn't better or worse than the others of my time. It probably interested you to know a little more of your grandparents, of which I wish I knew more.

The farthest back that I've heard of is that a rich family in England who had six girls and one boy. The father was mean and the boy ran away and landed in the navy in Canada—Canada belonged to England—where he worked, if I recall, for about 84.00 per month.

He then married a French girl and soon after one of the Gennyhouse girls got married and the whole family celebrating the wedding went on a sea voyage and they all drowned. Leaving a large fortune, they advertised all over for the then young man. He knew about it but his wife who couldn't talk English re-

fused to go to England so he didn't make himself known. His wife as it turned out was Mother's (Elmire Cheeney) greatgrandmother and her brother tried to recover the fortune but it was too late and it all had been returned to the English government.

I can't trace Mother or Dad sides of the family further than Canada. I've often heard them say (they lived) "two weeks below Quebec". That was the time it takes to travel that distance with a team of oxen.

My folks never went to school, however, mother taught herself to read the French and English newspaper. Mother had one sister and four brothers and at the age of 10 Mother worked in a factory. At the end of the day they'd put her pay in an envelope to take home. Dad lost his Dad when he was seven years old (1865) and he too had to work. His work was in the woods and became quite a chopper (sic) as they had a lot of competition with other camps and he represented his camp and became known as the "champ." Time passes on anyway, Noe Dubois (my Dad) was reunited in marriage to

Elmire Cheeney (my Mother). He was 23 and she was 17 when married on the 14th of November 1881. Dad was born November 14, 1858; died July 24, 1942. Mother was born October 27, 1864.

While still in Canada, Delia was born 12/24/1882; died in 1923 and Zatique on 8/26/1884; died in 1965. Now here especially I wish I had more information. The territory in the West in the U.S. opened ap to settlers. If one settled on a piece of land 160 acres for one year the land became his. How the folks ever decided to pull (up) stakes and move so far to a different country and couldn't speak English. Anyway, be as it may, they came (in 1886) to Devil's Lake, ND the end of the line. There they traveled by wagon how much further I do not know, but mother had none of her family and Dad had his mother and stepfather plus two brothers and a sister and their spouses. They traveled many days until they came to Turtle Mountain. There they decided to make a stand. All the way from Devil's Lake the wind always blows mostly from the north and thinking that the mountain would provide protection plus seeing all the trees they would have lumber to build and for heat. Dad settled by a little creek, which at the time ran year round. His mother and stepdad settled 3/4 mile north and Dad's sister (Emmerance Dubois Picard), the Picards settled 1/2 mile east. I don't know

about the two other brothers.

Just think, stopping in open space with a wife and two small kids between one and three, that was around 1886. First they had to cut sod to build a home. Dad had a team of oxen and a cow. I have mortgage papers whereby Dad mortgaged the team of oxen for a walking plow with a steel beam. He got that from Bottineau which was also opening up. They wagon (ed) all the merchandise from Devil's Lake. The game was plentiful and Dad had a nozzle shotgan and for a few years plas a garden made their living. Another kid Louria Virginia 6/27/1887; then Maria 8/7/1888; Henry 8/3/1890; (Maria) Anna 10/271/1891; Regina 6/25/1894; John (Noe) 7/25/1895; (Noe) Ephrem 7/17/1896;10 (Adelard) Ben 2/12/1898; Noe (Hubert) 9/19/1896; 11 (Alfred) William 7/24/1899; Eugene 3/9/1901; Ulric 1/11/1903; Claudia 5/19/1904; Albert 5/2/1907, died 1960.

Times as we know them couldn't have been easy. By the time I was born times for my folks were getting better. Dad had built a log house out of oak logs all squared by axe. They were about 8" square. Can you imagine the work? Two stories, large kitchen and living room combine; one bedroom plas a parfor. Had to go through the bedroom to get to the parlor or go through another outside door. In the kitchen were stairs going up to 2nd story where it had two large bedrooms, one for the boys and one for the girls.

I remember living in that house. We had (a) heater in the parlor which was only heated on Sunday and (one) in the kitchen. The upstairs was not heated except (for the) heat (that) escaped from downstairs through grates and stairways. In the morning, we'd run down stairs. Mother kept the oven door open to heat the house.

Delia was married and gone 13 before I was born and three boys that died between one and three years old who were gone before I was born so I suppose they never had more than a dozen kids living home at any one time.

But you can imagine having that many kids with no electricity; no running water; no inside plambing; no bath tab. All the water had to be heated in a boiler (about seven gallons) on the kitchen range plus another reservoir attached to the kitchen range. The bath tab was a round galvanized tab that was also part of the washing machine; the other half was the scrub tab.

I remember the first washing machine that Mother got. A wooden tub with a handle on top that had to be pulled back and forth. That was the kids job to pull that handle

back and forth—15 minutes per load...
believe me we never ran over. Mother always had the clock nearby. Then we had to turn the handle on the ringer. The water was seldom changed....guess you can wash in dirty water.

Dad built a new house in 1912. All the kids were growing up. Six bedroom house and a couple of years later, Anna, Regina and Henry were gone so the house was plenty big. But still no running water or electricity. These came about after we were all out on our own.

In later years, however, the folks were able to enjoy a little rest. They spent a winter in Florida and several in California. 14 Mother had a brother 15 who would come from Massachusetts and the three would vote on where to spend the winter. Gene did the farm work and later Leo and Claudia and the folks always home in the summer. This went on till Mother who always had a bad stomach supposedly developed cancer and died in 1932. I've thought an awful lot about that. We just didn't know any better but I believe that Mother probably died of alcers that got so bad that she couldn't eat. She was never operated on. The doctor said cancer and that was that. Later in life, I began to think about it, trusting to a small town doctor. I wish we had known enough to take her to Rochester, MN. She probably

would have lived many more years, but we didn't know any better. I was at the time managing a hardware store at Marshfield, WI and Ed was working for me so we in turn went to see Mother. At that time, there were only trains and it took about three days. So, I never got to see Mother again. She was very religious and wasn't afraid to die. That one person that really believe in God and prayed a lot and doubt that she ever did anything wrong. I feel sure that she's up there where she hears me when I often call on her for help and guidance.

Things after Mother passed away were not as pleasant for Dad. He visited with the kids, spent a few winters in California and mostly on the farm. He lived for another 10 years, died at the hospital in Bottineau. He was 84 years old. I was with him when he died. He was in the hospital 10 days and suffered a lot. I gave blood for a transfusion. Doctor said it would ease the pain. I said I didn't want to do it if it would prolong his suffering. Amen for the folks. Ten days in the hospital, the bills was \$43.00.

END NOTES:

- 1 Claudia Lumina Dubois Bergeron, b. May 19, 1904, sister to the author Ulric Dubois
- 2. I have researched the **Gunhouse** family to try and verify this but their were no group family deaths due to a boating accident in the area that Ralph **Gunhouse** came from in the early or mid 1800s. Ralph had three sisters and five brothers based on baptismal records in Belton, Axhomie, Lincoinshire, England. Ralph was 37 yrs old and Constance Baril 30 yrs old when they married (between. 4 March 1843 and 10 May 1844 in Congrega-

tional Church, St. Francis Reserve, Odanak, Québec, Canada). This gives some room for the fact that Ralph may have been previously married in England prior to coming to Canada. A Ralph Gunhouse is found on the British Vital Records Index (FHL Number 1545696) as marrying a Mary Bailey on 2 October 1827 recorded in: Fishlake, York, England. The IGI batch number C067054 also lists a John Gunhouse, son of Ralph and Mary, born 25 March 1838 in Chelsea, St. Lukes, London, England.

- 3. I have found two sisters and six brothers. Elmire was the daughter of Charles Cheeney and Maric Gunhouse (b. 21December 1845 d. 22 November 1923) (also spelled Ganahase/Gennyhouse).
- 4. Hubert **Dubois** (c. 1834 c. 1865) married Adeline Deliria **Fugere**.
- 5. Should be 26 November 1881. Married at St-Jean Baptiste, Suncook, Merrimack Co. NH.
- 6 Ulric wonders why they decided to relocate to the U. S. western frontier. At that time when the Homestead Acts were passed and lands opened up, the recently constructed railroads forced the owners to advertise around the world for settlers to come to this area in the U.S. The railroads needed people in order to become profitable. They needed the farmers to grow the crops so they could ship them east, they needed townspeople to work the railroads and they needed laborers to constrict the railroads. Towns literally sprung up overnight along the tracks. Flyers were sent to all parts of Europe and Canada, many with glowing reports, pictures and enticements if people would move. (See: Bad Land: An American Romance by Jonathan Raban. I highly recommend this book). I cannot say that this inspired Noe and Elmire to emigrate but it certainly may have helped in making their decision.

Three brothers of Ulric's: Jean-Baptiste, Noe Ephrem and Adelard all died young. Noe, Sr. and Elmire had a total of 16 children born between 1882 and 1907.

- 8. Louria Virginia **Dubois** is the grandmother of C. Paul **Corbeil**. His wife, Karin **Corbeil** is the submitter of this memoir.
- 9. Should be 25 June 1894
- 10. Should be 17 July 1895
- 11. Should be 09 September 1896
- 12. 11 January 1903
- 13. Delia **Dubois** married Zotique Oliver **Fugere** on Oct. 29, 1899 Tarsus Parish, Bottineau County, ND
- 14. Their daughter, Louria Virginia Dubois Corbeil lived in Long Beach, CA.
- 15. Charles, Albert, and/or Ralph Cheeney who lived in Meridian, CT.

Rendezvous at Big Island

by Perry Vining

Rendezvous (a get-together) was originally an event to allow fur companies, Natives and Free Trappers to gather and exchange furs for trade goods. It was an annual meeting of all the powers that be from the different fur companies such as Hudson Bay, NW Company, Columbia, American and XY Company to hold annual events in their respective region that would bring all the trade goods (fabric, blankets, kettles, ax heads, beads etc.) to a central location so the Natives and free-trappers of the area could congregate and deliver all the trapped furs for an exchange.

This was also a time when the voyageurs would settle up their account with the company and either get paid what was due them or sign on for another year if it so happens that they were in "debt" to the company for "loans" during the past season. It was often the case that the voyageurs would be in debt and sign on "voluntarily" because that was the only way out of debt.

Voyageur is the French word for traveler. But in the Fur Trade Era, it referred to a group of men employed by the various companies who acted as canoe paddlers, bundle carriers, and general laborers. The voyageurs were often referred to as engagés. Though it is true that the majority of voyageurs were French or French/Canadian, there were those who were British, German, African, Russian and persons of all the Native Tribes with which the company did business. Many in the beginning of the fur trade were Iroquois and Ottawa.

The strength and endurance of the voyageurs was legendary. It was expected that each voyageur work at least 14 hours a day, paddle 55 strokes per minute and be able to carry two bundles across each portage between the lakes and rivers of the north woods. A bundle generally consisted of beaver pelts or other furs weighing about 90 lbs. on the way to Montreal, or 90 lbs. of trade goods coming from Montreal. A routine portage meant carrying 180 pounds across rugged terrain full of rocks, mud, mosquitoes and black flies. At approximately every 1/2 mile the voyageurs had a posé where the packs were set down and they ran back to get two more. They also had the "privilege" of carrying the bourgeois (or gentleman) in or out of the canoe since it was unacceptable for a gentleman to get his feet or clothes wet!

There were two classes of voyageurs: the mangeurs de lard (pork eaters) and the hivernants (winterers). The pork eaters paddled from Montreal to Grand Portage for the rendezvous and back. The winterers paddled from the interior to Grand Portage for the rendezvous and back. In the two classes of voyageurs you have three types, the avant (bowsman), gouvernail (steersman) and the milieux (middle man). Because of the skill and experience required, the bowsman and steersman were paid twice the rate of the middleman.

The Rendezvous was a financially based proposition. That was the real reason for its existence. Economically it was better for each

of the fur companies to gather together and trade and influence the Natives to do business with them rather than with their rival, and do all this at one big gathering rather than to travel to each of the tribes and deal with them

individually. It was also a time that the participants got together and find out what had happened in the world, and let off steam after a hard year in the wilderness. Competitions were obligatory with everyone trying to prove who was best. This was done with blackpowder shooting, feats of strength such as running or paddling a canoe, cat and mouse, and tomahawk throwing.

With tales of countless beaver many fortune hunters (trappers) headed west. Not only did they bring back furs, they brought back stories of encounters with grizzly, vast buffalo herds, beautiful landscapes, friendly and not so friendly Natives. To the entrepreneurs who hired

many of these men, there was a problem with the system. The problem was "down time."

Trappers were spending too much valuable time delivering furs back to St. Louis, restocking supplies and heading back west again. That time could better be spent exploring and trapping more beaver.

In September of 1823, Jedediah Smith (see endnote) led General William H. Ashley's second group west. They met Major Amdrew Henry's men, wintered with them and the Crow Indians in the Wind River Valley in Wyoming. In the spring of 1824 the trappers

headed west to the Green River country and into beaver paradise. Completing the spring hunt, two of the trappers took the furs back east while the remainder stayed in the mountains to trap. The reports these trappers

brought back with them got Ashley brainstorming once again about the down time problem.

Rendezvous

So in November of 1824, Ashley headed west with the first supply train to the Rockies, to meet the trappers by mid summer. On July 1, 1825, with about 120 trappers in attendance at the rendezvous site, a new system of business was born. No more depending on native trade, no more down time, no more supplying trading posts. For now rendezvous could distribute supplies and procure the beaver pelts. The fur companies from St. Louis made a handsome profit on the goods sold to the trappers and bought the

furs for less than they had been paying in St. Louis, and the trappers could stay in the mountains.

Between 1825 and 1840, once each summer, hundreds of trappers, along with many natives, came from all over the western continent, to a pre-destined rendezvous location. There they traded furs for whiskey, traps, guns, horses, tobacco, salt, sugar, beads, lead, cloth, knives, coffee, mirrors and more. They exchanged information about who "went under," new beaver areas, and what natives were not so friendly to their encroachment. They held competitions of shooting, horsemanship. They



Voyageur Don (Pascal) Newsom

Printed with permission of the artist

told lies and tall tales. It was a blow-out of pure freedom in the finest sense of the word.

In 1836 they saw the first white women at rendezvous, wives of missionaries heading to Oregon. This brought a chill to many mountaineers because it meant civilization was encroaching on them, much of it due to the exploration and mapping they had done over the past 20 years. In fact, some former trappers were serving as guides to these immigrants.

In 1840, with almost no demand for beaver because of the popularity of silk hats, the last official rendezvous was held. Less than 100 mountain men attended, down from a high of nearly 1,000 participants, including Natives.

Modern Rendezvous

These competitions, demonstrations and sales or trades continue even today at the modern rendezvous held throughout the United States and Canada year around.

Twenty-seven years ago when I was asked to coordinate my first modern Rendezvous by the South Dakota Game Fish and Parks, I had no idea what the event would look like, as I had never attended a Rendezvous previously.

After committing to being the event "bourgeois" or executive director, I invited blackpowder groups and history enthusiasts to attend. The event was a revelation to me. I had no a clue as to how much fun history could be and the amount of enthusiasm for the fur trade period of study.

In 1976 for the nation's Bicentennial, a number of historical events were consummated. In the infant stage, a good share of rendezvous were exercises in the male population getting together with mutual friends and shooting blackpowder and "showing off" among his peers. As the years passed more and more women and families are involving themselves

in the "rendezvous" recreational activity.

Today more and more events are focused on family activities, educational workshops, and presentations. Participants of all ages, both male and female, are getting "bit by the bug" and contributing to the rendezvous phenomenon. Rendezvous are becoming refined and fine-tuned to interpret history in an honest light.

In order to attract participants and the public it is important to offer quality presentations with historical accuracy and to have activities in which all ages can participate and be entertained. People have found our heritage can be interesting and entertaining while we focus on the human side of our ancestors.

Going to a living history event where the participants play characters and provide hands-on activities is more beneficial for all parties involved. Humanizing our heritage—putting a living face and action to the period of history being presented—allows attendees to go "ahah!...now I understand what that means! Now I know why my ancestors did this or that and why!"

At Big Island Rendezvous and Festival in Albert Lea, Minnesota, craftsmen demonstrate their skills and allow the visitor to participate at a level that entertains all ages. Blacksmiths, woodworkers, candle makers, fibre artists such as spinners and weavers, pioneer settlers with oxen and wagons and all their belongings create a village of a time long past.

One can go from a voyageur camp with birch bark canoes and cedar paddles and pemmican (food or berries, some meat and fat) to a Scottish encampment of tents, pikes, matchlock weapons, a leg of lamb cooking on a spit, and the Clan doing drills and ceremonies or playing music and doing a dance. There is the Highland Regiment in full regalia recruiting volunteers to join the army of redcoats and

one learns about the life of a soldier. The pioneer settlement demonstrates the work of the huge oxen as they clear the forest or plow the sod to grow a crop while the children in the settlement play games and music and sing songs of the early 1860s.

Over 1,000 costumed participants and interpreters (people who done a persona and live their "character" in a first person react with the crowd) fill the city park with the sights and sounds of a colonial period village. Entertainers are juggling or playing music in the streets and traders are selling their wares that fit the timeframe of the event. The New Ulm Battery is an artillery unit that showcases the drill and ceremonies around cannons and are excellent marksmen when it comes to firing the cannon used in the Civil War. Native Americans present their lifestyle with tipis, music and dance, cooking and ricing and other survival skills they taught our ancestors.

Music and stage entertainment continues throughout the site with jigging (cloggers), Irish gigs with hammer dulcimer and drum, French Voyageur singers presenting paddling songs that kept the voyageurs traveling the rivers and lakes of the region for hundreds of years.

Endnote:

General William H. Ashley and Major Andrew Henry were enterprising young entrepreneurs who became wealthy developing the fur trade with expeditions into the Yellowstone and parts West. Jedediah Smith accompanied Ashley on his excursions.

Author's note:

Part of this article was first printed in *The American West Magazine* Vol. 1, No. 3 October-November 2000. It has been reprinted here with the express permission of Mark Roster. The image displayed here is by permission of Gordon Snidow, Artist and his wife Grace Snidow. You may visit their web site to see more of his wonderful western art. The voyageur is Don (Pascal) Newsom who is a professional storyteller and interprets a voyageur canoe camp with birch bark canoe and all the accoutrements at Big Island Rendezvous each year.

An Invitation to Big Island Rendezvous

All are invited to "step back in history" and see how our ancestors survived in the wilderness and celebrate our heritage. The 17th Annual Big Island Rendezvous and Festival in Albert Lea, Minnesota is on October 4-5, 2003. Schools are welcomed at education days at the Rendezvous. For schedule of events and advance discount tickets call 1-800-658-2526 toll-free or 1-507-373-3938 or email us at big-island@albertlea.org

It is indeed desirable to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.

Plutarch

Some Hamiltons of Huntington 1833-1899 Marriages

The following was first published in the June 1998 issue of "CONNECTIONS", the publication of The Quebec Family History Society (QFHS). Reprinted with permission of QFHS.

Dan of Jamestown married Jane McDonald 1860 at Huntington United Church.

Robert married Elizabeth Stevenson 1853 Russeltown Methodist church

Francis of **Hemmingsford** marr. Margaret **Nesbit** 1852 Hemmingsford Church of England

Robert of Montreal married Margaret Thompson 1860 Hemmingsford St. Andrews

George of Masers (?) married Nancy Reay 1843 (May 30) Hemmingsford Church of Scotland

Robert of Chicago married Adelia McNaughton 1873 Hemmingsford Church of Scotland

George married Annie Jane Caldwell 1876 Elgin and Athelston Pres. Church

Robert married Ida Mary Rennie 1887 Russeltown Pres. Church

J.W. Alexander married Annie Jane Boulter 1895 Beauharnois and Chateauguay Pres. Church

Samuel of Little Jamestown married Ann McNoun 1833 N & S Georgetown Pres. Church

James married Martha McLaren 1874 Franklin Pres. Church

Thomas married Ann Jane Fiddes 1896 Franklin Church of England

James of **Huntington** married Mary **Hingston** 1897 (Oct 27) Huntington Methodist Church

Thomas married Isabella McCartney 1877 N & S Georgetown Pres. Church

John of **Hemmingsford** married Jane **Ferguson** 1844 Hemmingsford Pres. Church

Thomas married Ann Eliza McClenaghan 1894 English River & Howick Pres. Church

John married Elizabeth Creaser 1858 Russeltown Pres. Church William of Little Jamestown m. Mary Woodrow 1833 (Dec.24) N & S Georgetown Pres. Church

John of **Hinchinbrook** mar. Margaret Jane **Edgar** 1866 (Jan 11) Huntington Methodist church [Margaret Jane died Dec. 31, 1866]

William of Hemmingsford marr Mary Jane Brown 1850 (Oct 8) Huntington Church of Scotland [Mary Jane died Aug.10, 1865]

John married Isabella **Todd** 1876 Ormstown Scotch Church

William J.G. married Margaret Watt 1859 St. Louis and Valleyfield Pres. Church

John married Isabella R. **Todd** 1877 Ormstown St. Paul's Church (duplicate record ??)

William farmer of **Hemmingsford** (widower) married Mary **Bushey** 1870 (Jan 20) Hemmingsford Church of Scotland [Mary died March 14, 1871]

Joseph Married Christianna Patterson 1844 Ormstown Episcopal Church

William married Christina Monarchque 1874 Ormstown Church of England

Joseph married Christianna McKinnon 1845 Ormstown Episcopal Church

William married Margaret McClenaghan 1885 English River Pres. Church

Malcome married Barbara McCaig 1857 Ormstown St. Paul's Church

William (son of Dan) married Mary Ann Darby 1891 St. Paul's Church Ormstown

Malcome married Mary Jane Stinger 1887 Hemmingsford Methodist church

Copied from the Archives Nationales du Quebec card files by Barbara Hamilton - November 1996

Excerpts from

REFLECTIONS

By Emy E. Picard, Sr.

Mr. Picard was probably born in Bottineau County, North Dakota around 1898. This assumes he was 18 when he began his service in the U.S. military during World War I. After his military duty, he farmed with his dad before getting married in 1933. During the 1920s and early 1930s, he held jobs as a janitor or "engineer" in Missoula, MT; Desmet, ID; and Denver, CO. He also worked in the factories and mills of Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Johnstown (PA), and Concord (NH). He often went east to work and get money for farming. After his marriage in 1933, he farmed throughout the "dry years" of the 1930's and the ensuing decades. The following is an excerpt from his own reflections at his 78th birthday on his life up to that time. I have tried to preserve Mr. Picard's original presentation as much as possible. I did have to correct some grammar, syntax and spelling. Some material has been omitted in the interest of space.

I will start my story in 1886 when my father, Paul Picard, came from Quebec to America. In the beginning, he worked at different odd jobs, mostly with the railroad. At that time, it was the main source of employment for many immigrants. He was a head spiker on the railroad that was being built from Larimore to Grand Forks, North Dakota. At that time, oxen were used on the farms for plowing and travel, since very few people had horses. But without either, my father walked from Devils Lake to Dunseith in Bottineau County. He eventually homesteaded in Lordsberg Township. There he met Emerance Dubois. She was from Trois Rivieres, Quebec. Soon they married and began their family of ten children, four boys and six girls.

I had a very happy life on the farm. We lived in Tarsus, eleven miles east of Bottineau. It was a friendly community, made up mostly of Canadian immigrants. My mother's brother, Uncle Noah Dubois, lived only a half-a-mile from us. He also had a large family. We used to get together often. Distance didn't matter in those days. We'd walk to their farm and they'd walk to ours.

After a time we had horses. Oh, how we loved our horses. Many the times we went bathing in Lords Lake with the Dubois boys. They always picked us up with their horses and a wagon...those were the days!

The Arcade Bergeron family also lived near us. They, too, were a large family. When all three families (Picards, Dubois', and the Bergerons) got together, what a gang we had. I remember house parties when everyone was so friendly. We'd have square dances and the old men would play their violins. As a kid I used to watch them all dance. Then came my turn to dance as I got older. I loved to call a square dance. Everyone was happy in those days.

Our schooling took place in the old country school. We had one teacher who taught all grades, one through eight. The teacher did a splendid job. I never went past seventh grade. I had to help on the farm. Once I became a man, I traveled some and made good use of the education I received at that school.

I was not afraid of work. I enjoyed work, any kind. I worked in the iron mines at Hibbing, Minnesota as a fireman on a steam shovel and on a steam locomotive. I was a lumberjack north of Duluth, Minnesota. I worked in the steel mills in Johnstown and Pittsburgh, Penn-

sylvania. In 1929, I worked in a Dodge automobile factory. Then, I landed in New Hampshire where I met the most wonderful bunch of cousins from my mother's side. I worked there in the cotton mills and one summer I worked in the brickyards. These are among my most cherished memories. Good old Aunt Virginia with her heart of gold.

When I came back from the west after World War I, I landed in Missoula, Montana. There I worked in the Sister's Hospital and School for \$50 a month and keep, and I was lucky to get that. There just simply was no work to be had. Later, I landed a job as engineer for the Sisters school at Desmet, Idaho for \$75 a month. That was good money and I saved as much of my wages as I could.

Then I came back to Dakota to bail out my Dad who was almost destitute. I went to farming just like my father and many others. I moved dad, mom and my one sister in with me. My first crop was fairly good, but the next two were not good. I sold out and bought a house in Dunseith for my folks. I barely had money for a ticket to Denver, Colorado. What a place that was! Unemployment was the topic of conversation. I landed a job as janitor, which carried me, until I could get out of there. From there, I went east and did fairly well considering the conditions of the times. But I was not satisfied. I missed my boyhood days on the farm, out in nature with the colts, calves, and little pigs. I missed the wholesome outdoor life. I was a born farmer, but here I was in the east. I was making good money, but it was the farm for me. So back to North Dakota and farming.

The next few years were hard. I engaged in tractor farming, but still experienced too much crop failure. I would go back east, to such places as Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Detroit, and I would work to save enough money for another crop. In 1927, I left Concord, New Hampshire with three other guys and drove a

Model T Ford to North Dakota. Most of the highways were gravel and an average of twenty miles an hour was as fast as we could go. Going twenty miles in an hour in those days was considered good driving. After the harvest, I drove that same car to Johnstown, PA. In the spring, I sold the car for \$35 and took the train to Detroit for a good moneymaking summer. Then back to Dakota I went driving a Chevrolet car.

Those years were like a nightmare, but I weathered them. Finally, the big break, or so I thought. A farm was being liquidated. I took over his whole deal (3,500 acres) for \$1500. It looked good, but it proved to be too difficult. There were still no crops. Then, out of the clear blue sky, the whole world seemed to change in my favor.

The time had come for me to get married. What a situation for a young bride to enter! This was in 1933, another bad year. Then 1934, the worse year in history. Good cows were selling for \$20. Farmers could not afford coal. Everyone was hauling wood from the Turtle Mountains. I enjoyed that. I would leave early in the morning with my team of horses and a sleigh, chop down trees, load up and come home to a warm hearth and a good meal. It was nice when I came home to see my wife and my dog standing on the snow bank waiting for me. My wife had all the feeding done. What a partner she was, always ready to help.

Then came our first borne, a lovely little girl. I was a father. What greater joy or greater responsibility I did not know. Life was great, even in hard times. We really knew happiness. Along came a boy and another girl. Then our world came tumbling down. Our six-year-old girl, lovely little Germaine, took sick and, right before our eyes, she was taken into heaven. I can see her now as I write. I would have given my own life to save that little bundle of joy, but what God gives, God can take

away. You must carry on; you have a wife and other children. They are your responsibility. You must take care of them. But there are no trials in life too great for a couple if they pull together. Others have had it worse.

We were still in the dry years. We milked cows by hand and sold the cream. An eight-gallon can of cream brought only \$4 or \$5, but we managed. Our family was growing by this time. Things were a little better. We had lots of hay to put up. My wife was always there to help with the haying and the harvest. I can see her in the hay meadow raking hay. She enjoyed every minute of it. We had very good horses, but then we changed to tractors. They were two small International Harvester tractors.

By that time, the boys were able to help, but my wife never gave up her place in the meadow. We grew corn and made silage. Things were somewhat better. Our children were in the Sisters' school and would come home on weekends. We didn't mind that. We milked cows late at night and early in the morning. Once, when we were snowbound, we got a call from the sisters telling us that our kids were down with measles. I hired a taxi to go get them. To do so I had to walk a half a mile in over-the-knee snow. A week before Christmas, our one-year-old baby became ill. We stayed up with her, mom at night and I in the daytime. We did that and took care of 75 head of cattle. Seven of our children had been sick. Soon some were over the hump. The baby was getting worse. We had no telephone, so there was no way to get help. I walked six miles to town before daylight in deep, deep snow to call a doctor. But the Doctor was at Rolla, which was 30 miles away. There was no way to get her there except by plane. The plane landed very close to the house. But the plane could not take off because of so much snow. What an experience! Finally the pilot decided to try it alone with the baby. He suggested we give him a push to start him off, but

the wind from the propeller and the snow knocked me down, knocked my wind out. I thought I was finished. Then I got up; my wife was broken-hearted. Our little girl was gone, never to return; she died on the plane. I was completely exhausted and played out. I had walked twelve miles in the snow before 10 a. m. and the livestock had yet to be fed. Then the pilot flew back to tell us about our baby. We had a three-year-old boy that we sent back with him. Our baby was buried on Sunday in 35 degrees below zero weather. The county had opened up our road. We were almost out of coal and food. Early Monday morning, I went to town for a load of coal and groceries. A few neighbors came along. At twelve o'clock that night the roads were closed again by a storm. Our little boy was in the hospital. He stayed there for two weeks and came back by plane. There was never anything that looked so nice as to see that little boy in the plane after what we had gone through. But we finally made it through the winter. There was no energy shortage. With a good team of horses, we still got wood.

Things were a little better. The farm was paying off more. The Picards were a happy family. I had made myself a home... what a home... "home" is a big word. It can be a shack or it can be a mansion. A man can build a house, but he cannot make a home. The wife, the mother, the family make the home and, at one time, I possessed all of that. When we first got married we had nothing, but through thick and thin, we started and raised a family of thirteen children. One by one, our family grew and soon we had thirteen. Two of them are now in heaven.

Our oldest son graduated from high school and was awarded a one-year scholarship. Did we rejoice? Yes and no. Our boy, our number one son was leaving. Soon after, one daughter joined the sisterhood; then, a son joined the navy; and then, another daughter went into the sisterhood. One boy grew up to be a husky,

young man at sixteen-years-old. One morning, my wife and I were in the barn milking cows. All of a sudden, someone was standing in the barn door. He told us that our son, Roland, got hurt in a tractor accident. A week earlier that boy was at home, but by two o'clock that afternoon, he was gone. I shudder when I think of the look that was on my wife's face.

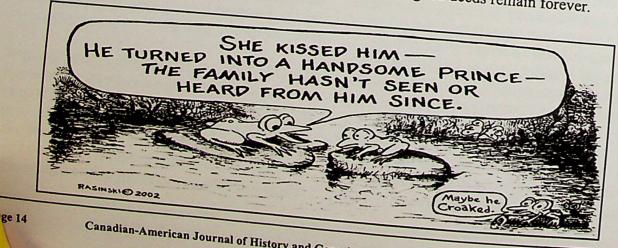
Our two daughters and our oldest boy came home. The Red Cross located the boy in the navy. Finally, we had the funeral. My, what a neighborhood. All the money in the world could not repay the response that we received when our boy died. Finally, it was all over. Our boy went back to Chicago, our two nuns went back to their places, our boy in the navy went back, and another daughter went off to work. We went back home with sad hearts, but

So, back into the collar we went. There were more hard knocks and more good things that came along. Still, that girl you married was with you holding on to her end of the stick.

On my 78th birthday, a grandson was born. What an extraordinary event! Everyone was happy. How eventful our lives had been. I had gotten married in the most severe years, the "dry years", when no one had any money. A person was lucky to make a living. But there was no feed for livestock and herds had to be liquidated. There were dust storms all the time and the rivers were going dry. In many ways, those years were a nightmare. The crash of '29

and the "dry years."

But through it all, I had a wonderful helpmate. As I look back on all the events and struggles we went through, I look at the results. I remind myself that life is like a garden: the more you cultivate it, the greater the reward. I had a rough life, with ups and downs, but the final results were great achievement and great satisfaction. A man and a woman raised a large family...all on their own. At our age now, we are both in fairly good health. We are very grateful to have each other. So many who lose their partners early in life these days...some by ill health, some by divorce. As I take inventory of my life, I see nothing but a job well done through a happy marriage. God has been good to me on earth. When I go, I leave no regrets whatsoever. I have made a lot of friends in my life. In all my travels in Rolette County and in Bottineau County, I have been very fortunate. In our time, everyone was very friendly and always ready to help one another. I was a man who would do anything to help whoever needed help. I found that to be very rewarding. I was co-chairman of the farm program for three years. In World War II, I was on the machinery ration board. I was school board clerk for twelve years. I collected for the March of Dimes five years straight. I was inspector of elections for twenty-one elections. I sang in the church for fifty-two years. I sang at many funerals. Still, I carried out all the activities on the farm and raised a family at the same time. Success in life is not measured in dollars and cents, but in good deeds. In time, dollars go easy, but good deeds remain forever.



Canadian-American Journal of History and Genealogy for Canadian, French and Metis Study - Number 8

The Montreal Prison 1784 - 1886

Submitted by Gary Schroeder

The following article was first published in the June 1998 issue of "CONNECTIONS", the publication of The Quebec Family History Society (QFHS). Reprinted with permission of QFHS.

The Concordia University and the McGill University Libraries in Montreal contain thousands of books and other documentary collections that are of great benefit to family historians in Quebec. While doing research in the McLennan Library of McGill University I discovered a book called "History of the Montreal Prison from 1784 to 1886" written by the Reverend John Douglas Borthwick who was, for many years, the chaplain at the prison. This book, consisting of two hundred and

Besides describing the foundation of the Montreal prison, there are also selected lists for some of the prisoners who were involuntary residents there during the nineteenth century.

The actual Montreal Prison registers are held at the Montreal branch of the Quebec National Archives. Registers for the latter half of the nineteenth century are not yet open to the public.

The author lists principal events of the Court of King's and Queen's Bench in chronological order beginning at 1812 to "the present day" [1886]. The following is a selected list of prisoners who

On 2nd March 1812, the Justices present were: The Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Panet, Mr. Justice Ogden, and Mr. Justice Reid

The following list contains names from April 1812 to December 4th, 1824

1812		1024
April	Mcdougall, D. Stealing in a shop - to be hanged - executed Trask, S. Horse stealing - to be hanged - executed. Another Man Sacrilege - to be hanged - executed.	Stealing a cow to be
Sept.	Vaudri, A. Stealing an ox - to be hanged - executed. Racicot, P. Rape - to be hanged - executed. merican Journal of History and Canal	March Curran, D. Murder - is hanged and "that his body be delivered by the sheriff of the district to George Selby, Esqr of the City of Montreal surgeon

	for the purpose of dis-		Labrian Jaconta Harra steeling to be
	section conformable to		Lebrien, Josepte Horse stealing - to be hanged - executed.
	law." Potvin, J.B. Petit larceny - 39 lashes.		And Two Other Men same crime - to be hanged - do
	Williams, M. Highway robbery - to be		nungou do
	hanged - executed. Gray, Lot. Stealing - to be hanged -	1818	
	executed.	March	Bourguignon, L.Grand larceny - to be hanged - but prays for
Sept.	Hallan, Roger Rape - to be hanged - executed		the benefit of clergy, which being allowed him by the Court, he is sen-
1815			tenced
March	Pelletier, A. Thief - 39 lashes and		for two years House of Correction. Munroe, M. Stealing from a dwelling
March	branded on the hand		house - to be hanged - executed
	Emmanuel, D. Horse stealing - to be hanged - executed		Verdon, Jos. Horsestealing - to be
Sept.	Raymond, J. Stealing - 39 lashes		hanged - executed.
оор	Latulippe, A. Larceny - 39 lashes	21-May	Healy, James Burglary - to be hanged -
	Fortin, L. Horse stealing - to be hanged - executed		executed. Burk, Edmund Burglary - to be
	Leopard, W. Larceny - to be hanged - executed.		hanged - executed. Sidney, E. Burglary - to be hanged -
	Wilson, Jos. Shoplifting - to be hanged - executed.		executed.
	Cross, Geo. Burglary - to be hanged - executed.	6 Nov.	Holt, Ezra is "charged with conveying into the gaol nitre
	Roy, J. Burglary - to be hanged - executed.		fortis for the purpose of breaking gaol."
	Robillard, J. Horse stealing - to be hanged - executed	1819	
1816		19-Jan	Burk, W. Stealing fowls - 39 lashes and 3 months.
Sept.	Quinn, Joseph Petty larceny - 39 lashes and 12 months	8-May	Walker, Ch. Stealing goods, etc - 39
	Barbeau, Joseph Stealing - to be		lashes and 3 months
	hanged - executed Come, Pierre Receiving stolen goods - pillory and six months		Delinette, J.B. Horse stealing - to be hanged - pardoned to 3 years H. of C.
	H. of C. Rousseau, J. Petty larceny - 39 lashes	26-Sep	Slack, J. Stealing gold watch - to
	and 18 months.	20 00p	be hanged - pardoned
	Lavigne, L. Petty larceny - 39 lashes and 18 months.	11 Oct.	Ozalpha, T. Stealing, etc 39 lashes and 12 months.
1817 Sept.	Gendron, Frs. Sacrilege - to be	24 Nov.	Combe, A. Assassination - to be hanged - transported
	hanged - executed.		for life.

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7 Dec.	Lalancet, T.	Stealing - 39 lashes and 3 years in House of			hanged - transported from the Province.
9 Dec.	Menard, J.	Correction. Horse stealing -39 lashes and 3 years in House of Correction.	22 Apr	Ouimet J.	Petty larceny - pillory and 3 months.
				Black, N.	Murder - to be burned in the hand.
1820—No Record Can Be Found				Gain, J.	Murder - to be burned in the hand.
1821			29 Jun	Seylar, G.	To be hanged - respited.
15 Oct.	Gondreau, J.	Felony - 39 lashes and 3 months.	29 Juli	Another man	To be hanged - respited.
25 Oct.	Huff, Custley	Manslaughter - branded in the hand and 6 months.	23 Jul	Clap, J.	Sheep stealing - to be hanged - respited.
30 Oct.	Bourgoin, P.	Horse stealing - to be	5 Sept.	Larose, J.	Sheep stealing - to be hanged - 12 months.
	Bourgoin, J.B.	hanged - pardoned by the King. Horse stealing - to be	22 Sept.	Lambert, Fr.	Horse stealing - to be hanged - respited.
	Two Men Lauz	hanged - pardoned by the King. on And Beaudry	9 Nov.	Hurtt, J.	Burglary - to be hanged- respited.
		Petty larceny - 39 lashes and 6 months.		Bradham, J.	Burglary - to be hanged - respited.
7 Nov.	Burk, T.	Arson - to be hanged - pardoned by the King. Arson - to be hanged - pardoned by the King. Forged bills - to be hanged - executed.	15 Nov.		Stealing a book - 39 lashes - 12 months.
	Wightman, Jn.			Another Man	Stealing clothes - 39 lashes - 12 months.
	Gauson, N.		18 Nov.	Vazina, P.	Stealing an ox - to be hanged - pardoned by the King.
	Jeffreys, A.	Forged bills - to be hanged - executed.	1823		
1822			11 Jan.	Five Men	For burglary at Lachine were arrested; three
21 Feb.	Smith, J.	Stealing - 39 lashes and 3 months.			were executed and the other two got 6 months H. of C.
15 Mar	Gilley, E.	Horse stealing - to be hanged - commuted to 6 months.	14 May	Paradis, A.	Stealing a cow, heifer and 3 horses - to be
	Lambert, J	Stealing fowls - 39 lashes and 6 months.			hanged – executed
16 Apr	Miller, W. W.	Burglary - to be	8 Jun	Connolly, Jas	. Drowning a man - 6 months in gaol and to
			the state of the same of the same	The state of the s	The second secon

	be burned in the hand in open court	29 Jan. Prime, John J. Horse stealing - to be hanged – respited
Jun	Perrault, Ch. Burglary - to be hanged respited and sent 5 years to Quebec	7 Jul Monceau, Frs. Stealing silver watch - to be hanged - 5 years to Quebec.
16 Aug	Daely, W. Murder - to be burned in the hand and 6 months	10 Sept. Belair, J.B. Stealing silver watch - to be burned in the hand.
30 Aug.	Blair, Robert Manslaughter - to be burned in the hand and 6 months	26 Sept. Casavant, X. Sheep stealing - to be hanged - King's pardon.
28 Oct	Chambers, R. Murder - to be hanged - transported.	29 Sept. Bellerose, Jos. Burglary - to be hanged – executed.
1824		Delenelle, J.B. Burglary - to be hanged – executed.
16 Jan.	Giroux, M. Rape - to be hanged - transported.	Lauzon, Chs. Burglary - to be hanged - escaped.
19 Jan.	Leger, Jos. Murder - to be hanged - respited.	18 Oct. Potvin, J. Sheep stealing - to be hanged - pardoned.
	Mongeon, J. Sheep stealing - to be hanged - respited. Verdun, J.B. Burglary - to be hanged - respited.	4 Dec. Dogharty, Jacob Forged bills - pillory and 1 year.

TIME

What is time? The shadow on the dial, the striking of the clock, the running of the sand, day and night, summer and winter, months, years, centuries—these are but the arbitrary and outward signs—the measure of time, not time itself.

Time is the life of the soul.

H. W. Longfellow

Death Notices A Through D Quebec City Gazette 1846-1855

Extracted and compiled by E.J. Smith,
The complete index is on file at the QFHS Library

The following list was first published in the September 1997 through June 1998 issues of *CONNECTIONS*, publication of The Quebec Family History Society (QFHS). It is reprinted here with permission of QFHS.

Boldface surnames are included except where the spouse or parent name is the same as the named person in the death notice.

A

- Abbott, Jane, d. July 15, 1853 at Bytown, age 54 years, wife of Francis Abbott of Nepean, mother of Mr. F. Abbott of that town.
- Abbott, John Seymour, d. Dec. 2 1854, age 18 yrs, son of Rev. Wm. Abbott.
- Abbott, Margaret Abbott, d. May 27, 1852, age 93 years, relict of late Capt. William Abbott.
- Abeel, Rev. David Abeel, d. Sept. 4, 1846 at Albany, age 42 years, missionary to China.
- **Abernathy**, Jane Abernathy, d. Oct. 4 1846, age 60 years, wife of William **Dining**.
- Abraham, Robert Abraham, d. Nov. 11, 1854 at Montréal.
- Acheson, Richard, d. April 17, 1847, age 50 yrs, native of Clunmel, Tipperary, Ireland.
- Adams, Ellen Adams, d. Feb. 4 1854 at East Williamsburg, age 34 yrs, relict of late S. Scott of Coteau Landing, daug. of late John Adams.
- Adams, Rev. Lucius Adams, d. Sept. 21, 1854 at Mitchell, Co. Huron.
- Adams, Melinda Adams, d. July 12, 1848 at Montréal, age 47 yrs, wife of David Handyside.
- Adams, Robert Adams, d. Oct. 19, 1849, at Brixham, Devon, age 62 yrs.

- Adamson, Joseph Frederick, d. Jan. 28, 1848 at Montréal, age 15 years, son of Rev. W. Agar Adamson.
- Adamson, William, d Feb. 2, 1846 at Brownsville, S. C., age 65 years, late surgeon East India Co. 4th Regt Bengal Army
- Addington, Hon. Mary Anne Ursula Addington, d. December 24, 1847 at Brighton, daughter of Rt. Hon. Henry Addington, Viscount Sidmouth.
- Adhemar, Genevieve Adhemar, d. June 15, 1854 at Lake of Two Mountains, age 82 years, widow of late François Xavier Lacombe.
- Adhemar, Maril Josephte Adhemar, d. July 27, 1846 at Montréal, age 71 years, widow of late Alexis Laframboise.
- Affleck, Edward, d. Oct. 7, 1846 at Charlottetown, P.E. I., age 48 yrs, formerly of Halifax.
- Agar, Mrs. Ann Agar, d. Mar. 1, 1850, age 54 years, widow of late Thomas Agar Baker, native of Whitby, Yorkshire, England.
- Agnew, Mary Eleanor Agnew, d. Jan. 3, 1849 at Chambly, wife of John Hope **Durham**, daug. of John Agnew.
- Ahern, Henry Welch Ahern, d. Oct. 11, 1852, son of late John U. Ahern.
- Ahern, John U. Ahern, d. Jan. 30, 1852, age 44 years.
- Ahern, William Dupont, d. June 8, 1846, age 4 years, son of J.U. Ahern, advocate.
- Aiken, Marion Aiken, d. Nov. 29, 1854 at Montréal, wife of James Gilmour.
- Aiken, Sarah Aiken, d. June 21, 1853 at Elgin, Co. Beauharnois, age 78 years, wife of Samuel Lamb, formerly of Co. Monaghan, Ireland.
- Aikman, John Aikman, d. May 3, 1851 at Montréal, age 45 yrs, native of Edinburgh, Scotland.
- Aird, Henrietta Aird, d. Mar. 21, 1850 at Montréal, age 27 years, wife of George Touzeau.
- Aird, Mary, d. Aug. 16, 1849 at St. Catherine's, age 1 year, daug. of Robert Aird.

- n, Thomas Coke Alcorn, M.D., d. Oct. 12, 1852 at Lennoxville, age 43 years.
- Aldridge, Mary Jane Aldridge, d. Aug. 5, 1854 at Montréal, age 49 yrs, wife of J. H. Reynolds.
- Aldrich, Henry Aldrich, d. July 8, 1846, age 9 months, son of W. B. Meyer, this city.
- Alexander, James, d. July 30, 1847 at Montréal, age 26 years, son of Robert Alexander.
- Alexander, James Alexander, d. Jan 6, 1848 at Montréal, son of Austin Cuvillier Jr.
- Ali, Prince Mourad Ali, d. June 18, 1847 at Kohl, Persia, 84th son of Feth Ali, Shah of Persia, who had 104 children.
- Allan, Alexander Allan Sr., d. Mar. 18, 1854 at Glasgow, age 75 years.
- Allan, David, d. Apr. 9, 1854 at Montréal, age 16 yrs, son of William Allan
- Allan, John Allan, d. Dec. 31, 1845 at Scotland, age 77 years, Quartermaster 46th Regt. at Lake Erielt, Co. Johnston.
- Allard, Etienne Allard, d. Apr. 17, 1852 at St. Roch, age 51 years.
- Allard, Flore Allard, d. Sept. 20, 1846 at St. Roch, age 33 years, wife of Phillippe Piton, Jr., grocer.
- Allard, Jean Allard, d. Nov. 16, 1848 at St. Roch, age 51 years.
- Allard, Louis Allard, d. Dec. 7, 1851 at St. Roch, age 57 years.
- Allen, John Allen, d. Oct. 1, 1847 at Montréal, age 90 years.
- Allen, Susanna Allen, d. Feb. 14, 1850 at Boston, age 53 years, widow of late William McAdams of Quebec.
- Alling, Robert Alling, M.D., d. Sept. 6, 1848 at Guelph, age 58 years, formerly of Laxfield, Suffolk, England.
- Allingham, Edward Allingham, d. Nov. 19, 1847, age 56 yrs, native of Balnashanan, Ireland.
- Allison, Susan, d. Aug. 3, 1847, age 53 years, wife of Phillippe Aubert de Gaspé, daug. of late Thomas Allison.
- Allsopp, James Allsopp, d. July 28, 1848 at Cap Santé, age 69 yrs, co-seigneur of Jacques Cartier and D'Auteuil.
- Allsopp, Robert Allsopp, d. Feb. 18, 1848 at Cap Santé, age 72 yrs.
- Allsopp, Sarah, d. April 9, 1847 at Fort Jacques Cartier,

- wife of Robert Allsopp.
- Altamont, d. Mar. 22, 1848 at Washington, age 94 years.
- Amedee De May, Rodolphe Amedée de May, d. Feb. 10, 1848 at Berne, Switzerland.
- Anderson, Dr. Adam, d. Dec. 4, 1846.
- Anderson, Anthony, d. Apr. 3, 1847 at Hadey Lodge near Dorchester bridge age 79 yrs, native of Berwickshire, England
- Anderson, Anthony, d. July 10, 1849, at Montréal, age 46 yrs, native of Newcastle, England
- Anderson, Anthony Hunt, d. July 24, 1847 at Hedley Lodge, age 7 months, son of Horatio S. Anderson.
- Anderson, Emily Cuthbert, d. May 29, 1854 at Sorel, infant dau. of Rev. W. Anderson.
- Anderson, Emma Victoria, d. July 14 1854, daug. of C. E. Anderson.
- Anderson, Isabella, d. Oct. 25, 1850 at Brockville, age 75 years, relict of late James Anderson, formerly of Broughshane, Co. Antrim, Ireland, and mother of John Anderson of this town.
- Anderson, James, d. Oct. 12, 1854 at South Georgetown, age 18 days, son of Dr. Anderson.
- Anderson, Jane, d. Aug. 15, 1852, age 33 years, wife of W.H.A. Davies, daug. of late John Anderson.
- Anderson, Rev. John, d. July 3, 1849 at Fort Erie, C. W., age 4l years, son of late Anthony Anderson, of this city.
- Anderson, John, d. May 18, 1853 at Three Rivers, age 30 years.
- Anderson, Margaret Anderson, d. Mar. 30, 1847 at Sorel, age 30 years, wife of Thomas Sawtell.
- Anderson, Mary Anderson, d. May 6, 1846, relict of late Rev. Joseph Brown.
- Anderson, d. Aug. 1, 1846 at New Ireland, wife of Rev Rd Anderson.
- Anderson, Rev. Richard Anderson of Ireland, Megantic Co., d. Oct. 7, 1847 at Beauport.
- Anderson, Rose Cecilia, d. Aug. 19, 1850 near Sandwich, age 6 yrs, daug. of C. E. Anderson.
- Andrew, Adam Andrew, d. Feb. 11, 1848 at Valcartier, age 47 years, son of William Andrew of this city.
- Andrew, William, d. July 6, 1854 at Wolf Ridge near Clarenceville, C.E., age 66 years, of Yorkshire, England.
- Andrews, Elizabeth, d. Nov. 5, 1851, age 44 yrs, wife of David Melrose, of this city.

- Andrews, Millisa Westman, d. May 19, 1854, age 11 months, daug. of Thomas Andrews.
- Andrews, William, d. Sept. 9, 1852, age 57 yrs.
- Angers, Thérèse Angers, d. Jan. 9, 1849, age 75 years, widow of late J.B. Matte of Pointe-aux-Trembles.
- Annett, Thomas, d. Mar. 11, 1852, age 14 months, son of late Frederick Annett of this city.
- Ansell, Benjamin d. May 9, 1848 at Montréal, age 54 years.
- Ansell, J. S. Ansell, d. Feb. 3, 1853, age 40 yrs.
- Anstruther, Claude Anstruther, d. Dec. 21, 1853, age 8 months, son of W. Anstruther.

B

- **Babbington** Benjamin, d. Feb. 16, 1848 at Dundas, age 33 years, son of late Rev Charles M. Babbington of Peterstow, Herefordshire, England.
- Baby, Mrs Charles, d. Mar. 25, 1846 at Sandwich C.W. age 18 years, daug. of Hon. Ph. Panet of Quebec.
- Baby, James Francis, d. Dec. 9, 1849 at Toronto, age 44 yrs, son of Hon. James Baby.
- Baby, Marianne, d. July 17, 1849, daug. of Hon. François Baby.
- Baby, Mrs Baby, d. Dec. 15, 1846 at Handsville near Sandwich, age 53, wife of Jean Baptiste Baby, treasurer - Western District.
- Baddely, Jessica Clinton, d. May 11, 1851 at Peckham, England, daug. of Lt Col. Baddely.
- Badden, Elizabeth, d. Jan. 16, 1850 London, mother of late Wm Badden formerly of Montreal.
- Badeaux, A.H. Badeaux of Three Rivers, d. July 28, 1852 Lake Michigan, Chicago, age 38 years, late of Montréal.
- Bagg, Abner d. Jan. 2, 1849 at Detroit age 73 of Lainsborough Mass USA.
- Bagot, Frederica, d. May 17, 1852 at Brighton, 26 yrs wife of Capt. Henry Bagot, R.N. daug of late Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Bagot.
- Bailey, Joseph W. d. Aug 8, 1849 age 53 yrs.
- Baillarge, Charlotte Edith, d. Apr 1, 1850 age 15 months, daug. of P.F. Baillarge.
- Baillargeon, Marie Joseph Edouard, d. Aug. 20, 1854, age 5 months, s/o P. Baillargeon, M.D.
- Baillie, John Lyon, d. May 4, 1854 near Bartiefield, C. W., age 86 yrs.

- Bailly De Messein, Julie Apolline, d. July 21, 1847 at St. Thomas, Co. L'Islet age 71 yrs, daug. of late Michel Bailly de Messein & late Genevieve Aubert de Gaspe, niece of late Bishop of Québec.
- Bain, Mrs. E., d. Apr. 15, 1852, age 54 yrs widow of late Thomas Jameson.
- Baird, Charlotte White, d. Feb. 3, 1853, daug. of late N. H. Baird.
- Baird, James George d. July 31, 1848 age 37 yrs.
- Baird, Margaret, d. Aug. 19, 1854, daug. of E. O. Baird.
- Baird, Sarah, d. Dec. 5, 1854, age 50 yrs, daug. of E. Baird.
- Baird, William Kidd d. Oct. 4, 1852 at Brattleboro, Vt., age 46 years, late of this city.
- Baker, Charlotte Rebaz Baker, d. Aug 20, 1847 at Montréal, wife of Henny Lavender of Montréal.
- Baker, George Wm Jr. of Hamilton, d. May 25, 1853 at Bytown, son of late Cpt Baker of Bytown.
- Baker, Harriet Hampson d. Oct 23, 1847 at Brantford age 28 yrs, wife of Frederick T Wilkes, daug of Rev. Thomas Baker.
- Baker, William d. Oct. 29, 1852, age 72 years, Cul de Sac.
- Balbi, M. Balbi, d. Mar. 13, 1848 at Venice.
- Baldwin, Elizabeth d. Mar. 9, 1846, age 77 yrs, relict of the late Henry Baldwin, ship builder.
- Baldwin, Elizabeth d. June 11, 1848 age 24 yrs, wife of Wm. Bogue.
- Baldwyn, Elizabeth d. Jan, 19, 1854 near London, England, niece of late Rev. W.D. Baldwyn, of St. John, C.E.
- Bales, James d. Sep 1, 1853 age 82 yrs of Pomeroy Co. Tyrone, Ireland.
- Ball, Henry, d. May 18, 1854 at St. Catherine's.
- Ball, Mary d. Sept.30, 1853 at Russelltown, wife of Samuel Churchill, relict of late John Forbes formerly of this city.
- Balleray, Frances Louisa d. Oct. 16, 1854 at St. John, C.E. age 41 yrs, wife of Isaac Coote of that place.
- Balté, Louis Balté, d. Sept. 14, 1853 age 28 yrs.
- Balzaretti, Agathe Wilhemine, d. Aug. 22, 1853 at St. Thomas, age 6 months daug of N Balzaretti.
- Bambrick, Robert d. May 24, 1851, age 39 yrs.
- Bamford, Rev. S., d. Aug. 14, 1848 at Digby, N.S. age 77 years.
- Bancroft, Levi, d. Jul. 21, 1853 at Hawkesbury, age 45

- Bannon, Helen Mary d. Mar. 6, 1848, aged 29 yrs, wife of James Crolly.
- Bansley, James d. July 7, 1854 at Toronto, age 19 years, native of Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland.
- Barbeau, Dame Sophie d. July 19, 1849, wife of Prisque Goulette.
- Barber, Charles d. July 24, 1849, age 60 yrs.
- Barbier, Dr. J.M.R. Barbier, d. Apr. 28, 1852 at Berthier, age 60 yrs.
- Barclay, James Henry d. Jul 7, 1846 at Madeira Ensign HM 93rd Highlanders.
- Barclay, William d. Sept. 6, 1847 age 20 months son of R. Barclay.
- Bard, William Bard, d. Oct. 14, 1853 at Staten Island, age 76 yrs.
- **Barden,** Jno d. July 5, 1846 at Pres-de-Ville, age 44 yrs, innkeeper, native of Co. Wexford, Ireland.
- Barett, Charles of Montréal d. Sep. 10, 1854 at Savannah, age 5 yrs.
- Barker, Edward John d. Aug. 15, 1846 at Montréal age 18 yrs, son of Dr. Barker of Kingston.
- Barker, Mathew Henry Barker, d. June 29, 1846 at London, naval editor of United States Gazette.
- Barlow, Frederick d. July 25, 1849 at Montréal, age 40 years, native of Sheffield, Yorkshire, brother of Edward Barlow of Montréal.
- Barlow, Sr. George Horatio Barlow, Bart., d. Jan. 18, 1847 near Franham, Hants.
- Barnard, Elizabeth, d. Jun. 26, 1852 at Montréal age 34 yrs wife of James Foster daug of late Isaac Jones Barnard of Québec native of Deerfield, Mass.
- Barnard, James d. March 27, 1854 at Montréal, age 45 years.
- Barns, William d. July 28, 1850, age 23 years.
- Barras, Theophile d. Dec. 3, 1852 at Pointe Lévi, age 30 years.
- Barrett, Sarah Maria, d. Sept. 19, 1848, wife of R. Phipps Barrett this city.
- Barron, Anne Barron, d. Feb. 26, 1848 at Capr Cove, age 76 years.
- Barron, Catherine of Hinchenbrooke, C.E., d. Apr. 22, 1853, age 70 yrs
- Barron, Josephine d. Aug. 2, 1854 at Montréal, age 70 years.

- Barrow, Sir John d. Nov. 23, 1848 at London.
- Barrowcliffe, John d. Oct. 6, 1850 son of Capt Barrowcliffe of Brighton, Sussex.
- Barry, Dr. Edward S. d. Sept. 12, 1847 age 27 yrs son of Rev. John Barry.
- Barry, Jane, d. Aug. 14, 1853 at Montréal, age 27 yrs wife of John Brandon daug of late Rev John Barry.
- Barry, Robert d. Feb. 4, 1847 at St. Thomas gardener native of Co. Cork, Ireland.
- Barry, Susannah d. Apr. 19, 1854 at Toronto, age 26 years.
- Barton, Bernard d. Mar. 19, 1849 at Woolbridge, Essex.
- Barton, Margaret, d. May 28, 1853 at Dundas, C.W., wife of T. Adenbrooke Quick M.D. daug. of late Rev. E. Barton.
- Barwis, Ann Agnes, d. Nov. 28, 1851 New Ireland age 16 years, daug. of late T. B. Barwis.
- Bates, James d. July 13, 1854 at Montréal, age 47 yrs son of Thomas Bates of Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone, Ireland.
- Bates, Samuel Alexander d. Dec 1, 1850, age 2 yrs, son of William J. Bates of this city.
- Bathgate, George d. Apr. 11, 1854 at Morrisburg, C. W., age 66 years.
- Batley, Mary d. Sept 9, 1849 at Toronto, age 65, aunt of James Mitchell.
- Batterill, Thomas d. Aug. 13, 1847 of Whitby, Yorkshire, England.
- Battie, Emelia, d. July 10, 1849, age 25 years, wife of Stephen Battie.
- Battle, John, d. Aug. 8, 1851, age 1 year, son of Matthew Battle.
- Bayli, Janet, d. Oct. 12, 1850 at Montréal, age 29 yrs, wife of James Bayli.
- Beard, Elizabeth d. July 25, 1853, wife of William Cairns of Ormstown, Co. Beauharnois, formerly of Ouébec.
- Beard, Margaret d. Nov. 17, 1846, age 46 years widow of James McLeish.
- Beattie, Elizabeth d. Jul. 28, 1846 at Township of Trafalgar, age 97 yrs formerly of Blackwatertown Co. Armagh, Ireland.
- Beatty, Andrew d. Jan. 10, 1852 at Ste. Hélène near Montréal, native of Ireland.
- Beatty, Eliza, d. Feb. 2, 1853 at Montréal, age 50 yrs

- relict of late George Beatty of Co. Fermanagh, Ireland.
- Beaubien, Dr. Achilles d. Nov. 4, 1851 at Bytown, age 26 years.
- Beaudet, Mary Ann Matilda, d. Jun 29, 1851 at Ste. Ursule, age 25 yrs wife of Dr. W. O'Dunn of Coteau du Lac, daug. of G. Beaudet - same place.

C

- Cadotte, Mary Elmere, d. Mar. 7, 1853 at Montréal age 17 yrs, daug of late François Cadotte.
- Cahill, Robert, d. Nov. 16, 1850, age 75 yrs, of Co. Kilkenny, Ireland.
- Cairns, Celina, d. Feb. 5, 1848 at Christieville, age 60 yrs wife of James Cairns.
- Cairns, George, d. July 12, 1853, age 4 months, son of H. F. Cairns.
- Cairns, George, of Galashiels, Scotland, d. Apr. 4, 1854 at Granby, C.E.
- Cairns, Janet Maria, d. Feb. 15, 1848, age 9 months, daug. of Hamby Cairns, advocate.
- Cairns, Robert, d. Nov. 22, 1851, age 46 years.
- Calcough, Maj. Beauchamp, d. Dec. 9, 1847 at Chippewa, formerly of Kildavin, Co. Carlow, Ire.
- Caldwell, Jane, died Oct. 19, 1847 at Montréal age 66 years, widow of the late Stephen Sewell.
- Caldwell, John, died May 25, 1850 at New Carlisle, age 89 years.
- Caldwell, William of Caldwell, Lake George, d. Apr. 1, 1848 at Albany brother of Mrs Jane Sewell of Montréal.
- Calfield, Lt. John Calfield, M.M. 22nd Regt., d. Mar. 11, 1849 at Moy, Co. Tyrone, Ireland.
- Callam, Charles, d. Mar 11, 1849 at Glasgow
- Callaghan, Daniel, d. Aug. 18, 1854 at Kingston age 62 years.
- Callum, Thomas Jr., d. Dec. 12, 1846, son of Thomas Callum.
- Calombe, Antoine Albert, d. Sept. 15, 1846 at Montréal, age 59 years, formerly of Rivière du Loup, lately clark of the St. Lawrence Market.
- Calvin, Alexander, d. Jan. 1, 1847 at Hamilton, ship builder, formerly of Belfast, Ireland.
- Cameron, Ann, d. Aug. 8, 1848 at River John, age 2

- years, daug. of Donald Cameron.
- Cameron, Elizabeth, d. May 4, 1846, age 55 years, wife of James Mckenzie, Pointe Lévi.
- Cameron, Elizabeth, d. Aug. 21, 1848, age 9 yrs daug of Donald Cameron
- Cameron, Flora, d. Dec. 3, 1853 at St, Catherine's age 27 years daug. of late Duncan Cameron, wife of John Cameron of that town.
- Cameron, Mrs. Cameron, d. Nov. 3, 1847 at Church Street Berwick on Tweed mother of John Cameron of Toronto.
- Cameron, McKay Hugh Baillie Cameron, d. Nov. 10, 1847 at Lindally, York Mills, age 25 years, son of late Lt. Col Duncan Cameron.
- Cameron, Rubina, d. Aug. 9, 1850 at Godmanchester, age 86 yrs, mother-in-law of John Brnee of Montréal widow of late Duncan Cameron Glasgow, sister of Hugh Cameron of Greenock.
- Cameron, Sophia, d. Dec.24, 1854 at Centerville, C.E., wife of David **Dellertell** Jr., dau. Of late Duncan Cameron.
- Cameron, William, d. Aug. 30, 1846 at River John, age 2 years, son of Donald Cameron.
- Campbell, Alexander, d. Nov. 9, 1853 near Toronto, age 58 yrs, late of the parish of St. Mary, NB.
- Campbell, Alexander, d. June 14, 1854 at Montréal formerly of Edinburgh.
- Campbell, Ann Campbell, d. Feb. 17, 1848 at Montréal, age 85 years, relect of late Lt. Walter Sutherland.
- Campbell, Archibald, d. Mar. 12, 1848 at Pointe du Chène on the Ottawa, age 91 years.
- Campbell, Archibald Saxton, d. Aug. 29, 1851, son of Archibald Campbell, Jr.
- Campbell, Charles John. D. Nov. 9, 1846, age 7 months, son of John Campbell, grocer.
- Campbell, Charles Campbell, d. May 16, 1854 at Montréal, age 10 months, son of Charles P. Watson.
- Campbell, Christine Campbell, d. Feb. 10, 1853 at River Delisle, age 96 years, widow of late Evander Campbell, Galder Gleneig, Scotland.
- Campbell, Colin, d. Nov. 9, 1853 at Red River Settlement Rupert's Land.
- Campbell, Maj. Gen. Sir Guy Campbell, d. Feb. 25, 1849 at Athlone Ire.
- Campbell, Helen, died July 11, 1854 at Montréal sister of Rollo Campbell, native of Dunning Perthshire, Scotland.

- bell, John, d. Sept. 21, 1848, age 12 month son of Wm Campbell of St. John Suburb
- ampbell, John, d. Dec. 28, 1852 age 52 yrs.
- Campbell, Margaret Jane Brooks, d. Apr. 15, 1851 at Toronto, age 1 yr. daug of S.B. Campbell.
- Campbell, Mary, d. Mar. 5, 1849, age 30 yrs, daug. of Mr. D. Campbell.
- Campbell, Sarah Elizabeth, d. Jan. 4, 1848 at Liverpool, N.S., age 26 years, wife of Capt. Joshua Newton Freeman daug. of John Campbell.
- Campbell, Capt. Wm Mark, d. Dec.31, 1847 at Nassau N.P., brother of Capt A Campbell.
- Campbell, Dr. William Campbell, d. Oct. 25, 1848, Edinburgh.
- Campbell, William, d. Feb. 3, 1852, age 24 years, son of late David Campbell of this city.
- Campion, William, d. Mar. 8, 1854 at Marmora, age 21 years, son of W. Campion.
- Cannon, Thomas William, died Dec. 15, 1854, infant son of L. A. Cannon.
- Cantillon, Denis, d. Mar. 2, 1852 at Sillery Cove, age 5 months, son of Joseph Cantillon.
- Cantinage, Francis, d. July 24, 1849 at St. John Suburb, age 48 years.

D

- Dalkin, Alice Elizabeth, d. Mar. 21, 1854, age 5 years daug. of H. S. Dalkin.
- Dalkin, Henry Seath, d. Sept. 26, 1851, age 1 year, son of H. S. Dalkin.
- Dallimore, Edmund Henry, d. July 17, 1849 at Murray Bay, age 3 years, son of Dr. Dallimore.
- Dalling, Allan Kerr, d. Mar. 14, 1854 at St. John, age 43 years, native of Greenock, Scotland.
- Dalrymple, Sir Charles Dalrymple, d. Dec. 1, 1849 at Maidstone, age 71 yrs.
- Dalrymple, Campbell J. Dalrymple, d. July 18, 1847 at Havana.
- Daly, John Daly of Montréal, d. June 30, 1846 at Sault Ste. Marie.
- Daly, John d. July 14, 1849.
- Daly, Margaret Daly, d. Jan. 8, 1851, age 43 years, wife of R. Lafontaine.

- Damaray, P. P. d. Sept. 17, 1854 at St John, C.E., age 55 years.
- Dame, Jane d. Mar. 1, 1854 at Rivière du Loup, wife of George Mayrand, daug. of late Augustus Dame, M.D.
- Dame, Sophia Armina, d. Mar. 20, 1848, wife of Rev. Dr. Falloon of Montréal, daug. of late Dr. Dame of Rivière du Loup.
- Danforth, Martha M., d. Dec. 30, 1853 at St. Catherine's, 19 years, wife of William Danforth.
- Dangerfield, William Dangerfield Sr., d. July 25, 1854 at Montréal, age 83 years, native of Gloucester, England.
- Dantell, Francis d. Sept 7, 1846, Dep. Comm. Gen. at Quartier d'Espagne near Toulon, France.
- Darling, Christian Jane, d. Sept 14, 1849, age 11 months, daug. of William Darling.
- Darling, Elizabeth, d. Feb. 8, 1846 at Scarborough, widow of late A. Darling of H.M. 56th Regt., mother of Rev. W. Stewart Darling of Scarborough.
- Darling, James S. d. May 8, 1848 at Toronto, age 38 years, late of Penetanguishene.
- Darwin, Amelia Isabella, d. Apr 14, 1854 age 17 yrs, daug. of Caufield Darwin.
- Date, Sophia d Mar 5, 1851 age 58 years, relict of late Richard Date of this city.
- Davey, Maria d. Oct. 17, 1853 at Granby, relict of late Charles Bordwine.
- David, Charles Samuel d. Feb. 2, 1854, age 36 years, late of St. John, C.E.
- Davidson, Anne d. Sept. 9, 1851 at Little River, age 73 yrs, wife of John Boyd.
- Davidson, Elspeth, d Oct. 6, 1853 at Galt, age 75 years, relict of late James Davidson.
- Davidson, Helen, d. Aug. 3, 1854 at Russelltown age 76 yrs wife of Col Davidson.
- Davidson, Mary Ann, d. Sept. 28, 1849 at Valcartier, age 17 years, daug. of late James Davidson.
- Davidson, Mrs. Walter d. May 4, 1848 at Niagara.
- Davidson, William, d. June 3, 1854 at Montréal son of late William Davidson of Lachine.
- Davidson, William Geo. d. Oct. 22, 1854, age 23 years, son of Lt. James Davidson of H.M. 99th Regt.
- Davie, Robert d. Nov. 3, 1850 at Montréal age 30 yrs.

- Davies, Alfred, d. May 6, 1850, age 10 months, son of William H. A. Davies.
- Davis, Andrew d. Apr. 15, 1848 at Glasgow age 77 years.
- Davis, Archibald, d. Sept. 23, 1853 at Toronto, son of A. Davis.
- Davis, Mr. Asabel d. Mar. 24, 1850 at Toronto, age 76 years.
- Davis, Rev. John d. Oct. 30, 1851 at Streetsville, age 68 years.
- Davis, Richard M.D. of Ramsbery, England, d. Sept. 5, 1853 at Island of Jersey, age 42 yrs, son of George Davis of Toronto.
- Davis, Col. Thomas Henry Hasting Davis, d. Dec. 11, 1846 at Elmsley Park near Eversham, Worcestershire, age 58 years, M.P. for Worcestershire and Waterloo officer.
- Davison, Alexander Dickson, d. Jan. 14, 1854, age 2 years, son of John Davison.
- Davison, John d. Jan. 21, 1854, age 38 years.
- Davys, Rev. Richard d. July 9, 1846, age 38 years, born at Mount Davis, Co. Langford, Ireland.
- **Dawson,** Jeremiah W., d. Aug. 29, 1852 at Brookfield, West Gwiilliamsbury.
- Dawson, Mary Dawson, d. May 6, 1847, age 83 years, wife of Ralph Ridley.
- Dawson, Mrs. Dawson, d. Oct. 9, 1854, age 86 years, mother of S. J. Dawson.

- Dawson, Rev. William, d. Oct. 24, 1847, Carrick on Shannon, brother of Vicar General of the Diocese of Ardogh.
- Day, Charlotte Day, d. July 19, 1849, age 75 years, wife of Thomas Marsion.
- Day, James Rees Day, d. Aug. 19, 1853 at New York, formerly of Québec, son-in-law to Mr. F. Wyse.
- Day, Moses, d. Sept. 28, 1852, age 60 years, Kennebec, Maine.
- Dean, John d. May 26, 1847 at Montréal, age 57 years, late chief acct. of Crown Land Dept.
- Dean, Martha Eliza, d. Jan 6, 1853 at Clarenceville, age 24 years, wife of Calvin R. Dean.
- Dease, wife of John Bell, d. Sept. 20, 1847 at Norway House, Hudson's Bay Territory, age 33 years daug. of P. W. Dease of St. Catherine's.
- Dease, Peter Warren Dease Jr., M.D., d. Apr. 8, 1853 at Ste. Anne, age 29 years, son of P. W. Dease.
- Deasley, Thomas d. Oct. 9, 1854 at Grahamsville, Co. Peel, age 29 years, formerly of County Tyrone, Ireland.
- Debartzch, Louisa Aurelia, d. July 8, 1850 at St. Marc, age 28 yrs, wife of Alexander Kierkowski, daug. of late Hon. P.D. Debartzch.
- De Bartch, Hon. Pierre Dominique De Bartch, d. Sept. 6, 1846 at St. Marc.
- Debigare, Mrs. Agathe Debigare, d. Oct. 27, 1849, age 84 years, widow of François Romain.

Genealogy is about time gone by.

Our yesterdays follow us;

They constitute our life, and

They give character and force and meaning

To our present deeds

Joseph Parker

Finding My Ancestors: Louis Forcier Théotistè Cournoyer

by Francis J. Lavacot

Louis Forcier

Louis Forcier was a most elusive ancestor. He was born in Canada; no confirmed written record of his date of birth has yet been found nor have I was able to confirm who were his parents. I know he was married twice and I am certain about one marriage date, his first in 1850, but have no information on the second. I know when he died by a death report; however, I do not know where he was buried. I do know when he came to the United States as a result of locating a document of his intent to become a United States citizen. This document gives October 1848 as his time of arrival. It was filed in St. Paul, Minnesota on 17 August 1850. I have also been told by genealogist, Ruth Charest, who was doing a study of some of the early French-Canadians, that Louis may have come through the Port of Buffalo, New York in 1848. I have not confirmed this information.

All that I know about Louis comes from a variety of records: census reports, agricultural reports, church records, school records, probate and other records. There is no family history.

Censuses

Census information for Dakota County, Minnepertaining to Louis for 1850, 1857, 1870, 1880 provide at least three different th years. I found no other census help establish his birth year.

1850 Census

In the 1850 census for Mendota, Dakotah [sic] County, Minnesota Territory, submitted 27 September 1850, a Louis Forshea (Forcier) is listed living in the home (#50) of Clode Cournyer (Claude Cournoyer). Louis' age is given as 28 and his occupation as Voyageur. He apparently is a boarder with several other boarders also listed as Voyageurs. Living three doors away in home #47 is the Lavocat/Martin family. Fourteen year old Marie Martin, the daughter of Louis Martin and Zoe Winona, sometimes referred to as Ouinano, a Sioux Indian, is listed as a member of this family and living in the Martin home.

Marie married Louis Forcier and a marriage date of 27 August 1850 has been cited on page 1054 of the encyclopedic French/Canadian Families of the North Central States by Paul J. Lareau and Elmer Courteau (St. Paul, MN, 1980). I have also found a record of their marriage at St. Peter's Church in Mendota and a marriage record from Ramsey County. The date for their marriage would appear to be a bit at odds with the census data as the census information reported on the 27 September 1850 lists them as single and living in two nearby homes. This is probably due to the census date being the date it was completed not when they were counted in the census some four weeks or more earlier. Regardless, this Forshea is undoubtedly our Louis Forcier.

1853 Census

In 1853 a Mendota Township, Dakota County Assessment Record and Census of Families was taken. In this report Louis **Foursey** "and wife and one child" is listed. (The English interpretation of the French names listed in this report is something to behold.) Indeed, the original report is titled "1853 Sennses Reeport, Deestrick No. 1 Decota County." A total of 280 inhabitants are listed. A reproduction of the "Sennses Reeport" is given in the Minnesota Genealogical Journal, Vol. 13 Page 1225. No age data was provided in this report.

1855-56 Roll of Sioux Mixed Bloods

Not defined as a census but a compilation made of mixed bloods indicates Mary Forcier, age 20, as a half blood and that Louis Forcier was her husband. Also included in the listing are Mary L. Forcier (age 4) and Louis Forcier (1) as quarter bloods and that Louis Forcier was the father. Sisters of Louis's wife, Mary, are also shown on this report and include Julia (16), Rose (12) and Agnes (10). All are presented as half bloods with Louis Martin as the father.

It was in the year 1847 that Anne Jacquin Claude Lavocat married Louis Martin. His first wife, Zoe Winona (Sioux), had died. Anne brought her family of five children, she being a widow, that included her son, Edmund Lavacot, who was to become known as Uncle Bob by Felix Philip Forcier, Jr., later known as Joseph Felix Lavacot (my father). The mixed blood data was presented in the Minnesota Genealogical Journal, Vol. 7 Page 609.

1857 Census

In the Dakota County, Minnesota Territorial census of October 1857 Louis claims to be 37 years old. Included in this census report are wife Mary (22), daughter Mary (6) and Louis (6 months). An earlier born son by the same name had died. From the census report it appears that three other people were living with Louis and family. They apparently had now moved from Mendota and were now living on the Dodd Road property near West St. Paul.

1860 Census

It appears that the Louis Forcier family was not listed in this census.

1865 Census

A lot has happened to Louis Forcier since the 1857 census. His first wife, Mary (Martin) Forcier had died and Louis remarried about 1860/61 to Théotistè (Cournoyer) Perrance. Théotistè was a widow with three children living in Helen Township, McLeod County, Minnesota. Her first husband, Calixte (Perron) Perrance, had been killed in a boiler explosion in Rhode Island. Théotistè came to Minnesota to live near her parents, Grégoire and Théotistè (Caplet) Cournoyer. Of her three children, one had died after her remarriage to Louis.

The 1865 census did not list ages, just the name, sex and occupation. Here Louis is called Foucher. He is listed with his second wife, Théotistè (Cournoyer), their children Joseph and Felix; Mary and Louis, his children by his first wife; and Henry and Peter Perrance, children of Théotistè by her first marriage.

1870 Census

Louis is listed as Louis Foshea in the 1870 census and gives his age as 53. His wife, Théotistè, had died in 1867. A daughter, baptized as Joanna, later called Jeanette, had been born about one month prior to Théotistè's death and is listed on the census along with her brothers, stepsister and stepbrothers of the 1865 census.

1875 Census

The 1875 census gives his age as 58 and spells his name as **Fouchette.** The family makeup has remained the same as it was in 1870. Mary, Louis' daughter, seems to be the home keeper. She is about 23 years of age at this time and Jeanette, the youngest, is about 9.

1880 Census

A Louis Frocier [sic] is listed in the Federal cen-

of 1880 for Mendota Township, Dakota unty in Minnesota and gives his age as 62. A ot of changes have occurred since the 1875 census. Only Joseph, Louis' son, and Henry Parrant (Perrance) of the family noted in the 1875 census are on this census list. In addition there are two new names: Calais Germain (laborer) and Elvia Germain (servant). Mary had married a Stephen White by this time. Whatever happened to Felix, Peter, Jeanette and Louis is not known. Louis and Peter were old enough to be on their own but Felix and Jeanette were still too young to be venturing for themselves. I have been unable to locate them on any census report. Checking all other known reports for 1880 where other family members were located did not turn up any leads. Where did they go?

1885 Census

Louis died 30 June 1883, consequently he is not listed. Henry Perron (Perrance) along with his brother, Peter Perron (Perrance) and Henrietta Perron, Peter's wife are listed at the old family homestead. In addition three others are listed living with them—all born in Canada—they are Peter Cosena, William Buger and W. H. Van Allen.

Summarizing the Censuses

Utilizing the aage data in the five different censuses Louis one would determine that from the 1850 census he was born in 1821; from the 1857 census he was born in 1819; from the 1870 census he was born in 1817; from the 1875 census he was born in 1817; and from the 1880 census he was born in 1818. Why the differences? It is possible that Louis, a voyageur, was not directly interviewed in 1850 by the census taker and that the head of the household, Mr. Cournyer estimated his age, or, that Louis who was much older than his bride to be (14/15 years old) wanted to indicate that he was in his twenties and not thirty plus. The 1857 census was a little closer to his true age. Mary, his young bride was still living she apparently died about 1859/1860. All things being equal I would judge that Louis was forthright about his age in the 1870, 1875 and 1880 censuses.

With this assumption I have located all the Louis Forciers I could find in data provided me by Father George Henri Cournoyer (a Canadian genealogist). Out of eighteen potential Louis candidates obtained from nearly two hundred family sheets I found only one Louis that could fit the data. All others were either dead, married or obviously too young or too old. The best match was a Louis Forcier, born 6 November 1817. This Louis Forcier was the son of Joseph Forcier and Catherine DéSorcy. It would seem very improbable that there might be another unknown Louis. Louis would have been 30 years old when he arrived in the United States. Whether he came directly to Minnesota or ventured elsewhere prior to coming to Minnesota is not known. To further support the deduction of Louis' parentage I contacted Mr. Hilaire Fortier of Edmonton, Canada. He has data on nearly 18,000 Fortier/Forcier people and 15,000 of their marriages. After reviewing his records he confirmed that, in his opinion, I had selected the correct parentage for Louis. The death report for Louis indicated that he was 65 years of age, again lending credence to the 1817 birth date.



Marriage/Family:

Louis Forcier was married to Marie Martin on 27 August, 1850 by Father A. Ravoux in St. Peter's Church in Mendota; Minnesota. Marie, born in August 1835, was the daughter of Louis Martin and Zoe Winona (Ouinano) a Mdewakanton Sioux, Zoe's Indian name was Xhankomianwi. There were four children born of this marriage. Church records from St. Peter's Church in Mendota, Minnesota show that Marie Louise (Mary) Forcier was born on 18 September 1851. From the baptismal record of St. Peter's Church, the second born, Sauveur Forcier, was born 18 November 1853. As noted again in the St. Peter's Church records Louis Forcier, Jr. was born on 3 September 1854 in Mendota but died two years later in September 1856.

Now I have a bit of a mystery for I find in the church records for Burnsville, Minnesota a record for a Peter Fourcier, born 30 April 1857 with Louis Fourcier and Mary Martin as the parents. In later census records Peter is called Louis. Since one of his godparents was Peter Felix he was given the baptismal name of Peter. However, it appears that Louis, Sr. preferred to use the name of Louis for him instead, probably in memory of the first Louis who had died only six or so months previously.

Louis' first wife, Mary (Marie) Martin Forcier, died around 1859/60. This time frame was determined by two land transactions; one transaction occurred in June 1859 which Louis signed (x) and she signed (x) and another transaction in Nov. 1860 where only Louis signed (x) signifying that she had probably died before November 1860.

Louis then married Théotistè Cournoyer, probably around 1860/1861. Louis and Théotistè had three children; Joseph Forcier, born 20 October 1862; Felix Philip Forcier (my grandfather), born 11 December 1864; and Joanna (Jeanette) Forcier, born 2 February 1867. Searches for the date of the second marriage of Louis and the birth date of one of his children, Mary, by his first marriage are still being conducted. Fortunately the records for Louis' children by his second marriage to Théotistè are well documented in the records of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Men-

dota, Minnesota. Théotistè died in March of 1867. I can only deduce that this was probably a result of complications experienced during the birth of Joanna.

Regarding Louis' children by his first wife, Marie, I find that Louis took advantage of government programs in which Indians, including those of Indian extraction, (his children by his first marriage were considered quarter blood) were granted script for lands in Minnesota. Louis applied for these as the guardian of his children. He even applied as the heir of the estate of the first Louis, Jr. who died at about two years of age. Probate court records indicate that Louis acquired "Sioux half-breed script" for 880 acres, 440 for Mary and 440 for Louis Jr. These were apparently located in Isanti County, Minnesota. I have not attempted to locate these records -- it is apparent though that Louis must have sold this script and/or the land. The probate dates of record for both Louis, Jr. and Mary is 13 October 1858 in Dakota County. Louis, Sr. had himself appointed as Mary's guardian which permitted him to deal on Mary's script or land. Money so obtained was to be used for her support.

Livelihood

Louis arrived in the United States in October of 1848 according to "Intent to Become a Citizen" papers he submitted in August of 1850 in St. Paul. However, it is not known if 1848 was also the year that he came to Minnesota. Usually these formal papers provide the date of entry. However, the papers he submitted were done in longhand, apparently due to a large number of filings around this time and there were an insufficient number of standard forms available.

The Mendota census, taken in 1850, lists him as a voyageur living in Claude Cournoyer's home with a number of others, several of whom were also listed as voyageurs. Since this time period saw a marked decrease in the fur trade business it would appear that this occupation was, or would be, short lived. Indeed, the 1853 property assessment rolls show him as having six acres of land under cultivation, a house, fifteen hundred of rails in fence, one cow and calf and one ox, yoke

chain. It is headed as "Sessment Roals Decrich No. 1 Decota County."

The exact location of this property has not been identified. It is possible it was in Mendota or was located on the 147.6 acres of land he eventually owned. This 147.6 acres of land was formally acquired from the government, through R. F. Russell (Recorder), on 8 August 1855 and was filed on 15 July 1856 as a duplicate Instrument. The conclusion is that Louis had taken up the life of a farmer.

Minnesota Agricultural Reports

I reviewed the Minnesota agricultural reports for the years 1860, 1870 and 1880. These proved to be very interesting. Louis Forcier's name was identified with three different spellings: Fourtier (1860); Foshea (1870); and Focier (1880) Never as Forcier. (Enough said about Anglo-Saxon spelling of French names.) The only place, save one, that I have found the Forcier and Cournoyer names spelled correctly is in the church records. Obviously Louis was illiterate, else he would have corrected the misspelling of his name on his formal papers. He signed these with a mark (x).

Reading these agricultural reports, in addition to providing factual information, leads to a certain amount of speculation. First of all, I see that Louis had sold some of his land at an early date (1860). Louis had 25 acres improved land and 56 acres unimproved land, a total of 81 acres. He also listed four horses, 14 swine, livestock valued at \$225, produce of 100 bushels of wheat, 100 of Indian corn, 140 of oats, 100 of Irish potatoes, 20 tons of hay, and slaughtered animals worth \$50. The indicated value of his property, land and buildings, was \$4,000 and \$20 for farm equipment. A comparison with 38 other farmers in the area indicates that the average farm had a total of 114 acres, 32 improved and 82 unimproved, farm value of \$1,762 and equipment value of \$31. The average farm had 1.5 horses and 2 oxen. In anayzing this information one could conclude that e average farm had only about 25% of the imoved land—a person could farm only about 32 res of land-and, each farm had around three

to four working animals (horses and oxen).
Louis' farm was smaller than average but his
farm value was more than double the average.
Probably this could only have been due to a better house or possibly other structures on the farm.
I presume it was the house.

The 1870 agricultural report gives the following for Louis: 75 acres (total land), \$3,700 value of property, 6 horses, 3 milch cows, 8 other cattle, 2 swine, \$525 value of all livestock, produce of 270 bushels of wheat, 200 of Indian corn, 200 of oats, 500 pounds of butter, 10 tons of hay, \$100 value of slaughtered animals and an estimated value of \$1,348 of all farm products. Again, comparing him to the average of 22 of his neighbors I find an average farm size of 139 acres of which nearly 40 are improved; \$2,895 average property value, 2.5 horses, 2.6 milch cows, 2.5 other cattle (oxen?), \$464 average livestock value, an average of 745 bushels of all cereals (Louis' had a total of 670 bushels), and an average value of \$1,523 for all farm products. It would appear that Louis was about as close to the average as he was in 1860 although there appears to be a slight reduction in his overall property valuation although still above the average. He apparently picked up some cows, dropped off some swine, and no longer grew Irish potatoes. His number of other cattle, eight, is a bit of a puzzle. He had no oxen in the 1870 report and he is well above the average in numbers of horses Possibly he had acquired a few oxen as well as some calves and bulls. If so, the quantity of hay harvested for winter feed appears to be woefully low.

The 1880 agricultural report changed its format somewhat such that fewer farms were listed on each sheet. As a result only 10 farms are listed on the report section I obtained. In this report Louis has 35 acres improved land, 12 acres pasture and 35 acres unimproved land for a total of 82 acres. Property value was listed at \$10,000, farm equipment at \$150 and live stock at \$300. He did \$50 of fence work (building, repairs in 1879), and hired \$50 worth of labor. He had an estimated \$600 value of farm products sold, consumed or on hand for 1879. He mowed twelve acres and produced 25 tons of hay. He had four horses, one milch cow and dropped one calf. He made 100

pounds of butter on the farm and had four swine. He had 45 barnyard poultry that produced 300 dozen eggs. He produced 200 bushels of Indian corn on 5 acres, 119 bushels of oats on four acres, 121 bushels of wheat on ten acres, and 600 bushels of potatoes on five acres. Value of produce sold was \$25 and value of forest products sold or used was \$60. All the above production information is for the year 1879, the agricultural report were taken on 17 June 1880.

With such a small farmer base it is difficult to develop meaningful averages, but one thing was certain, in looking at the report a depression must have been in full swing as the value of farm products was substantially lower (over half) from the report in 1870. Louis' farm value had increased substantially over the 1870 value, from \$3,750 to \$10,000. This is also the first report (1880) in which a poultry inquiry was made. On this count, Louis had more poultry than anyone on the report. It is also interesting that on this report a next door neighbor, on a seven acre farm, had more total income from a produce operation than did Louis. Another neighbor had apparently gone into a large scale cattle operation and had a substantially larger income from his 400-plus acre farm.

From these agricultural reports one point seems to stand out: Louis' property valuation, per acre, is substantially higher than his neighbors', assuming that, on average the per-acre value of land is similar, Louis must have put a lot of his money into his house as cited earlier. He seems to have maintained a reasonably constant farm production mix in his crops but changed his animal production efforts from swine to milch cows to poultry over the course of the years. He seems to have kept a greater number of horses than most of his neighbors.

Church

In Louis' time, the Church was, in addition to its religious connotation, a center for family and social activities. Much of life also centered around church events such as baptisms, marriage and funerals which frequently brought people together. It was probably somewhat of a chore to hitch up

"ole Dobbin" on a cold winter day and travel to church, but they did it. As noted earlier, I have been unable to find church records relevant to Louis' second marriage. Besides his marriage to Mary Martin in 1850 I found six references to Louis in the records of St. Peter's Church in Mendota, Minnesota. Three of these are for the Baptisms of his and Théotistè's three children and three are for the Baptism of other family members. They are listed as follow:

Saint Peter's Catholic Church - Mendota, Minnesota 1840-1993, Book of Baptisms 1857 -1908

Marie Milvina Lavacat (Page 85 # 536)

Date of Birth ___

Date of Baptism - 11 December 1861

Parents - Francis Lavacat &

Marie Cournoyer

Godparents - Louis Forcier &

Anna Claudia Martin

Felix Cournoyer (Page 87 #542)

Date of Birth

Date of Baptism - 30 November 1862
Parents - Anthony Cournoyer &
Louise Lavallie

Godparents - Louis Forcier & Théotistè Cournoyer

Alexander St. Martin (Page 92 #588)

Date of Birth ____
Date of Baptism - 13 November 1862
Parents - Peter St. Martin &
Regina Vemarin
Godparents - Louis Forcier &
Emily St. Martin

The remaining three baptisms are for Louis' three children by Théotistè --

Joseph Forcier (Great Uncle) (Page 92 #592)
Date of Birth - 20 October 1862
Date of Baptism - 1 November 1862
Parents - Louis Forcier &
Théotistè Cournoyer
Godparents - Joseph Arelambeault &
Rosalie Cournoyer
Felix Forcier (Grandfather) (Page 125 #934)
Date of Birth - 8 December 1864
Date of Baptism - 11 December 1864

Parents - Louis Forcier &

Théotistè Cournoyer
Godparents - Felix Cournoyer &
Adelaide Martin

Joanna (Jeanette) Forcier (Page 141 # ---)
Date of Birth - 2 February 1867
Date of Baptism - 3 February 1867
Parents - Louis Forcier &
Théotistè Cournoyer
Godparents - Clemens Lavalle &
Marie Bibeaux

From the above it is quite clear that Louis was well tied into the Lavocat/Martin/Cournoyer families.

Louis Forcier's Children:

Other than giving dates of birth for Louis' children and an occasional reference to them, I have little information concerning his children by his two marriages. While I have considerable information on one, Felix Forcier. Even in the case of Felix, it was not until he showed up in McLeod County, Minnesota at about age 20 or so and was living near his uncles and grandparents (the Cournoyers) that, other than his date of baptism/birth, I knew anything at all concerning him.

I found Louis and Mary (his first marriage) and the two stepsons, Henry and Peter Perrance, in the school rosters in the 1860s. Mary had married a Stephen White, probably in the early 1870s. I found a census report for 1880. that she and Stephen were living in Wilkin County, Minnesota. They had three children at that time, Josephine (5), Henry (2) and a new born (4 months) apparently not yet named. Searches in subsequent censuses did not locate Mary and family. I do know that they were around in 1883 as Mary signed quit claim papers releasing Louis Forcier's estate. The date or place of her death is not known

The second child born to Louis and Mary, Sauveur Forcier, was born in 1853. He must have died at a very early age as there are no records of him in the 1857 census or later.

I know that Louis, Jr., born in 1854, died in 1856 a young child. Only a probate record is avail-

able that relates to his death.

The fourth child Peter, later called Louis, died in 1926, apparently never having been married. I found Louis in a number of school records, census records and probate records regarding Louis, Sr.'s estate as well as in other documents. His obituary appeared in the South St. Paul, Minnesota paper. It has been reported by family members that Louis may have had a cocked eye.

Louis Forcier had three children by his second wife: Joseph, Felix and Jeanette. There are records of Joseph's attendance at school in the late 1860s and early 1870s. Later in the mid 1880s he was involved with land transactions in McLeod County, Minnesota with his brother Felix and half-brothers, Henry and Peter Perrance. From information found in the Saint Paul, Minnesota City Directory in the 1880s I know that Joseph, along with his cousin Peter Corniea (Cournoyer) worked for the Chicago and Northwestern railroad as watchmen for the railroad lift bridge that crossed the Mississippi River just below the Wabasha Street bridge in St. Paul, Minnesota. Since then, all traces of Joseph have been lost I do not know if he ever married or where or when he died.

For Joanna (Jeanette) I have her baptismal record, and a few census records, and a reference to her in a probate document, County of Dakota dated 18 June 1887, in which she was referred to as Jeanette Fourcier. I also found another very important document concerning her which cleared up her apparent disappearance from Louis' family. She had appeared in the 1870 and 1875 census records with Louis, however it became obvious that Louis listed all his living children in the census whether they were living with him or not. A fortunate discovery at the Dakota County Government Center in Hastings, Minnesota revealed that Jeanette died on 7 May 1885 at the age of eighteen. This discovery was made from the land records referring to a "Miscellaneous Document," a settlement with Henry Perrance for about \$500 due Jeanette from Louis' estate. This document contained the information as to where she went and who had taken her. The document indicated that one,

Louis P. LeMay, had taken her into his home at the age of two weeks in 1867. She had died in Bottineau County, Territory of Dakota. Another later discovery was that of finding Jeanette in the 1865 census record for Eagan Township in Dakota County, Minnesota in which she is listed living with the Louis P. LeMay family.

Information aabout Felix in his early years has never been found. In all probability Felix was taken in by another family after his mother's death. Records relevant to Felix were finally found in the land records for McLeod County, Minnesota in 1884, the 1885 census record for McLeod County, Minnesota and his father's (Louis Forcier) probate records.

In 1886 all family members, except Mary and Jeanette, signed quit claim deeds. Stephen, Mary's husband, also signed a quit claim at that time. This most likely indicates that Mary had died and that Stephen signed it as her heir just as Louis P. LeMay signed as Jeanette's heir.

The life of Felix Forcier from about 1885 on is quite well documented and will be presented later.

Mendota Township Schools

As soon as possible most new communities sponsored a school. In 1859 school district No. 3 of West St. Paul was organized. It comprised four sections of land, two each from West St. Paul Township and Mendota Township. The first school was built near the Dodd Road and just east of Delaware Avenue on the section line between the two townships. The school house (18 by 20 feet) was built in 1859 and later, in 1863, moved further down the Dodd Road to one-half acre of land donated by Henry H. Sibley. This land lay between the Forcier and Martin/Lavocat farms. In 1865 the school district had been reorganized and became District No. 5 in view of the move of the school from its location in the West St. Paul Township to the Mendota Township. One assessment list of the properties assessed for the school, shows Louis having 81.5 acres in three parcels and Louis Martin 143.9 acres in five parcels. Louis' assessment was for \$6.52 and Louis Martin was for \$11.51. The tax rate was eight cents per acre.

Most of the information concerning the school was obtained from a copy of a nine page report of the "History of School District No. 5" for Mendota Township published in 1930. On page four it was noted that "Louis Forcier (pronounced Forsee-a)" signed a bond for the school teacher on 26 December 1865 and again a second bond on 21 April 1866. It was also noted that the school board met on occasion at the Louis Forcier home.

It is interesting to review the listing of scholars in the district enumerated in the yearly school reports. For example, in 1863 both Henry and Peter **Perrance** were listed but not Louis or Mary. In the 1865 and 1866 reports all four are listed. The 1869 report again lists all four but in addition I now see Joseph **Forcier's** name. In the 1869 report, for the first time, is also provided the age of the scholars; Henry 13, Peter 12, Louis 12, Joseph 7 and Mary 16. There were a total of 30 boys and 31 girls listed in this report, the youngest being five and the eldest 20 years of age.

While these reports list the eligible scholars, by no means does it mean that they all attended school. For example, in 1865 out of a total of 44 eligible scholars only 29 attended school. Of course, "eligible scholars" included those up to 21 years of age, consequently it is probably safely to assume that nearly all the younger eligible children attended school.

The Louis Forcier and Martin-Lavocat Farms

Already presented was information concerning Louis Forcier's 147.6 acre farm in Mendota Township. This same land was again officially recorded 16 July 1883, shortly after Louis' death, as a sale from the U.S. Government. Interestingly enough, the date of acquisition of this property by title in this 1883 document was established as "The second day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven," a year and a half later than the first recorded document. Louis' name is given as Fourcier. I presume this document, recorded in Book V2 Page

Henry G. Perrance (also called Perron), Louis' stepson, after Louis' death. The government titled 147.60 acres was described as follows: The North East Quarter of the South West Quarter and the Lots Numbered Five and Six of Section thirteen in Township Twenty-eight of Range twenty-three in the District of lands Subject to Sale at Minneapolis Minnesota Territory Containing...147.60 acres.

A map of the original farm in relationship to its location with the city of St. Paul and West St. Paul and to the Martin-Lavocat farm located just to the south. Delaware is the street that bordered the Forcier farm to the east and, as shown, the farm lay between what is now called Sibley Highway (State 13) and the Dodd Road (State Highway 149). Pickerel lake is shown just above to the left of the farm. The two farms almost join. The school that several of the Forcier children attended was located on the Dodd Road in the triangle of land between Dodd Road and the two farms. The Somerset Heights School is located there yet today. The current Somerset Golf Course, surrounded by the Dodd Road, Emerson, Delaware and Wentworth encompasses most of the Martin/Lavocat farm.

Since Louis, just prior to his death, sold about 72 acres to stepson Henry Perrance, what happened to the other 75.6 acres? I found that 39.09 acres of land from Lot 5 was sold to Jesse B. Shelhamer on 11 August 1855 just three days after Louis acquired the land. On 14 September of the same year Louis sold 10 acres of the 40 acre parcel to Edward Ritter. On 23 July 1857 he sold a part of lots 5 and 6, about 17 acres, to Samuel C. Staples, and finally, on 8 November 1860 Louis, after the death of his wife Mary, sold 10 acres of the 40 acre parcel to Samuel J. Wilkins. This left 52-plus acres of lots 5 and 6, and 20 acres of the original 40 acre parcel for a total of 72-plus acres. Henry Perrance later sold more of the property and one of the last records by him shows an ownership of about 31.9 acres.

Richard Stark, also a grandson of Felix Philip Forcier, in conducting a review of the land re-

cords for the **Forcier** property, found 41 references starting with 8 August 1855 and ending on 9 April 1938. All references relate to both the **Forcier** and **Perrance** families.

To me, this land, located on the Dodd Road just outside the west city limits of Saint Paul, Minnesota was just another small farm. In my younger years I traveled Dodd Road hundreds of times and never knew that this land I passed by and the farm I visited at one time belonged to my greatgrandfather and that my grandfather was born on it. It was also apparent that my dad, Louis' grandson, was not aware of this either. My dad knew that those living on the farm were relatives, a fact I took advantage of and stopped by on occasion for a treat of strawberries and cream when I was in the neighborhood. A portion of what I knew as "Happy Hollow" was also located on the original farm. Happy Hollow was an area frequented in the 1930s by many (including myself) for outings, cookouts, and hunting.

It was Edmund Lavacot, who was brought up on the Martin/Lavocat farm and who later, with his wife, Sarah Cournoyer, raised my father, Joseph Lavacot (Forcier) from about 1901 to 1913. They lived to the northeast of the farm just off the Dodd Road (149) on West Belvidere St. Also Louis' great grandson, Francis J. Lavacot's home is shown a little further to the northeast, where he lived from 1936 to 1944 at 226 Prescott Street.

Final Days:

Little is known about Louis' final days. It would appear however that he was well aware of his final demise as he turned over his property on 21 June 1883 to Henry Perrance for \$5,000 "cash in hand paid". It was recently discovered that Louis died on 30 June 1883 of Typhoid. His death was registered in the Dakota County records on 5 January 1884 with the name of Louis Forche. Some years later, when Louis' estate was in probate, Henry gave Louis' date of death as 20 May 1883 - a date that was questioned since Louis would have turned over the farm to Henry for the "cash in hand paid" after his death. The administrator of the estate, Charles Staples, inventoried

Louis' property in 1887 and indicated that the real estate was worth \$4,500 and personal property worth \$415, close to the \$5,000 cash paid by Henry. Louis' estimate of the value of his property was \$10,000 in 1880. It would appear that Louis had the penchant for overstating the worth of his property. According to one of the probate records (not found) Henry agreed in writing to pay each of Louis' heirs \$500.

It was indicated in the probate court record of 18 June 1887 that the following were Louis' survivors; Joseph Forcier, Felix Forcier, Joanna (Jeanette) Forcier, Mary (Forcier) White, and Louis Forcier, Jr., consequently some \$2,500 would be due the heirs. No mention was made of the remaining \$2,500. And the strange thing about it all, if Louis sold the farm for \$5,000 in hand paid, where did it go? It is interesting to note that Henry took a mortgage out on the farm with Samuel Staples for \$1,500 only five weeks after the reported sale of the farm to Henry. Was this money used to pay off the five other heirs, no "cash in hand" ever occurring on the sale of the farm. There does not appear to be any \$5,000 laying around, and where would Henry get it, and for what collateral if borrowed.

In all probability Henry Perrance was the principal worker on the Forcier farm; most of the rest of the family being elsewhere when Louis died. Because of Henry's work on the farm for close to 23 years, Louis probably felt obliged or had agreed to sell him the farm for services rendered but that as a minimum each of Louis' heirs were to get \$500. The final summation was probably, "Henry, the farm is worth \$5,000. You've done the work so half of it is yours, and when you give \$500 to each of my five heirs the whole farm is yours." At the time it appears that only Joseph Forcier, Louis Forcier and Mary Forcier White were readily located. So Henry took out a mortgage of \$1,500 to pay them their estate. Joseph and Mary signed quit claim deeds in October 1883 and Peter, although not listed as an heir, signed one in November 1883. A witness had observed a payment by Henry to Louis Forcier, Jr. It was not until December 1886 that Felix signed a quit claim deed and February 1887 that Jeanette (deceased), through a settlement by Louis P. LeMay, provided a quit claim to the farm. The delay in Jeanette's case may be due to a lack of knowledge as to where she was and/or the distance away in the Dakota Territory. There is information that would suggest that Felix was in McLeod County about the time of his father's death, at least by 1884, as he was involved in a land transaction with his brother and with his first cousin (or uncle), Joseph Cournoyer, in December 1884.

No mention as heirs were made of Henry or Peter Perrance, children of Théotistè by her first marriage in Louis Forcier's probate, as they were not direct descendants of Louis. Similarly, Henry and Peter were the heirs to Théotistè's estate of 160 acres in McLeod County, Minnesota as it would have been considered to have been derived through Calixte Perron, their father. None of Théotistè's three children by Louis were considered heirs to her estate.

A final decree relevant to the "Estate of Louis Fourcier" (spelled as such in nearly all probate records) was given on 21 February 1888, nearly five years after the death of Louis. The number of documents involved to clear the estate numbered 21. They required a number of "in person" hearings in both Hastings, Minnesota and Saint Paul, Minnesota for Henry Perrance and for the estate administrator, Charles F. Staples, a neighbor of Louis. It must have been a difficult problem in those horse and buggy days with the distances to be traveled.

Apparently some lingering concerns some 46 years after Louis' death led to further action about farm ownership or money paid out that prompted Henry, as the plaintiff, to obtain a court decree in 1929 establishing him as owner. He had lived there and worked the farm for nearly 70 years. He paid the taxes.

Although I had just recently discovered the report of Louis' death in the Dakota County records I still do not know where he was buried. I found the burial site of Théotistè (Cournoyer/Perrance) Forcier in the cemetery of Saint Peter's Catholic Church in Mendota, Minnesota. Her grave was not recorded in the index of buri-

at the church office but a marble stone was ound with her name inscribed. This was reported to the church office so that the grave could be located in the future. It was stated by family members that on one occasion when a burial excavation was made next to Théotiste's grave for a family member, another burial had been found. It is possible that this is Louis' or another family member's unmarked grave. Two other Perrance family members, Mary Perrance (1862) and Henry Perrance (1930), have been buried near Théotistè's grave. These are in the records and have been located by headstones. The unmarked grave site to the right of Théotistè would appear to be empty. But is it? A subsequent review with St. Peter's Church authorities revealed that a plot for six graves had been acquired, apparently by Louis. Whether this was acquired at the time of his first wife's death (Mary) or at the time of the death of Théotistè's child, Mary Perrance, is not known. The remaining three grave sites are now listed as occupied although there were no headstones. Conjecture would lead one to believe that Louis Forcier may occupy one of these or maybe Mary, his first wife. Possibly two of Henry's children, George and Elbridge who died in 1890 of diphtheria, might also occupy them.

In Retrospect:

One may wonder why there is so little family information concerning Louis, such as family pictures and other memorabilia. Here again, William Perrance, a descendant of Théotistè (Cournoyer/Perrance) Forcier, sheds light on the subject. Louis' home, that had been acquired by Henry Perrance after Louis' death, had burned and was replaced by a new house. Presumably most of the family records located there may have been lost in the fire. Consequently what information I have has been derived mostly from official records. But it has been sufficient to develop a bit of a story. I do have a picture of a couple, taken in St. Paul, possibly in the 1860s that may be of Théotistè and Louis Forcier. While not positively identified, the family resemblance of the lady in the picture to pictures of Sarah Cournoyer, Felix Cournoyer, Anthony Cournoyer, her sister and brothers, is apparent. This picture, one of about 45, was in Felix Forcier's collection of pictures found in the affects of his daughter, Felicia Forcier Stark. He had a picture I believe to be of his grandparents and one would think that he at least would have one of his parents. Non-the-less, Louis and Théotistè are the only great grandparents for whom I have no confirmed picture, unfortunately for the benefit of future generations.

While I have obtained a lot of information. mostly publicly recorded data, concerning Louis -I have found little that reveals his character. There are no eye witness commentaries concerning him. One needs to read between the lines of what I have found. He seems to have been called upon by family members (Lavacot and Cournoyer) to become a godparent. Certainly he must have been considered to be an honorable and possibly a religious person. He saw to it that his children-at least with Théotistè-were all baptized. But here again it may have been her influence. Certainly Louis was involved in school matters and had some financial acumen to stand for the teacher's bonds. Several school records indicated that he must have encouraged his "eligible" children to attend school. It was observed that when Joseph was in his middle teens and attending school that there was no record of Felix, who was just two years younger, at this school. Possible further evidence of his having been sent elsewhere to be raised by others.

Louis had pioneered the land he lived on and remained on it for at least 30 years. As seen in the agricultural reports he seems to have been quite productive in comparison with his neighbors. One must conclude that he was an industrious person.

In his final days Louis saw fit to recognize Henry **Perrance** for his loyalty and work on the farm; at the same time recognizing that there was the need to consider an inheritance for his other children. He did this by giving Henry half the farm with the proviso that Henry pay each of Louis' heirs a pro rated share for the other half.

Little more can be gleaned from the data collected other than to say that Louis Forcier was most likely of good character.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS WITHIN THE F/C/MGS

ACADIANS— are best described as French colonists that originally settled primarily in what is now Nova Scotia in the years 1604 to 1713. Our collection includes materials to help those interested in tracing their Acadian ancestors.

AMERICAN INDIAN— records deal mainly with those people native to the western hemisphere before the arrival of the European colonists. The Center has been collecting information and records on this group of people for many years.

CANADIANS NOT FRENCH— This group includes all those Canadians not covered by the other interest groups. This part of our collection is the fastest growing and with continued member support we will continue to enhance the collection as funds allow.

FRENCH GLOBAL— This group covers all French other than those in Canada and the United States. Our collection is limited, however, more and more is being published. This group is in need of an enthusiastic person who can make recommendations for purchases.

FRENCH CANADIANS— French Canadians have been active since that first round table. It has been largely the efforts of the French Canadians that have amassed the collection of the Center. When Msgr. Cyprien Tanguay gathered together the Catholic Church records from the small historic parishes along the St. Lawrence River in Quebec in the nineteenth century, he started a tradition of family consciousness that carries down to the present day among persons of Quebecois descent, whether they live in Quebec or in other parts of the world. Many books of genealogy, registers of baptisms, marriages, burials, and other historical documents published since Tanguay's time have made French-Canadian families some of the best researched in the world. The French/Canadian/Metis Genealogical Society (formerly NorthWest Territory Canadian & French Heritage Center) is simply one of a long list of societies founded to assist persons of French-Canadian descent in the researching of their ancestors.

HUGUENOTS— are most easily described as French Protestants. Some of our French Canadian members may find that their ancestor was a Protestant in France, and converted to Catholicism by the Jesuits after their arrival in New France. Our Huguenot collection is small but useful. The collection is expanding as more publications are found.

METIS(SE)— records are related to those covering the American Indian. The word Metis or Metisse signifies that the individual was a person who descended from Native American and white or black parents. During the early years of the fur trade, the traders did not have access to women of their race and cohabited with the native Indian women. Many fur traders married Indian women and had children with them. These children were called Metis or mixed bloods. Many of these mixed blood children remained in the woods and became trappers themselves helping the white fur traders. Others went to the white man's school and then returned to work at the fur trading posts.