Vol. 13, No. 2 Winter 2007-2008

Connecticut Maple Leaf

The Connecticut Maple Leaf is published twice a year by the French-Canadian Genealogical Society of Connecticut. It serves as a source of information for members tracing their family roots from Connecticut to New France, Acadia and France. It is, consequently, a clearinghouse for historical research and vital statistics of special interest to Franco-Americans. Members are encouraged to contribute articles, including extracts from their own family studies.

Editor

Sherry Chapman, #1283

Officers

President Vice President Recording Secretary Treasurer Corresponding Secretary Jean Fredette, #1537

Susan Paquette, #369
Robert Caron, #45
Andrea Scannell, #1740
Robert Lessard, #1754
Jean Fredette, #1537

Library Director Germaine Hoffman, #333

Directors

2006-2008 Richard Blais, #1652 Raymond Cassidy, #747

Patrick Lausier, #4 Susan Paquette, #369 2007-2009

Glen Chenette, #1854 Raymond Lemaire, #1881 Albert Marceau, #766 Shirley Morin, #2075 Ivan Robinson, #326

Librarians

Richard Blais, #1652 Candice Bryan, #1980 Robert Caron, #45 Gerald Dalpe, #1858 Estelle Gothberg, #1426 Germaine Hoffman, #333 Dianne Keegan, #829 Paul Keroack, #157 Paul Lajoie, #1402 Maryanne LeGrow, #696 Albert Marceau, #766 Shirley Morin, #2075 Robert Ouellette, #1305 Susan Paquette, #369 Carlton Raymond, #449 Ivan Robinson, #326 Leo W. Roy, #1609 Natalie Ryan, #1924 Gordon Simon, #472

Special Responsibilities

Claire Allard, #1635	Obituaries
Norbert Beauchemin, #34	45 Auditor
Rene Bernier, #18	Obituaries
Richard Blais, #1652	Mailings
Robert Caron, #45	Special Events
Raymond Cassidy, #747	Computer Network
Philippe Fontaine,#1805	Database Cataloging
Jean Fredette, #1537	Database Cataloging
Richard Fredette, #1537	Carpentry
Dianne Keegan, #829	Repertoire Collection
Paul Keroack, #157	Reclassification Project
Patrick Lausier, #4	Special Projects

Scheduling Maryanne LeGrow, #696 Barbara Lee-Leonard, #2047 Jobs List Video Denise Long-Woodward, #1658 Albert Marceau, #766 Hébert Collection Shirley Morin, #2075 Membership Susan Paquette, #369 Research Barbara Paradis, #1730 Travel/Special Events Leaflet, Publicity Ivan Robinson, #326 Benoit Simoneau, #838 Translation Sharon Sinclair, #1437 Bindery Evaluator Joseph Terrien, #188 Webmaster Roger Whitmore, #958 Carpentry

CONTENTS

Connecticut Maple Leaf

ISSN 1081-6275

Vol. 13, No. 2 Winter 2007-2008

> ©All rights reserved 2007-2008

Features

- 5 1690: The Carignan Regiment to the Rescue? Peter Gagné, #1195
- 16 New Canadian Free Search Website Yields Archival Details Paul R. Keroack, #157
- 17 Maids & Matrons of New France: Pioneer Women of Acadia
 Introduction
 Mary Sifton Pepper
- 19 Maids & Matrons of New France: Pioneer Women of Acadia Marguerite de Roberval—The Heroine of the Isle of Demons Mary Sifton Pepper
- 22 Maids & Matrons of New France: Pioneer Women of Acadia
 The Marchioness de Guercheville—First Patrones of American Missions
 Mary Sifton Pepper
- 27 Maids & Matrons of New France: Pioneer Women of Acadia
 The Lady de la Tour—A Fair Chatelaine of Acadia
 Mary Sifton Pepper
- 33 1880s Franco-American News Items From Willimantic and Vicinity Paul R. Keroack, #157
- 34 Connecticut Maple Leaf Submission Guidelines
- 35 BOOK REVIEW: Seeking La Salle and the French in America

 Ivan Robinson, #326

 Ghost Empire: How the French Almost Conquered North America, by Philip Marchand

Features

39	FCGSC Library Resources You Won't Find on the Internet, Part l	II
	Paul R. Keroack, #157	

- 43 Private Ferdinand Lavigne: A French-Canadian Civil War Soldier Joseph Terrien, #188
- 47 Massachusetts Repertoires in the FCGSC Library Collection Paul R. Keroack, #157
- 50 Maine Repertoires in the FCGSC Library Collection Paul R. Keroack, #157
- 74 Quebec City's 2008 Four Hundred Year Anniversary Celebration

Departments

- 3 Editor's Niche Sherry Chapman, #1283
- 4 FCGSC Library Schedule
- 53 2007 in Review
 Ivan Robinson, #326
- 55 Surnames of Interest to FCGSC Members Shirley Giguere Morin, #2075
- 71 Financial Contributions to the Society Robert Lessard, #1754
- 72 The Society Acknowledges Donations to the Library

 Jean Fredette, #1537
- 74 New Members as of December 31, 2007 Shirley Giguere Morin, #2075

Editor's Niche

Sherry Chapman, #1283

It was July of 1608 that Samuel de Champlain established the first permanent French settlement in North America near the St. Lawrence River. The Algonquin called the place Kébec, a word that translates to "where the river narrows." This year marks the four hundred year anniversary of the founding of that settlement, now known as Quebec City. Anniversary celebration activities are planned in the city throughout the year. See page 74 to learn where you can find more information about the various festivities.

In this issue of the Connecticut Maple Leaf we commemorate Quebec City's milestone by celebrating beginnings. You will learn about three of the first French pioneer women of Acadia in *Maids & Matrons of New France* written by **Mary Sifton Pepper** over a century ago. One of those women was banished to the Isle of Demons where she lived for two years until her eventual rescue. Another, a very pious woman who is known to have resisted the advances of King Henry, fought to establish a Jesuit colony in Acadia that was wrought with hardship and ultimate failure; and another brave but unfortunate woman who lead the defense of Fort Latour.

Peter Gagné, #1195, debunks information on a plaque in Quebec City that commemorates the triumphant parade of the Carignan regiment down the Grand Allée after the victory march marking the defeat of the campaign against Quebec City in 1690. In the article, 1690: The Carignan Regiment to the Rescue?, Gagné tells us why the idea the regiment itself saved Quebec City in 1690 must be either myth or exaggeration.

Paul R. Keroack, #157, examines a new website with free Canadian archive data online, and he provides news snippets about Franco-Americans in the vicinity of Willimantic, Conn. in the 1880s. In addition, Keroack continues his project of indexing repertoires in the FCGSC library collection. Indices of the Maine and Massachusetts repertoires are printed in this issue.

Ivan Robinson, #326, both educates and entertains in Seeking La Salle and the French in America, a book review of Ghost Empire: How the French Almost Conquered North America. Robinson also provides a summary of the society's activities of the past year in 2007 in Review; and Joseph Terrien, #188, shares the discoveries he made in researching his wife's ancestor in Private Ferdinand Lavigne: A French-Canadian Civil War Soldier.

I invite you to spend some time with this issue of the *Connecticut Maple Leaf*. Until the next issue, I bid you *adieu*.

The Ch_

FCGSC Library Schedule

January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

Library Hours				
Monday	1-5 P.M			
Wednesday	1-5 P.M.			
Saturday	9 A.M 4 P.M.			
Sunday	1-4 P.M.			

		Scheduled Lib	rary Closings 2008
MARCH	Sat. Sun.	22 23	Easter Observance Easter Observance
MAY	Sun. Sat. Sat. Sun. Mon.	11 17 24 25 26	Mothers' Day Annual Membership Meeting (closed 1-3 P.M.) Memorial Day Observance Memorial Day Observance Memorial Day Observance
JUNE	Sun.	15	Fathers' Day
JULY	Sat. Sun.	5 6	Independence Day Observance Independence Day Observance
AUGUST	Sat. Sun.	30 31	Labor Day Observance Labor Day Observance
SEPTEMBER	Mon. Sun.	1 14	Labor Day Observance Volunteer Appreciation Day Picnic
OCTOBER	Sat.	18	Annual Membership Meeting (closed 1-3 P.M.)
NOVEMBER	Wed. Sat. Sun.	26 29 30	Thanksgiving Observance Thanksgiving Observance Thanksgiving Observance
DECEMBER	Wed. Sat. Sun. Mon. Wed.	24 27 28 29 31	Christmas Holiday Observance Christmas Holiday Observance Christmas Holiday Observance Christmas Holiday Observance New Years Eve

Unscheduled Closings

The library may be closed in inclement weather. Unscheduled closings will be announced on the answering machine at the library at (860) 872-2597, as well as broadcast on radio station WTIC 1080 AM, and on Hartford area television stations WFSB channel 3, WVIT channel 30, and WGGB channel 40.

1690: The Carignan Regiment to the Rescue?

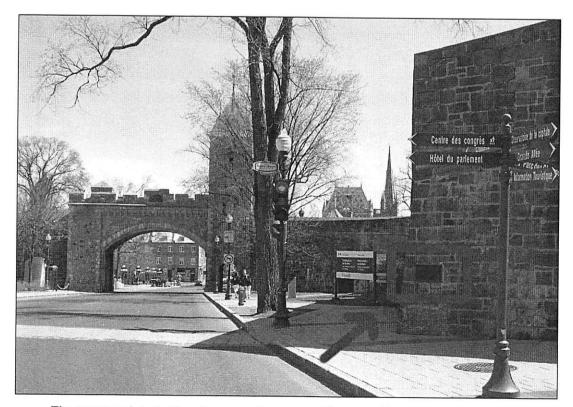
Peter Gagné, #1195

This is the second of two articles on the events of 1690 in New France. The first, which appeared in the previous issue of the Connecticut Maple Leaf, was an account of the British siege of Quebec City in 1690, in an attempt to gain control of the colony and the continent. The current article deals with the alleged participation of the Carignan regiment in the defense of the siege of 1690 and was inspired by a historic plaque located in Quebec City.

(2

On the Grande Allée in Quebec City, at one end of this wide boulevard with restaurants displaying yard glasses of beer enticing tourists to sit and drink on the sunny terraces in the summer, is the Saint Louis gate. The stone ramparts connecting the gate with the nearby Citadel and marking the limits of the Old Town of Quebec City are an impressive sight. But few tourists probably notice the bronze plaque on the stone walls of the rampart just outside the gate. The bilingual plaque reads in English:

Frontenac faced Phips unflinchingly. But the scale of victory could not be turned decisively until the famous reinforcements of Carignan and French Canadians marched in triumphantly along the Grande-Allée, 1690.



The arrow points to the plaque on the rampart just outside the Saint Louis gate on the Grand Allée in Quebec City

This plaque informs passers-by that the Carignan-Salières regiment, "famous" for saving New France from the Iroquois menace, also saved New France from the menace of the British Empire. Heroes against one enemy, they were also heroes against another. If it were not for the "reinforcements of Carignan," arriving at the last minute to tip the scales in favor of the French and save the day, New France would surely have been lost.

Re-writing History

The only problem with this event is that it could not have happened. The Carignan regiment, which arrived in New France in 1665, was disbanded in 1668—twenty-two years before the events of 1690. The regiment no longer existed, and only about four hundred of its twelve hundred men remained in the colony to settle after 1668. Nearly one third of the regiment died before this date and the remaining third returned to France once their service was over.

Many questions are raised by the plaque installed on the Grande-Allée. How could a plaque that is obviously historically inaccurate be installed by an organism of the Quebec government? Were there really former members of the Carignan regiment who took part in the defense of Quebec during the siege of 1690? And if so, what were their roles and how many of them were there?

This article seeks to provide answers to as these last two questions. We will take a look at the events of 1690 and the men involved in them and attempt to determine if the participants were former members of the Carignan regiment.

The plaque refers to the "reinforcements" who came marching along the Grande-Allée to save Quebec from an overwhelming British force. The assumption is that since some of the former captains of the Carignan regiment were given seigneuries in the area south of Montréal (most notably Saurel, Saint-Ours, Contrecoeur and Chambly), the reinforcements who arrived from the Montreal government with Governor Callières were bound to be made up in large part of former members of the Carignan regiment. While we will examine how many former Carignan soldiers were among these troops, they are surprisingly not the only former members of the regiment involved in the events of 1690.

In his work 1690, Sir William Phips Devant Québec: Histoire d'un Siège, Ernest Myrand lists several officers and soldiers formerly with the Carignan regiment whom he claims participated in the defense of Quebec City during the siege of 1690. The roles of Ensign Pierre Bécard de Granville and Captains Louis Petit and Pierre de Saint-Ours have been established by contemporary sources. However, Captain Jacques de Chambly, whom Myrand lists as having helped defend against Phips' attack, could not have done so. He died three years earlier in Martinique, where he was serving as governor. The officers and soldiers listed below who are marked with an asterisk (*) are listed by Myrand, but their roles can not be established during the siege of 1690. All biographical sketches are presented in alphabetical order for each section.

Arrivals from Acadia

Contrary to what the plaque would have us believe, it was not only from Montreal and the surrounding settlements that former members of the Carignan regiment participated in the defense of the colony in 1690. Help from one of its members—and another of its former members himself—came from as far away as Acadia.

Jean-Vincent d'Abbadie de Saint-Castin was an ensign in the Chambly company of the Carignan regiment. He went to Acadia in 1670 with Hector Andigné de Grandfontaine, captain of a company in the Carignan regiment, and recently-named governor of Acadia. Saint-Castin settled at Pentagouet with Grandfontaine. In 1673, he was captured in an English raid on Pentagouet, along with the new governor of Acadia—his former captain in the Carignan regiment, Jacques de Chambly. Saint-Castin succeeded in escaping and making his way to Quebec City, where Governor Frontenac gave him the mission of securing the allegiance of the Abenaki Indians of Acadia to the French cause.

In 1674, he became the fourth Baron of Saint-Castin upon the death of his brother. However, he would not rule over part of the Béarn region of France, but rather part of Acadia, after he became one of the principal Abenaki chiefs in the region, having married the daughter of the Pentagouet chief Madokawando. On 25 May 1690, Saint-Castin and his father-in-law commanded the one hundred fifty Abenaki warriors who joined René Robineau de Portneuf, Augustin Le Gardeur de Courtemanche and a force of fifty French troops in their raid on Casco, Maine (near Portland). Later that year, Saint-Castin received word from his spies in New England that the English were preparing an attack against Quebec. It was he who sent a member of his tribe to give Frontenac advance warning of Phips' planned attack. Two years after the failed siege, Phips hired two French deserters to kill Saint-Castin, but the plot was foiled by two Acadians.

Louis Petit, a former captain of a company in the Carignan regiment, arrived in Quebec City in 1690 with Phips aboard the English fleet. Having become a priest in 1670 at the Seminary of Quebec, he then went to Acadia and was captured in Phips' raids against Port-Royal. Petit's house was pillaged by the English troops, who made him a prisoner, along with fellow priest Father Trouvé. He was then brought to Boston when Phips returned there in preparation for the assault on Quebec and was taken to New France in view of an eventual prisoner exchange. Petit was indeed liberated in exchange for English prisoners captured by the French in their raids on New England. In his account of the siege of Quebec, Thomas Savage, one of the English prisoners, refers to Petit as, "Mr. Peter, an old experienced officer, lately turned priest [who] has been formerly in Boston and well acquainted with the New-Englanders."

¹ Thomas Savage, "An Account of the Late Action of the New-Englanders...", p. 51.

"Guarding the Fort" at Quebec City

The two former Carignan officers above may seem to be exceptions to the rule that most of the ex-soldiers who participated in the defense of the 1690 siege of Quebec City came from the Montreal area. However, there were also some former Carignan soldiers and officers who were already in Quebec City and the surrounding area when Phips arrived to lay siege to the capital.

Pierre Bécard de Granville, a former ensign with the Grandfontaine company of the Carignan regiment, was sent by Major Provost of Quebec City (see below) to keep an eye on the advancing British fleet while they were anchored off of Tadoussac. Unfortunately, Granville was captured while carrying out this mission. It was Granville, held prisoner aboard the English fleet off of Quebec City, who informed Phips that it appeared that Montreal Governor Louis-Hector de Callières had arrived with several hundred reinforcements that Frontenac had called for to defend the capital.

- * Berthier, Alexandre (captain): After returning to France with the regiment in 1668, he returned to Canada in 1670. Two years later, he was granted the seigneurie of Bellechasse or Berthier-en-bas and also bought the seigneurie of Villemur or Berthier-en-haut the same year. Shortly after the census of 1681, he settled definitively in his seigneurie of Bellechasse, on the south shore of the Saint-Lawrence in the vicinity of the Île d'Orléans, and became the militia captain there, partaking in Governor Brisay de Denonville's expedition against the Tsonnontouan tribe in 1687. It is therefore possible that he took part in defending the colony three years later, but he would have done so as a militia captain on the south shore of Quebec City and not as a formal military officer. However, he is not mentioned in any of the contemporary accounts of the siege, though perhaps Frontenac's reference to the militia of "the Lauzon coast," which was directly west of Bellechasse, was meant to include him.
- * Paul Dupuis dit Lisloye was an ensign with the Maximy company. After the regiment was demobilized in 1668, Dupuis and his wife Jeanne Couillard baptized a child in Quebec City in each of the following two years. In 1671, he made an agreement with Pierre Bécard de Granville (above), by which the latter would be owner of the lesser Île-aux-Oies and the Île-aux-Grues and Dupuis would own the greater Île-aux-Oies, all downriver from Quebec City. Dupuis settled there with his family until he was named district attorney in the Prévôté court of Québec City in 1686. He did not put down arms, however, accompanying governors Le Febvre de la Barre and Brisay de Denonville as a major in campaigns against the Tsonnontouans in 1684 and 1687. It is therefore possible that he also participated in the defense of Quebec in 1690, though none of the contemporary accounts mentions him by name or position.

François Provost was a lieutenant in the Grandfontaine company of the Carignan regiment. At the time of the 1690 invasion, Provost held the position of town major and "lieutenant of

the King" at Quebec City. He sent word of the imminent attack to Frontenac, who was at Montréal when the news arrived, and dispatched Pierre Bécard de Granville (above), a former brother-in-arms from the Grandfontaine company, to keep an eye on the English fleet during their advance up the Saint Lawrence. It was Provost who planned and built the defensive fortifications of the city, having begun them in the spring upon news of the failed land attack on the colony. He had the defenses completed in record time after hearing of Phips' advance up the Saint Lawrence, not only completing the earlier work, but adding new defenses. "In less than six days, Major Provost accomplished a task that would normally have taken two months." It was also Provost who met Thomas Savage, the English officer charged with the task of summoning Frontenac to surrender, and ordered him blindfolded for his journey to the governor.

Reinforcements from Montreal

It was Pierre Bécard de Granville (above), held prisoner aboard the British fleet, who informed Phips that the triumphant celebration that he heard was due to the arrival of Governor Callières of Montreal with about seven or eight hundred men, a mixture of regular troops, *coureurs du bois* and militiamen. These were the reinforcements that Frontenac had called for, having swiftly traveled the sixty leagues that separate Montreal from Quebec City—a trip of normally about seven days—in only three.

However, were they really "the famous reinforcements of Carignan" that the plaque proclaims them to be? There is certainly reason to doubt this fact. First, as has already been established, the Carignan regiment had not been in Canada for twenty-two years at this point. There is no way that the regiment as a unit could have come as reinforcements to the aid of the capital. Also, the text of the plaque is obviously exaggerated and aggrandizing. The Carignan reinforcements are said to be "famous," suggesting that they saved New France once, and—what do you know? —here they come, marching down the Grande Allée to save it once again! What is more, they didn't simply march down this avenue into the city; they "marched in triumphantly along the Grande Allée." How could they march in "triumphantly" when they hadn't even met the enemy yet? Maybe they marched out of the city triumphantly, but when they marched in their "triumph" was yet to come. However, the plaque—evoking their earlier, famous "triumph" over the Iroquois—presupposes this new triumph before it even happened.

There is one part of the plaque's text, however, that is more accurate than the parts cited above, although it is easy to overlook. It was not only the alleged Carignan reinforcements who marched along the Grande Allée that day, it was the "famous reinforcements of Carignan and French-Canadians" who made that triumphant march into Quebec City. We seem to be closer to the truth with this statement. While there were, indeed, some former members of the Carignan regiment (identified below) who came to the aid of the capital that day, the bulk of the reinforcements were militiamen and simple habitants who heeded the call to arms and followed Montreal's Governor Callières to Quebec City.

² Raymond Douville, "Provost (Prévost), François," <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.

It is significant that the anonymous author of the "Relation of the Raising of the Siege of Quebec City," does not mention the Carignan regiment at all, and merely states that the same day that Frontenac refused to surrender, Governor Callières "arrived in Quebec City at the head of about six hundred men that he had amassed." Nowhere in this account is the name Carignan mentioned, even when the author speaks of former officers of the regiment who actually did participate in the defense of the capital during the siege. For his part, Frontenac only speaks of the reinforcements in the sense that he had given Callières the order to "come as quickly as he could, with all the troops that he had, leaving only a few companies in the city of Montreal, and to amass along the way as many habitants as was possible."4 While his reference to "troops" may be taken to be the former members of the Carignan regiment—and a few may well have been—this statement must be understood as referring to the troupes de la marine, or colonial regular troops. Nonetheless, there was a familiar name at the head of one of these companies: Pierre de Saint-Ours. However, at the time he was no longer a captain in the Carignan regiment, but in the troupes de la marine. The following are all the former Carignan soldiers and officers who can be identified as having taken part or who are alleged to have taken part in the defense of the siege of Quebec in 1690.

- * François Jarret de Verchères: A former ensign in the Contrecoeur company under his uncle Pierre Pécaudy de Contrecoeur, François Jarret de Verchères was granted the seigneurie of Verchères in the region of Montreal in 1672 by Intendant Talon. Along with Paul Dupuis dit Lisloye (above), his former brother-in-arms from the Carignan regiment, Verchères took part in Governor Brisay de Denonville's expedition against the Tsonnontouan tribe in 1687, as a militia captain in the battalion of former Carignan captain Alexandre Berthier (above). While he is not mentioned in the contemporary accounts of the siege of 1690, it is possible that he may have taken part. One year later, in 1691, Governor Frontenac commissioned Verchères as an ensign in the troops of Canada. He was promoted to lieutenant three years later.
- * Jacques Labadie: A former sergeant in the Loubias company, he was living in his seigneurie of Labadie at Trois-Rivières at the time of the 1690 siege, having been granted this land in 1672. Labadie was sergeant of the Trois-Rivières garrison in 1684 and militia captain in 1705, so it is possible that he joined up with the other militiamen and habitants who accompanied Montreal Governor Callières to Quebec City in 1690 to defend it against attack. However, this possibility cannot be corroborated by contemporary accounts, which are devoid of his name.
- * Gilles Luton dit Bonvouloir: A former soldier in the Petit company, he was probably living in the Montreal area at the time of the siege of 1690, though this is not certain. Details on Luton are sparse, and it is only known that he was mentioned in a notarized act in Boucherville on 6 December 1674 and that he was buried 6 October 1723 in Montreal at the

³ Anonymous, "Relation de la Levée du Siège de Québec, Capitale de la Nouvelle France," p.4.

⁴ Louis Buade de Frontenac, "Lettre du Gouverneur à M. de Seignelay, en date du 12 novembre 1690," p. 7-8.

alleged age of ninety-five. None of the accounts of the defense of Quebec in 1690 mention him by name.

- * Séraphin Margane de Lavaltrie was a lieutenant with the Berthier company. In 1672, he was granted the seigneurie of Lavaltrie in the Montreal area. In 1684, Lavaltrie was commander at Michillimakinac (Mackinaw Island, MI) and he commanded one of the four battalions in Denonville's expedition against the Tsonnontouans in 1687. He became a halfpay lieutenant in 1688, so it is possible that he took part in the defense of Quebec in 1690, even though "none of the numerous accounts of the siege of Quebec tells us that Monsieur de Lavaltrie took part in the glorious defense of the capital." His daughter Catherine-Alphonsine was baptized 11 March 1690 in Montreal, so the family obviously returned from Michillimakinac by then. Though Lavaltrie is not mentioned in the accounts of the siege, in a letter to Minister Seignelay later that year, Governor Frontenac writes of the siege and also includes a list of officers who received promotions that year. Lavaltrie is on the list as having been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. He remained in the military, becoming a midshipman and half-pay captain in 1694 and a full captain in 1698.
- * Olivier Morel de La Durantaye (captain): He returned to France when the Carignan regiment was demobilized in 1668, but returned to Canada in 1670 with a company of fifty men. From 1670 to 1683, La Durantaye was attached to the garrison in Quebec City. He was commander at Michillimakinac from 1683 until 1690. Like other former members of the Carignan regiment, La Durantaye took part in Governor La Barre's expedition against the Iroquois in 1684 and Governor Denonville's expedition of 1687, in which he commanded one hundred sixty Frenchmen, four hundred Indian allies and sixty prisoners. While it is possible that he took part in the defense of Quebec in 1690, it is curious that none of the accounts mention such a high-ranking former officer of the Carignan regiment, though they do mention Pierre de Saint-Ours (below).
- * Pierre Mouet de Moras (ensign, Loubias Co.): It is probable that Mouet was living in the Trois-Rivières area at the time of the siege of 1690. He was granted the seigneurie of l'Île Moras (at the mouth of the Nicolet River) in 1672. The 1681 census finds him and his family at Nicolet and his last child, daughter Thérèse, was baptized in 1688 at Trois-Rivières, where Pierre himself was buried in 1693. None of the contemporary accounts of the siege mention his name.

Pierre de Saint-Ours was a former captain in the Carignan regiment. He remained in the army in some capacity after the regiment returned to France in 1668. Saint-Ours participated in Governor Frontenac's expedition to found Fort Cararacoui (or Frontenac) on Lake Ontario in 1673 and was given the command of Fort Chambly in 1679. He was made a captain of the troupes de la marine in 1687 and was put in charge of a company. During the siege of 1690, Frontenac granted him command of one of four battalions that were sent to the battle site at La Canardière, where the English troops had landed. The battle continued until nightfall, and

-

⁵ Louis Fleureau, "La famille Margane de Lavaltrie," BRH no. 23, p. 37.

although the English general often sent fresh troops into the fighting, there were no losses on the French side.

Defenders Who Were Not Members of the Carignan Regiment

In his book on the siege of 1690, Myrand claims that the following individuals were former Carignan officers and soldiers who took part in defending Quebec City, though in fact they were not members of the Carignan regiment.

Charles-Thomas Couillard: François Couillard was a soldier with the Berthier company and Philibert Couillard was a soldier with the Contrecoeur company, though there was no Charles-Thomas Couillard associated with the regiment.

Jean-Baptiste-François Deschamps, Sieur de la Bouteillerie: He did not arrive in New France until 1671, three years after the Carignan regiment left. In 1672, he was granted the seigneurie of Rivière-Ouelle (or La Bouteillerie), where he settled. Not only was he not a member of the Carignan regiment, but he did not take part in the defense of the colony in 1690. There was, however, a skirmish between the residents of Rivière-Ouelle and the English troops on their way to Quebec City. The residents of Rivière-Ouelle got word that the English fleet was arriving in their area, but Deschamps, their seigneur, was away from his lands. As a result, the parish priest rallied the habitants, who hid in the bushes along the shore and fired on the English as they tried to come ashore, thus thwarting their efforts.

Jacques Duguay: He was a master surgeon, but not with the Carignan regiment. Jacques Duguay most likely arrived in New France the year before his marriage to Jeanne Beaudry in 1672. He practiced his profession in Trois-Rivières for more than fifty years, being the only surgeon at this settlement for many years.

Jacques Dumesnil-Heurry, Sieur de Saint-Marc: He is identified as a "capitaine des troupes," but was apparently not one in the Carignan regiment, as he is noted as being in Paris in 1667. Jacques Dumesnil-Heurry was baptized 9 September 1636 in Saint-Louet-sur-Lozon (today: Lozon), Normandy, the son of Philippe Dumesnil and Jeanne Hue. On 17 September 1668, he married Marguerite Chabert de La Charrière in Quebec City. The couple had one son, Daniel, who was born and baptized 18 July 1670 in Quebec City.

Dominique Lamothe de Saint-Paul: There is confusion here between Dominique Lamothe, Sieur de Lucière (or Lussière) and Pierre Lamotte de Saint-Paul. It was *Pierre* who was a captain in the Carignan regiment. However, he did not settle in Canada after the regiment returned to France in 1668. *Dominique* was a militia captain and seigneur of La Lussaudière near Saint-François-du-Lac, but was not a member of the Carignan regiment. He arrived in New France in 1678 as one of La Salle's companions and settled in Montreal two years later. Lamothe later became captain and commander of the guards at the King's farms.

Paris de Rougemont is described as a "captain." However, it was Étienne de Rougemont who was a captain with the Carignan regiment, though he did not stay in Canada after 1668. There is no one named Paris de Rougemont in the Jetté genealogical dictionary.

François-Marie Perrot (or Perrault): There was a *Paul* Perrault (or Perrot) dit Lagorce who was a soldier in the Petit company of the Carignan regiment, though it is not known if he took part in the defense of the colony in 1690. *François-Marie* Perrot arrived in New France in 1670 as a captain of the Auvergne regiment. He was governor of Montreal from 1669 to 1684 and was involved in illegal fur trading, which may have brought him into contact with some former members of the Carignan regiment.

Roch de Saint-Ours: A *Pierre*-Roch de Saint-Ours-Deschaillons was born in Montréal in 1712, which is obviously after the siege of 1690. Myrand probably has him confused with Jean de Saint-Ours, Sieur Deschaillons, who was the son of the captain of the Carignan regiment and who was an ensign in the army in 1691 and may have participated in the events of 1690.

Sébastien Le Bossier de Villieu: Claude-Sébastien de Villieu was a lieutenant in the Berthier company of the Carignan regiment. However, it was not he who took part in the defense of Quebec in 1690. It was his son, also named Claude-Sébastien and often mistaken for his father, who drew the British troops into an ambush on the 21st at La Canardière.

In addition to the men listed above are the following individuals who may be mistaken for members of the Carignan regiment:

Nicolas Juchereau de Saint-Denis: He was not a member of the Carignan regiment, but could easily be mistaken for one. That is because Juchereau lead a militia company that took part in the Carignan regiment's 1666 campaign against the Iroquois, commanded by Alexandre Prouville de Tracy and Governor Daniel Rémy de Courcelles. After this campaign, he remained captain of his militia company and took part in the defense of the siege of 1690 at Beauport, where his mission was to harass the English at their point of landing and impede their advance. Juchereau suffered a broken arm in the fighting and was rewarded afterwards with one of the six cannons that the English troops had left behind during their retreat.

Thomas Tarieu de Lanouguère de La Pérade was an ensign in the Saint-Ours company of the Carignan regiment. However, he was not the "Sieur de La Pérade," ensign, whom Frontenac sent with Captain de Maisonfort and forty men to guard the Récollet's mission overlooking the Saint Charles River, which the English may have captured to their advantage. This was actually his son, *Louis* Tarieu de Lanouguère de La Pérade, who was made an ensign in 1689. The elder Tarieu de Lanouguère died in 1678.

Conclusion

So, what do we have at the end of this brief study? A listing of twenty five men. Of these, only five can be confirmed has being former Carignan regiment soldiers who took part in the defense of New France in 1690, and that is including one who sent a warning from Acadia and a former captain turned priest who was brought to Quebec aboard the British ships as a prisoner. Two more confirmed former Carignan regiment members were already in the Quebec City area and would not have been part of the reinforcements that came from the Montreal area. That leaves only one former Carignan officer, Pierre de Saint-Ours, who can be confirmed as having "marched triumphantly along the Grande Allée" to save Quebec City in 1690. Not much in the way of "reinforcements," is it?

The truth about this situation is twofold. First, there were no records kept as to who actually took part in the defense of the siege of 1690. The reinforcements from the Montreal area were called for with the utmost urgency and made their way in all haste to Quebec City. No one took the time to write down their names and ask if they had previously been an officer or soldier with the Carignan regiment. The best we have to go on to determine their affiliation with the regiment is from contemporary accounts, and these are sparse on references to former Carignan officers. Lowly soldiers would have hardly merited a mention of their name in the official accounts unless they performed some heroic or incredible exploit.

The second part of the truth about this strange plaque is the fact that we all need heroes. And for our vision of the New France of our ancestors, the Carignan regiment is an excellent group of ready-made heroes. A virtual "Justice League" of Quebec's past, not just heroes, but super heroes, saving New France from its two arch-enemies: the Iroquois and the British.

This is not to denigrate in any way the contributions of the Carignan regiment and our ancestors who were members of this famed group. If nothing else, they were men who came to a new land, largely a wilderness, and did their duty while also settling in an unfamiliar place and founding a family. They deserve our interest and our admiration. It is just that sometimes, as in the case of this plaque, we see heroes because we want to see them and we ignore the facts and the proof on which solid history should be based.

Bibliography

- Anonymous. "Relation de la Levée du Siège de Québec, Capitale de la Nouvelle-France." Paris: du Bureau d'adresse, aux Galleries du Louvre, 1691.
- Bond, C.C.J. "Saint-Ours, Pierre de," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Buade de Frontenac, Louis. Excerpt from "Lettre du Gouverneur à M. de Seignelay, en date du 12 novembre, 1690," reproduced in Ernest Myrand, 1690, Sir William Phips Devant Ouébec: Histoire d'un Siège. Montréal: Librairie Beauchemin, 1925. pp. 7-19.
- Cerbelaud Salagnac, Georges. "Abbadie de Saint-Castin, Jean-Vincent d', baron de Saint-Castin" in Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada, www.biographi.ca.

- Douville, Raymond. "Dugay (Duguay), Jacques," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- -----. "Provost (Prévost), François," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Dupré, Céline. "Jarret de Verchères, Pierre," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Eccles, W.J. "Perrot, François-Marie," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Fleureau, Louis. « La famille Margane de Lavaltrie, » in *Bulletin des recherches historiques*, no. 23 (1917), pp. 33-53 & 65-80.
- Jetté, René. <u>Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730</u>. Montréal: Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1983.
- Juchereau de la Ferté, Jeanne-Françoise. Excerpt from *Histoire de l'Hôtel-Dieu de Québec, edition de 1751*, presented in Ernest Myrand, <u>1690</u>, <u>Sir William Phips Devant Québec: Histoire d'un Siège</u>. Montréal: Librairie Beauchemin, 1925. pp. 84-97.
- Lamontagne, Léopold. "La Motte de Lucière, Dominique," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Lévesque, Ulric. "Berthier, Isaac, prénommé Alexandre," in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Morisseau, Henri, O.M.L. "La famille Mouet de Moras et les familles allies," in *Mémoires de la Société généalogique canadienne-française*, vol. III no. 4 (juin 1949), pp. 225-232.
- Roy, Régis. "Jacques du Mesnil-Eury ou Urry," in Bulletin des recherches historiques, no. 22 (1916), p. 244.
- Savage, Thomas. "An Account of the Late Action of the New-Englanders Under the Command of Sir William Phips Against the French at Canada," reproduced as "Relation du Major Thomas Savage" in Ernest Myrand, 1690, Sir William Phips Devant Québec: Histoire d'un Siège. Montréal: Librairie Beauchemin, 1925. pp. 49-51.
- Stacey, C.P. "Phips, Sir William" in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Sulte, Benjamin. Mélanges Historiques, vol. 10. Montréal: G. Ducharme, 1924.
- Taillemite, Étienne. "Villieu, Claude-Sébastien de" in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Vachon, André. "Dupuy dit Lisloye, Paul" in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- Vaillancourt, Émile. <u>La conquête du Canada par les Normands: biographie de la première génération normande du Canada</u>. Montréal: G. Ducharme, 1930.
- Weilbrenner, Bernard. "Juchereau de Saint-Denis, Nicolas" in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.
- "Morel de La Durantaye, Olivier" in <u>Dictionnaire Biographique du Canada</u>, www.biographi.ca.

Inventaire des Lieux de Mémoire de la Nouvelle-France: http://inventairenf.cieq.ulaval.ca/inventaire

New Canadian Free Search Website Yields Archival Details

Paul R. Keroack, #157

A rather slangy title belies the surprising richness of data available at www.thatsmyfamily.info, or in French at www.voicimafamille.info. The initial page lists the host as Bibliotheque et Archives nationale du Quebec (BAnQ). Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has partnered with the former to "oversee the evolution of the project."

Each search is enabled within any one or all of the federal or provincial databases available to this project. These provinces include Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. One can search by name or location in a simple search or an advanced search option. The results vary in format and detail depending on the data contained and whether the results are scanned images of documents or keyed data with citations to the microfilm sources. The search process in some cases can be tedious—but the amount and variety of the results can be well worth your patience.

Most of us may want to try Quebec first, naturally. Perhaps most valuable are notarial contracts from the judicial archives. One gets a citation with the parties' names, the name of the notary and where the document can be found on microfilm. What proportion of the complete notarial archives is offered here I cannot estimate. At the end of the results of my search for my surname a summary helpfully indicates how many results came from each database included in the search. For "Kirouac," in the Quebec region I found forty-five marriage contracts and forty-four "inventories after death." These latter are distinguished from the twenty-three coroner's inquests. The search engine also placed spelling variations together (Kirouac/Keroack/Kerouac), since one cannot predict what spelling was used over the decades—and this is true for most surnames!

Also included is the 1818 parish census of Notre Dame, Quebec City. It is available in print form at our library but is doubtless easier to search online. Also available is Fichier Origine—lists of the pioneer settlers of New France and the sources of that information—similar to what is printed in Jette and Tanguay. Other more peripheral files are non-Catholic baptisms, marriages and burials for Montreal (130,000), and land grants given between 1840 and 1905 to families with over twelve children!

In other provinces, the 1871 federal census of Ontario lists 400,000 heads of household. The Saskatchewan Genealogical Society contributed their files of names from 1872-1930, including Metis. Some Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island documents doubtless include French names. Federal databases that may be of interest to Franco researchers include 680,000 soldiers of the First World War. Full text of enlistment papers may contain age, height, occupation, next of kin, etc. Lower Canada land grants date between 1764-1841. Canadian directories from 1790-1901 include scanned printed pages.

The "Sources" page, http://recherche-c.voicimafamille.info/ecis.jsp, lists the archival source and description of each of the databases and is well worth reading. Despite the URL, it is available in English. Sources of searchable Canadian censuses are noted on the Canadian archives site at http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-911-e.html. Canadians, as well as those of us who benefit as their cousins, increasingly enjoy the fruits of their heritage online—courtesy of their tax dollars.

Maids & Matrons of New France

Mary Sifton Pepper Part I

Editors Note: While browsing through a favorite used bookstore in southeastern Connecticut recently, a title caught my eye. I reached for the tome and began to read. My husband found me in that same spot some immeasurable amount of time later. The book in hand was titled "Maids & Matrons of New France." I knew that day I had to share my discovery with our FCGSC family. This is the first in a series of articles that will serve to republish "Maids & Matrons of New France." The book was written by Mary Sifton Pepper and was published in 1901 by Little, Brown, and Company, Boston. Its copyright is expired.

Introduction

The nineteen pioneer women who disembarked on the shores of Massachusetts in 1620 have been celebrated ever since in romance and poetry. Twelve years earlier a banner bearing the lilies of France was planted on the headlands of Quebec. The colony thus inaugurated was increased from time to time by the emigration of small groups of women from the mother country. These few heroic souls, the pioneer women of Canada, played as important a part in its growth, and are as worthy of eternal remembrance, as their Anglo-Saxon sisters of New England. Yet, with few exceptions, they have waited in vain for a poet to tell in immortal verse their heroic deeds, or an [sic] historian to perpetuate their fame.

The history of many of these women of the Canadian wilderness never will be known, for it is buried under the soil moistened by their sweat and tears. One of the intrepid sisterhood, Jeanne Mance, has been commemorated by a part of a monument in Montreal; an island resort in the St. Lawrence recalls by its name the brief sojourn of Helen de Champlain on these shores; the annals of a few others have been written by graphic historians; but monuments and histories have done little toward making their names known beyond the confines of the land where they labored and died.

They were few in number; one patient housewife eking out a frugal existence on the rock of Quebec; two or three gentlewomen, who, with a sublime but misplaced confidence in the docility of the savages, undertook to teach and civilize them; some who attempted to introduce the corruption and gayety of the French court into this primitive civilization; representatives of religious sisterhoods whom the most appalling difficulties could not discourage; and, at last, after nearly a century of failure had opened the eyes of the colonization companies of the Old World, young women who were sent over by the shipful [sic] to become the matrons of New France. If the order had been reversed, New France might still be vying with her neighbor, New England, in prosperity and progress.

A comparison between these two companies of pioneer women, the Canadian gentlewomen and the Pilgrim mothers, would result in no discredit to the former. Although

Connecticut Maple Leaf, Winter 2007-2008

the Frenchwomen were dominated by strange superstitions and frequently inspired by supernatural visions, they never became slaves to witchcraft, as did their New England contemporaries. Many of them would even nowadays be looked upon as "emancipated: and "advanced." Yet it was nearly three centuries ago that Judith de Bresoles renounced the luxury of a wealthy and aristocratic home and devoted seven years to the study of chemistry and medicine, that she might become physician and nurse to the savages of the New World; that Marguerite de Roberval, descendant of a long line of cavaliers and noble dames, wandered alone through the haunted wastes of Demon's Isle, and kept at bay the wild beasts of the wilderness with her old French harquebus; that Marie Guyard, with her few brave assistants, delicately nurtured and high-born women of France, made of themselves, in turn, mechanics, architects, and farmers in their adopted land; that those dainty nurses, the hospitalières of Quebec, dyed their cherished white gowns a dull brown that they might follow their profession more efficiently amid the smoke and uncleanliness of the squalid wigwams. "Who now will hesitate to cross over the seas," exclaims a poor missionary, at sight of these courageous gentlewomen, "since delicate young ladies, naturally timid, set at naught the vast expanse of ocean? They, who are afraid of a few flakes of snow in France, are ready to face whole acres of it here!"

The coming of these women to the New World was in great part due to the urgent cries for woman's [sic] help sent over the sea by these missionaries, who put forth many inducements for their emigration, among others, the great salubrity of the Canadian climate. One of them writes that the air of New France is healthful for the body as well as for the soul, while another declares that although the cold is very wholesome for both sexes, it is especially so for women, who are almost immortal in Canada.

Marc Lescarbot, a society wit of Paris, returned to France from the ruined Acadian colony of 1607 and wrote a learned treatise on the conditions necessary to the making of permanent settlements in New France, among others urging the need of women there. If there had been some good village housewife to look after the cows transported thither with such a vast deal of trouble, they would not have died and left him and his companions without fresh milk and butter. He finished his dissertation on this subject by berating soundly that wiseacre of old who had said that women were an evil, though a necessary one, for men could not get along without them.

But this open flattery of Lescarbot, as well as the earnest appeals of Champlain and the missionaries, met with only indifferent success during the first half-century of the colonization of New France, as will be seen in the course of this narrative. The women who came at last may be historically associated with four important periods in the making of Canada; the first attempts at colonization in Acadia, beginning in 1604; Quebec's early struggles to gain a foothold between 1608 and 1660; the founding of Montreal in 1642; and the advent of the Carignan regiment into Canada in 1665.

Maids & Matrons of New France FIRST PERIOD PIONEER WOMEN OF ACADIA

T

Marguerite de Roberval THE HEROINE OF THE ISLE OF DEMONS

Many thrilling stories are related of the making of these French colonies in the New World, in which brave men met their fate, and others survived almost incredible hardships and period. A few modern historians, referring to this period, have spoken briefly of the adventures of an unhappy woman, Marguerite de Roberval, on the Isle of Demons. They owe the story to a quaint old cosmographer, André Thevet, who relates it with many picturesque additions. Here it is as gathered from his account: —

One beautiful spring day in the year 1542 a haughty viceroy's ship was pursuing its way across the Atlantic. Suddenly it stopped opposite a lonely island. The viceroy had just been informed of a guilty intrigue between his niece, Margurerite, and a young cavalier of his company, abetted by the old nurse, Bastienne. His punishment was swift and terrible. A boat containing the two women, a few stores, and four French harquebuses, was lowered and pushed away. The lover jumped overboard, swam diligently in its wake, and reached the shore of the island at the same time as the occupants of the boat. Then the three exiles, turning their faces toward the sea, saw with agonized hearts the forbidding hulk of the viceroy's ship, relentless as its master, move off and leave them to their fate. On to the shores of Newfoundland the viceroy, the great Sieur de Roberval, pursued his way, there to meet the master pilot of the age, Jacques Cartier, and with him to found a colony which would perpetuate the name of France in the New World.

But Cartier met Roberval and his company before they had reached the appointed place, for he was on his way back to France. The old chronicler says that "he enformed the Generall that he could not, with his small company, withstand the savages, which went about daily to annoy him, and that this was the cause of his return into France." Thus deserted, Roberval's attempts at settlement proved disastrous failures; the scurvy, cold, and starvation proved to be insurmountable barriers to the execution of his plans. His whole company soon found themselves in such a condition of misery that they became mutinous, and to keep them in order he resorted to the most extreme penalties, hanging, imprisoning, and whipping "as well women as men, by which means they lived in quiet." The following year they again turned their prows toward their native land and sailed past the Isle of Demons, heedless of the fate of the hapless exiles they had left there.

In the maps made soon after this voyage, which even now may be seen in the great National Library at Paris, it was designated "The Maiden's Isle," owing to Marguerite de Roberval's banishment there. She had seen a representation of the place in an old chart which

Connecticut Maple Leaf, Winter 2007-2008

hung upon the walls of the château in Picardy where she had lived with her uncle. Devils, with horns, wings, and tails, stalked about, and flew like bats through the air; horrible monsters floated in the surrounding waters, and the savages in their canoes hurried wildly to the opposite shores. Basque and Maloine fishermen, who haunted these regions in search of the precious codfish for the Lenten season in France, had heard strange sounds there,—wailing voices, groans, fiendish shouts, and bacchanalian revels,—which caused them to cross themselves and flee in terror. Many a time Marguerite had stood fascinated before this picture, and had lifted up her heart in thankfulness to the Virgin that the great ocean lay between her and this haunted spot.

Yet it was here that she and her lover, with no priest to consecrate their union, established their home, the first in Canada. The group of three was soon augmented by the advent of a child, and the miniature settlement bade fair to become a factor in the growth of a great colony. But after a few months death left marguerite alone to battle with her fate. She hollowed out with her own hands the graves of husband, child, and nurse, and then began a struggle for life.

Clad in shaggy bearskins, her gun over her shoulder, this "female Robinson Crusoe" trod the dreary wastes of her island home, wandering here and there in search of game, or looking longingly for the outlines of some friendly sail against the dim horizon. At night, in agonies of fear, she barricaded the door to keep out the bears that roamed about her cabin, or, worse still, the shrieking demons that she thought she saw looking in at her through the chinks in the wall. Her sole protectors were her guns, and these use used to frighten away the evil spirits in the air or to kill the beasts of prey. There of the bears brought down by her harquebus are said to have been "as white as an egg."

Once she saw far out at sea a canoe of Indians who seemed to be coming towards the island. But their painted faces, ridges of bristling hair, and the gleaming tomahawks filled her with greater terror than the demons themselves, and she fled shrieking to her cabin. They, too, turned quickly back, for they saw in this strange creature the wife of the Manitou, the source of all their ills.

She succeeded, after weeks of labor, in constructing a canoe like those she had seen pictured in the old charts. In this she determined to venture forth in search of the mainland, for she had lost all hope of ever being rescued by any of her countrymen. A trial trip was made in it, but after a few rods of perilous navigation, the canoe, lacking the nicety of proportion so well known to the Indians, overturned, and its occupant was thrown into the sea. She swam safely to the shore, but the canoe floated off into the distance, telling no story to any chance fisherman that might see it but that of a drowned savage.

Two years passed, and Marguerite continued to live in her island home, contending with enemies alike in earth, air, and forest, and frequently driven to the extremity of biting off the ends of fresh young twigs for food. But one October day some Maloine fishermen were setting forth from the Newfoundland Banks on their homeward voyage. Gazing out to sea, one of them saw smoke curling up from the shores of the haunted island. Straining their eyes, they could discern the figure of a woman clad in ragged skins. She was beckoning them to come on. They hesitated, for the stories they had heard of these evil spirits recurred to their minds. This might be

Maids & Maidens of New France Marguerite de Roberval

one luring them on to destruction. Then suddenly an old sailor recalled the story of Roberval's niece. Pity and curiosity conquered their fear, and they hastened to the island and disembarked.

The fur-clad, haggard woman proved in truth to be the beautiful Marguerite de Roberval who had been banished there. When she heard her native tongue spoken once more and realized that her rescuers had come at last, and that her lonely vigil was at an end forever, she sank upon the ground and with tears of joy lifted up her heart in thanksgiving to God. Without delay the fishermen, listening to her strange story with pity and amazement, made a place for her in their rude craft and all embarked on the homeward journey. As the dark outlines of the Isle of Demons disappeared from view, Marguerite's spirits rose, and, again the happy, light-hearted French girl, she poured into the ears of these rude but sympathetic listeners the harrowing tale of her bereavements, adventures, and sufferings.

Arrived in France, her troubles were not over yet. After an exile of two years and five months, she founds herself still pursued by the wrath of her relentless uncle, and was obliged to hide herself in a little village of Périgord. Here she remained for several years, when, on a second expedition to the New World, Roberval and all his crew perished, or at least were never heard from again. Let us hope that some auspicious breeze blew him out of his course and landed him on the Isle of Demons, there to taste indefinitely the delights to which he had so cheerfully consigned his niece. When year after year passed and he did not return, she came forth from her hiding place and lived happily to a good old age.



Blaeu map, 1617, depicting the Isle of Demons

Editors Note: The Isle of Demons appeared on maps in the 1500s and 1600s in the region of Newfoundland, but has not been depicted on maps since. Though the story of Marguerite de Roberval is based on historical fact, there is debate as to whether the Isle of Demons is mythical, or if it is an island now known by another name. Some claim it is Quirpon Island, off Newfoundland's northern tip. Others speculate it may be Caribou Island, not far from St. Paul's River; or Harrington Island, just off the coast of Chevery. Perhaps we will never know.

Maids & Matrons of New France FIRST PERIOD PIONEER WOMEN OF ACADIA

II

The Marchioness de Guercheville FIRST PATRONESS OF AMERICAN MISSIONS

More than half a century after the failure of the colonization projects of Jacques Cartier, de Roberval, and their immediate successors they were revived by the Sieurs de Monts, de Poutrincourt, and Samuel de Champlain under the patronage of their king, Henry the Great. The piety of this sovereign went hand in hand with his ambition, and he determined to send missionaries to these new colonies for the conversion of the savages to the Christian religion. The question then arose whether Catholics or Huguenots should be selected for this mission, and how they should be transported thither.

The Sieur de Poutrincourt, a friend and ally of the Catholic king, but secretly in sympathy with the Huguenots, was about to depart for New France. He had received from the king extensive grants of land in Acadia, where a great and powerful colony was to be established. One of the conditions of this grant was that he should take with him such missionaries as should be designated, but when the choice fell upon a Jesuit, Father Pierre Biard, the Huguenot knight resolved not to burden himself with this unwelcome guest. Accordingly, he slipped away one day in February, 1610, accompanied by a secular priest.

Two years were passed by Biard in attempts to get to his future field of labor. Meanwhile, over in Acadia, Poutrincourt's clerical ally was making the most of his time by baptizing all the Indians that came to the settlement. A few drops of water and a Christian name, which none of them succeeded in remembering afterwards, gave them admission into the same heaven that their friends and protectors, the great Normans, expected to enter after death.

As soon as there had been obtained a sufficiently large number of these new Christians, of whom the star was an old chief, Membertou, who had been serving the devil for more than a hundred years, a list of their names, Indian and Christian, was taken back to France by Charles de Biencourt, Poutrincourt's son. These converts to the faith were expected so to dazzle the eyes of the court that the claims of the Jesuits would be disregarded, and the Huguenot emissaries would be allowed to continue the work of the conversion in their own way.

Meanwhile, King Henry had been stricken down by the assassin, Ravaillac, and it was to the queen alone, the famous Marie de Médicis, that the list of baptized Indians was presented. As had been expected, she was greatly pleased with this imposing array of converts in her far-away colonies. She expressed herself in such unstinted words of praise for Poutrincourt's zeal that Biard seemed destined to remain in France. And so, indeed, the affair would have turned out, had it not been for the interference of an active lady, the marchioness de Guercheville, prototype of the women of today who stand for the propagation of their religious belief.

Maids & Maidens of New France The Marchioness de Guercheville

She had been one of the belles in the earlier days of King Henry's reign, and was famed throughout France for her beauty and wit. Many tales are told of the power of her charms, which extended even to the king himself. He became one of her ardent wooers. But Madame de Guercheville, knowing that her rank was not high enough to permit her to become his wife, held her honor too high to occupy a less honorable place in his household. She therefore repulsed his gallantries with spirit, and repeatedly left the court in order to avoid them. Once he pursued her to her own château some distance from Paris. Francis Parkman relates in a vivid manner how she succeeded in eluding her royal admirer this time also.

There was a royal hunting party in the vicinity of her château, and the king, with two or three companions, purposely became separated from his suite. He made his way to her château, sending forward a messenger to ask for a night's shelter under her roof. His request was freely granted, and elaborate preparations were made for his reception. Every window was illuminated, gorgeously attired pages holding blazing torches were stationed at the gate, and the marchioness, in dazzling costume of rich brocade and sparkling with jewels, stood in the doorway to welcome him. While refreshing himself in his apartment, the King was hastily informed by one of his attendants that the marchioness was about to depart in her carriage. Descending hurriedly, he found the report to be true, and exclaimed, in amazement, "What, Madame, am I driving you from your home?" "Sire," replied the lady, calmly, "where a king is, he should be master; for my part, I prefer to have some authority where I am," and without further delay she entered her carriage and was driven to the house of a friend.

The king returned to Paris and gave up his suit. But it is evident he bore no malice toward the spirited marchioness for thus repulsing him, as years afterwards, when she reappeared at court, he presented her to the queen with these words, "Madame, I give you a Lady of Honor, who is a lady of honor indeed."

But now her youth was passed, her beauty gone, and nothing remained save her integrity, indomitable will, and intense piety. She had constituted herself patroness of the American missions, and no less an ambition filled her breast than the conquest of the whole western continent for the propagation of the Catholic faith. When she saw there was danger of the Jesuits being frustrated in their purpose, she determined to take the matter into her own hands and arouse the sympathy of the court in their favor.

Two Huguenot merchants, Du Jardin and Du Chesne, the latter an ancestor of the famous Duquesne, were helping Biencourt equip his ship for the return voyage to Acadia. It was arranged that Biard and another Jesuit, Ennemond Masse, should take passage on this ship, and accordingly they were sent to Dieppe to be ready for its departure. When the merchants learned that these missionaries were to be among their passengers, they flatly refused to go on with their preparations, swearing their loudest Huguenot oaths that if representatives of this order were to be on the ship, they would have nothing more to do with it; they would take any other priests or ecclesiastics, but no Jesuits, unless it were to transport the whole order across the sea.

Madame de Guercheville, who had supposed that her protégés were well on their way to America by this time, was exasperated beyond measure when she heard of the failure of her

Connecticut Maple Leaf, Winter 2007-2008

well-arranged plans. She resolved to punish the rebellious merchants in a way that would wound them the most deeply, which was to buy the whole outfit and compel them to withdraw entirely from the undertaking. Learning that four thousand francs would pay for all they furnished, she determined to raise this amount by taking up a collection among the courtiers and noblemen who surrounded her. The appeal of so charming and popular a lady was met gallantly and generously, and soon the required amount was raised. This the marchioness, with a shrewdness worthy of a modern financier, made doubly profitable to the Jesuits. She bought off the Huguenot merchants, and besides, gave the Jesuits their interest in the Canadian fishing and fur trade.

They departed on the twenty-sixth of January, 1611, as masters of the ship. A long and trying voyage awaited them in which, as Biard writes afterwards in his journal, they endured "the sum total of human ills," encountering winds, tempests, and fogs, but, most wonderful and formidable of all, huge icebergs, as "tall and large as the church of Notre Dame." It was afterwards reported in France that they did not fail to assert their authority during this voyage, making themselves quite obnoxious to the Huguenots. This accusation is denied solemnly by Biard in his narrative, where he declares that he and his companion spent their time in hearing confessions, celebrating mass, and engaging in other pious exercises.

"What a woman wills, God wills," the French say." And so it seemed in this case, for through the adroit management of this clever woman the first Jesuit missionaries disembarked on the shores of the New World. A cross was erected, and the arms of the Marchioness de Guercheville were blazoned thereon, as token that they took possession of the country in her name.

But her trials as protectress of these missionaries were not yet over. They soon found that life in Port Royal, under the dictatorship of their religious antagonists, was not a path of roses, the savagery and superstition of the Indians being the least formidable evils. Poutrincourt, vexed at the presence of these "black gowns," as he called them placed all the obstacles possible in the way of their success. Two years, therefore, after their arrival they were eagerly watching for the ship that was to take them away.

One day in May, 1613, the colonists had gone into the interior in search of food, leaving the little settlement in charge of Louis Hébert, an apothecary of Paris, of whom we shall hear more hereafter. The two friars had remained at Port Royal, lest the ship that they knew to be coming for them should arrive in their absence. They were now at open variance with Poutrincourt and his son, and had been accused by the latter in their letters to France of many misdeeds. The whole settlement was on the point of starvation, and the friars, with the rest, had been obliged to resort to the most desperate devices to keep away the demon of hunger. Ennemond Masse, who had been aptly named "Father Useful," had fashioned a canoe, openly derided by some of the lawless young colonists, but greatly coveted when it was launched and floated smoothly down the river. In this the two friars, who were obliged to forage for themselves, paddled along the banks eagerly searching for the nutritious root now known as the potato, which had formed their chief food for many months. But their quest this day was fruitless, and with starvation and failure staring them in the face, they returned dejectedly to the

Maids & Maidens of New France The Marchioness de Guercheville

deserted settlement, and, pacing slowly up and down the shore, strained their eyes seaward to catch the first glimpse of the longed-for ship.

Over in Old France, Madame de Guercheville had heard of their trials and of the failure of their efforts in behalf of the savages, owing to the opposition of their enemies. She resolved to form a new colony on the Penobscot, far from the boundaries of the vast territory granted to Poutrincourt. She was urged by Champlain, who was then contemplating a colony at Quebec, to join forces with the Sieur de Monts, who was fitting out another expedition to Acadia. But the very evil she was trying to escape at Port Royal would have been doubly felt in the new colony, for de Monts was a stern Calvinist. Her company was composed of forty-eight persons, including two more Jesuits who were to take the place of Biard and Masse, in case they had perished, which was strongly suspected.

This expedition, commanded by the Sieur de la Saussaye, sailed on March 12, 1613, and arrived at Port Royal early in May. Here they were received by the two missionaries with tears of joy, and no time was lost in taking them on board and bearing them away to the new colony.

But the trials of these long-suffering friars had only begun. The location chosen for the new settlement was Mount Desert Island, which, on account of their miraculous preservation from a furious tempest, the new colonists named St. Savior. Here the settlement was established amid great enthusiasm and good cheer, the Jesuits signalizing the beginning of their missionary labors by baptizing a dying Indian child.

Not long after the landing of the French at this place an English ship from Virginia, under the command of Captain Argall, well known in colonial history as the abductor of Pocahontas, was hovering about in these waters laying in a supply of codfish for winter. A simple and confiding Indian, discovered walking along the shore, was captured and taken to the captain's ship as a prisoner. The elaborate bows and flourishes which the polite savage made in his interview with Argall were sufficient indication to the English that the French must be somewhere near by. The unsuspecting Indian showed them the exact place where they were located, and Argall hastened forthwith to the place indicated by him, protesting loudly that those who now occupied this territory were pirates and usurpers, for they had seized land that had been given by grant to the English.

Suddenly the huge English hulk appeared before the eyes of the startled Frenchmen, and before they realized what enemy had attacked them, their ship was seized and dismantled, their goods confiscated, and the greater number of them taken prisoners.

This was the first of that series of conflicts between the French and English for supremacy in America, which was terminated nearly a century and a half later in the siege of Quebec. As I shall try to show in the last chapter of this work that the final disaster to the French was in great part due to the desire of two beautiful and unprincipled women for power and influence; so this first conquest, which proved a serious one through later developments, may be attributed to the ambition of a devout woman to found a great religious colony in America. For had Madame de Guercheville been content to leave the two missionaries at Port Royal, the experience and diplomacy of the leaders of this important settlement no doubt would have found

some solutions to their temporary embarrassment. As it was, Port Royal, too, was soon to fall before the victorious Argall.

One of the four missionaries was killed in the attack on St. Savior. The other three were borne away through wind and tempest to the shores of Virginia, then Biard was taken on a searching expedition to point out the location of Port Royal. How he fared here will be told further on. At last the ship on which he was a prisoner started for France. On this voyage he tells how he spent days hiding behind some barrels in the hold of the ship at Azores Islands, lest the Portuguese inhabitants, stern Catholics, should discover him and his companions, and call the English to account for imprisoning men of their faith. At last he disembarked at Pembroke in Wales, there to perform another service to the grateful English by saving them from being arrested as pirates, and to reflect great glory on his order by meeting and refuting all the arguments of the most learned ecclesiastics of the town against his faith. At last the two missionaries reached their native shores, Father Biard never again to leave them, Ennemond Masse to begin a new chapter of missionary labor in Quebec twelve years later.

The indefatigable marchioness, incensed at the ignominious failure of her pious enterprise, sent an ambassador to London to demand indemnity for the loss of her ships and reparation for the destruction of her colony. Only the first demand was satisfied.



Henri IV and Madame de Guercheville (from a drawing by F. de Myrbach)

FIRST PERIOD PIONEER WOMEN OF ACADIA

Ш

The Lady de la Tour A FAIR CHATELAINE OF ACADIA

After Captain Argall had destroyed Madame de Guercheville's colony of St. Savior, he was ordered by the governor of Virginia to return to that part of the coast and destroy every other French settlement that he might find there. Accordingly, he turned his prow towards Acadia, taking with him his two Jesuit prisoners, Biard and Masse. He declared that for the present they could be of more service to him in pointing out the location of Port Royal than in being hanged in Virginia, according to their deserts.

Arrived at the little settlement, they found it deserted, for, as has been said, the colonists had gone into the interior in quest of food. The English pillaged the houses and storerooms, stole the cattle, burned the buildings, and then went back to their ships, leaving the place in a state of desolation and ruin. But just as they were about to sail away, the French returned and beheld with dismay the scene of destruction before them. There in a heap of ruins lay the result of seven years' toil, exposure, and suffering. Perceiving the two Jesuits on board the English ship, they saluted them with shouts of derision, maledictions, and curses, for they thought they saw in these two friars the authors of this disaster, believing their perfidy had guided the English to Port Royal to ruin them in their absence. One of them even made his way to the ship and declared, in a private interview with Captain Argall, that Biard was a Spaniard, that he had committed the most odious crimes in France and had fled to Canada to escape hanging. While these anathemas of hapless Port Royalists relieved their feelings, they did nothing toward relieving their desperate situation. There was nothing to do now, defeated and penniless as they were, but to return to France with the first ship, which the greater part of them did, among them the Sieur de Poutrincourt himself. Before leaving Acadia he made over to his son, Charles de Biencourt, all his titles to the seigniory of Port Royal. This dauntless youth, who was so skilful a seaman that at nineteen years of age he had guided a vessel safely across the turbulent Atlantic, was not so easily to be driven away from Acadia, "the most beautiful earthly paradise that God hath ever made." His choice was shared by many of his youthful associates, who, though of noble birth and high lineage, preferred a life of adventure in the New World to idleness, stagnation, and monotony at the Court of France. When, after a few more years of this free and adventurous life, Biencourt died, he named as his heir one of these young noblemen, who had been his friend and the companion of his exile for many years. This was Charles de la Tour, Baron de St. Estienne.

La Tour removed from Port Royal immediately after his friend's death in 1623, and erected a fort opposite the Bay of St. John, at a place now known as Fort Latour. It was strong and well built for those times and often protected its inmates from the invasion of determined rivals and treacherous foes. A flourishing trade was carried on with the Indians, who came

down the river St. John to dispose of their furs and other commodities. Into this little harbor came ships from France every year, bringing wares of all kinds and returning laden with valuable skins and fish. Wine was manufactured from the wild grape, the forests abounded in game, and the rivers in fish, and all went well for some years in the primitive settlement.

In the course of time its safety was menaced by many rivals, one of the most formidable of whom was La Tour's own father. This gentleman had been in the ruined settlement of Port Royal, and had afterward taken up his residence in England, sworn allegiance to King James, and married one of the ladies in waiting to the queen. As a reward for this loyalty, the king presented him with a boronetcy in Acadia. One day he appeared before Fort Latour in command of a great ship containing a band of sturdy Scots, who were to take forcible possession of the country and become feudal baronets of Acadia. They had already given it the name Nova Scotia, or New Scotland, by which it has ever since been known. La Tour anchored his ship, met his son in a ceremonious conference, and demanded that he renounce his French citizenship, declare his loyalty to England, and deliver the fort into his hands. "If those who sent you on this errand think me capable of betraying my country even at the request of a parent," replied young La Tour, "they have greatly mistaken me. The King of France has confided this defence of this place to me, and I shall maintain it, if attacked, to my last breath!" A brisk engagement took place between the forces of father and son, which resulted in the elder La Tour's defeat. His English wife refused the permission accorded her to return to her native land and declared her intention of remaining with her husband, whatever his fate might be. Young La Tour treated his captives generously, building for them a substantial stone house at some distance from the fort, where they passed the rest of their lives in peace, although nominally prisoners.

As time went on young La Tour found himself harassed by other claimants to his territory, who were far more tenacious than the Scotch baronets had been. One of these proved a formidable enemy who finally succeeded in driving La Tour out of Acadia. This was Charles de Menou, Seigneur d'Aulnay de Charnisay, a Catholic knight who had come over to Port Royal in 1632 in the train of another powerful lord who was to establish a colony there. The lands of Charnisay adjoined those of La Tour, and he contended that the latter did not own this territory, for he had no valid title to it.

Their dissensions extended over a number of years, and finally La Tour was so hard pressed by his enemy that he felt that if he did not soon receive help from the mother country he would be obliged to surrender. He dared not go in search of it himself, lest in his absence his enemy might fall upon the unprotected place and take forcible possession of it. In this emergency he turned to one whose character had been formed amid the dangers, uncertainties, and vicissitudes of pioneer life. This was his wife, the Lady La Tour, whose brave deeds place her in the front rank of Canadian heroines.

In 1625, two years after he had inherited the seigniory of Port Royal, Charles La Tour married a Huguenot girl who had come over to Acadia a few years before with a band of French colonists. This is all we learn of her history from the annals of the times. Our

Maids & Maidens of New France The Lady de la Tour

knowledge of her begins with her successful attempts to thwart the conspiracies of Charnisay and ends with her heroic defence of Fort Latour. Her isolation in the midst of her savage surroundings had fostered in her a spirit of self-reliance and courage. When, therefore, she was asked by her husband to cross over to France and lay his troubles before their Huguenot friends, she consented willingly, and straightway made secret preparations for her departure, that Charnisay might not learn of her purpose. In the mean time, he also had determined to go to France and represent his claims at court.

Nothing more is heard of Madame La Tour until she arrived at Rochelle, where she aroused her Huguenot friends and relatives to promise their aid to her husband in his gallant crusade against Charnisay. But just as she had enlisted the sympathy and assistance of a number of influential persons, she learned, to her dismay, that her enemy himself had made his appearance in France, and was even then trying to procure a decree for her husband's arrest and banishment from Acadia as a traitor. Hearing of her presence in France, he had even gone so far as to get a warrant for her detention on the charge of conniving against the king.

Without waiting for this order to be put into effect, Madam La Tour made her escape to England, which was then the refuge of persecuted Huguenots. Her she found many friends, and, besides obtaining material aid, succeeded in communicating with her husband and warning him of the danger he was in from Charnisay's misrepresentations at the French Court. In the mean time she fitted out a vessel in London with provisions and munitions of war, and prepared to depart for Acadia with the first favorable wind.

While these to ambassadors in London and Paris were thus conspiring to overthrow the plans of each other, La Tour, receiving no further news from his wife, anxious for her safety and distracted by the ever impending danger from his hated rival, at last decided to go to Boston in search of help and return to his fort before Charnisay had left France. Arriving there one day in the summer of 1644, he succeeded in getting admission to the presence of the governor, John Endicott, and laid his case before him. This worthy man was willing to proceed against Charnisay, but, after laying the matter before the magistrates and elders, it was thought that interference on their part should not go farther than a letter of remonstrance to him on the injustice of his conduct. Disappointed and discouraged, La Tour, after remaining two months in Boston, turned the prow of his ship homeward. By a series of fortunate delays he just escaped being captured by Charnisay, who, having come that far on his way home from France, was cruising around carelessly waiting for either of the returning parties, it mattered little whether it proved to be La Tour or his wife.

Scarcely had La Tour sailed out of Boston harbor before a great ship, heavily laden and bearing many passengers, passed in. Among these was Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island. But the one of interest here was the Lady La Tour. Six months before this the ship had sailed from England bound for Fort Latour, bearing the cargo of goods with which she herself had laden it. But much time had been spent stopping at various ports loading and unloading merchandise, and by the time they reached the Bay of Fundy Charnisay's ships

Connecticut Maple Leaf, Winter 2007-2008

were already there, and it was not possible to reach Fort Latour without being captured by him. In truth, they were hailed by Charnisay and asked their business in those waters. To this the master of the English ship, first taking the precaution to conceal Madame La Tour in the hold, replied that he was on his way to Boston, and after a few more words was allowed to proceed on his journey.

Once arrived in Boston, Madame La Tour did not allow the remissness of the captain in taking her so far out of her way to pass unpunished. She demanded indemnity from the charter company, and, after her cause was tried by a special court of the principal men and magistrates there, she was given two thousand pounds for the inconvenience caused her by the ship's delay. When the verdict was obtained, she seized all the cargo of the ship, valued at eleven hundred pounds, fitted out three vessels, and again turned toward Fort Latour. After more than a year's absence she finally arrived there, once more nearly being captured by one of the enemy's ships, which was lying in wait for her. Thus the three envoys to three different countries in this Acadian feud again found themselves at home. Madame La Tour's mission had proved the most successful, for the indemnity she had procured in Boston was used to add to the fortifications and employ more guards to defend them. Charnisay had accomplished little, for his representations at the Court of France were hardly strong enough to offset the known loyalty of La Tour.

Several months passed away in the little fort at St. John without any attacks from the enemy. But he was none the less busy in his crusade against the La Tours, and was at this very time engaged in a movement for their final discomfiture. Enraged at having them both slip out of his hands, he had sent an envoy to Boston with letters to the governor, exonerating himself from the charge of persecution, and endeavoring to prejudice his mind against the whole race of La Tour. He declared them both to be traitors to the King of France, charging Madame La Tour with being of low origin and dissolute habits, and her husband, in company with Biencourt and his followers, with having led wild and licentious lives in the forests.

Hearing of these slanders, La Tour determined to go to Boston, refute them, and bring the accuser to justice. Lady La Tour was left to guard the fort in his absence, which, thus unprotected, was soon beset by the spies of Charnisay, watching for an opportunity to take the heroic chatelaine unawares. Soon after La Tour's departure, as the ever watchful enemy was one day cruising about the coast, he was hailed by two of these spies who asked to be taken on board. They had just come from Fort Latour and brought the tidings that the master was still absent, that the force only amounted to fifty men, that there was but a little powder which was almost useless, and that the fort could now easily be captured.

Charnisay determined to storm the fort immediately and capture the fair chatelaine and all her retainers. Accordingly, one day late in this winter of 1645, anchoring his vessels in the harbor of St. John opposite Fort Latour, he waited, expecting to see the flag which waved from one of the bastions pulled down as a sign of surrender. For, although the Lady La Tour's stanch spirit was well known to him, since it had foiled his attempts in the past, he thought she would not dare offer resistance to so formidable a fleet as that which now confronted her.

Maids & Maidens of New France The Lady de la Tour

Yet the flag continued to wave from the tower. Opening fire on the little fort, his ship was straightway deluged with such a storm of shells that it was nearly sunk before the eyes of the courageous chatelaine, who herself was directing the charge from one of the bastions. The fierce cannonading continued, until, finding the ship too badly shattered to be of further use, and twenty of his men killed, Charnisay, humiliated and enraged, withdrew his forces.

In two months he returned and found the fort in the same defenceless condition. Lady La Tour's hope that her husband would arrive in the mean time with re-enforcements was vain, for the enemy had placed ships out at sea to prevent his entering the harbor.

This time she thrice repulsed the enemy's attacks, which were by land, and Charnisay was again compelled to draw off his forces. After failing in other attempts to penetrate into the fort, he finally succeeded in bribing one of the sentries, and on the fourth day of the siege, which was Easter Sunday, Charnisay and his men succeeded in scaling the walls. But before they had climbed down the other side, the garrison within rushed upon them with such force and determination that twelve of his men were killed and he was obliged to withdraw again. He then resorted to diplomacy, proposing to the Lady La Tour that, if she would capitulate, he would give the inmates of the fort life and liberty. Seeing the hopelessness of further resistance, the disheartened lady consented to this proposal; better life and liberty for the men who had held out so bravely than final capture and certain death.

The victor no sooner found himself in possession of the fort, for which he had been striving for years, than his real design became evident,—to murder the whole garrison, declare his sovereignty over all of Acadia, and drive the La Tours from the land.

He immediately proceeded to execute this purpose by hanging every man except one, who was given his life for the privilege of taking that of the others. Lady La Tour herself narrowly escaped the same fate, for a halter was placed around her neck and only a whim of the captor spared her life. But the capture of the fort, the brutality of the victors, and uncertainty regarding the fate of her husband so preyed upon her already broken spirit that a few days later she died.

The story of her defence of Fort Latour has been told by one of New England's poets, but not in the lofty strains of the poet of Evangeline, who, a century later, wept tears of anguish over her exile from the same beautiful Acadia that was the scene of Lady La Tour's adventures.

Of its sturdy defenders
Thy lady alone
Saw the cross-blazoned banner
Float over St. John.
"Let the dastard look to it!"
Cried fiery Estienne.
"Were D'Aulnay King Louis,
I'd free her again!"

Alas for thy lady!
No service from thee
Is needed by her
Whom the Lord hath set free.
Nine days in stern silence
Her thraldom she bore,
But the tenth morning came,
And death opened the door!

As if suddenly smitten
La Tour staggered back.
His hand grasped his sword-hilt,
His forehead grew black.
He sprang on the deck
Of his shallop again.
"We cruise now for vengeance!
Give way!" cried Estienne.

Oh, the loveliest of heavens
Hung tenderly o'er him.
There were waves in the sunshine
And green isles before him;
But a pale hand was beckoning
The Huguenot on;
And in blackness and ashes
Behind was St. John

A strange fate seemed to guide the fortunes of Charles La Tour, husband of this hapless lady. After the seizure of his fort by Charnisay he spent four years in exile, then, when he was sixty years old, hearing of Charnisay's death (he was drowned in the Penobscot River) he immediately set sail for France and obtained the restitution of his charters. Armed with these, he returned to Acadia, married Charnisay's widow, and thus forever settled the feuds between the two families, and ended this period of Acadian conflict.

Whittier, "St. John, 1647." See also Atlantic Monthly for April, 1900, "An Acadian Easter."

1880s Franco-American News Items From Willimantic and Vicinity

Paul R. Keroack, #157

The following items concerning Franco-American residents were extracted from "The Willimantic Chronicle," a newspaper published in that Connecticut city. French immigrants were not then as numerous in the city as they later became. A microfilm copy of the paper is available at the J. Eugene Smith Library of Eastern Connecticut State University.

The death of Aleck Gilman of Putnam by sunstroke last week removed an esteemed citizen from the French population of that village. He was a brother of Nelsonn and Frank Gilman of this place. He was a carpenter by trade, and was the builder of the new Catholic church at West Thompson. He was a member of St. John's Society, 100 members of which were present at the funeral. About 500 people attended the funeral and listened to one of the finest sermons ever delivered in the church. The services were conducted by Rev. Father Vaughen assisted by Rev. Father Marshall of Grosvenordale and father Vaughen's assistant. Mr. Gilman leaves a widow and five children with a large circle of relatives.

Wed. July 21, 1880, The Willimantic Chronicle

Mr. Amidee Maisonneuve, formerly with Buck & Durkee, and Mr. Jules N. Archambeault, formerly with Geo. M. Harrington, have opened a new grocery store in Cunningham block on Main street. Both are young men, active and popular and will doubtless do well in their new undertaking.

Wed. August 17, 1881, The Willimantic Chronicle

The Norwich movement on foot by our French population referred to in our last issue has come to a focus and has taken shape by the organization of a society. At a meeting held the other evening a preliminary organization was effected by the choice of J.N. Archambeault president and P.A. Favreau for secretary and treasurer. A sufficient sum has been raised by subscription to obtain the services of a couple of lecturers to explain the duties and responsibilities of citizenship and the requirements for naturalization. This is a laudable undertaking and we hope its proprietors may be unexpectedly successful in it. Somewhere from thirty to fifty votes are expected to be the fruit of their work.

Wed. Nov. 22, 1882, The Willimantic Chronicle

The meeting of the French Naturalization Club was in every way a successful undertaking, Franklin Hall being about two-thirds full. J.N. Archambeault, the president of the organization, introduced H.A. Dubuque, Esq/ of Fall River who expounded, in French, the principles of citizenship in a very able manner it is said. His address was supplement by brief remarks from Messrs. G.W. Melony, Esq., J.E. Murray and E.F. Casey. The interest which is taken in this movement is well illustrated by the fact that sixty-eight signatures were obtained in the hall of parties anxious to become naturalized.

Wed. Dec. 6, 1882, The Willimantic Chronicle

Messrs. Potvin & Vegiard who have been engaged in the Opera House barber shop have opened a shop over Stearns' harness store in Card's building, and will be pleased to hear from all their old customers as well as new ones who may be disposed to favor them with their patronage. Arthur G. Kenyon has been engaged by them as tonsorial artist.

Wed. Sept. 10, 1884, The Willimantic Chronicle

The following are the names of the newly elected officers of the Societe St. Jean Baptiste for the next term: President A.P. Favroe, re-elected unanimously, Vice President J.O. Blanchette, re-elected unanimously, Rec. Sec. God. Lapalme, Fin. Sec. Theo. Potvin, re-elected unanimously, Cor. Sec. Dr. S.C. Chagnon, Treasurer, Joseph A. Martin, Directors T. DeVillers, Honore Paulus and Nelson Gilman.

Wed. Sept. 10, 1884, The Willimantic Chronicle

The Societe St. Jean Baptiste will hold a grand rally here Sunday evening. Victor Belanger, Editor of Le Courrier de Worcester will deliver an address on the general benefits to be derived from joining the society.

Wed. Sept. 17, 1884, The Willimantic Chronicle

Connecticut Maple Leaf Submission Guidelines

Do you have an interesting research story you would like to share, or access to information that may be useful to other genealogists or family historians? If so, we welcome your contribution to the CML.

- All submissions should be either authored by the submitter, submitted with the written permission of the author or original publisher, or public domain property.
- ⇒ Supporting source information must be provided.
- ⇒ You may submit photographs or scanned images (as .bmp, .gif or .tif files) if they complement your article.
- ⇒ Your article should be single-spaced and submitted as a Microsoft Word. doc file or a .txt file on a CD or 3.5" floppy disk.
- ⇒ If you do not have access to an IBM compatible computer, your article should be typewritten and double-spaced.

Please contact:
Sherry Chapman
at 860-742-8933 or
sherry1chapman@aol.com
with your ideas or questions

Please send submissions to: Sherry Chapman, #1283 c/o the FCGSC Library, or 2097 Main Street Coventry, CT 06238

Seeking La Salle and the French in America

Ivan Robinson, #326

Book Review: Ghost Empire: How the French Almost Conquered North America, by Philip Marchand (Toronto. McClelland & Stewart Ltd., 2005) soft cover, 442 pages, two maps, no index, \$21.99 Canadian. Available for borrowing in the FCGSC library and for purchase on line from the publisher (McClelland.com) and new or used from Amazon.com and other Internet booksellers.

Réne-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, born in 1643 in Rouen to a well-to-do merchant family, received his education in Jesuit schools and decided to become a Jesuit himself. But the life—teaching in Jesuit grammar schools while pursuing his studies—bored him. Just under six feet tall and athletic, he was a restless and energetic man, always wanting to be somewhere else. At the age of twenty-three, he failed to get a missionary position in China. So he left the Jesuit order and cast his eye toward Canada. Many people in Rouen, including some of his relatives, had profited from dealing in fish and furs from the promising colony of New France. Thinking he might do well, too, he sailed for Montreal in the spring of 1666.

Thus began the twenty-year saga of the brave but flawed man credited with extending France's North American empire from the ice-bound rivers of Canada to the sweltering bayous of Louisiana. He claimed all the land drained by the tributaries of the Mississippi River; in other words, the heart of North America from the Rockies to the Alleghenies. It was essentially the territory that was ultimately acquired by the United States from France in 1803 as the Louisiana Purchase.

Philip Marchand, calling La Salle the greatest of French explorers, justifies his subtitle this way: "He ended up claiming virtually the whole of the North American continent for France, and by the lights of the seventeenth century, his claim was a good one. There was a real chance, near the end of the seventeenth century, that France might back up the claim. A few different turnings of history and you, reader, would be reading this book in French and speaking to your children in French. The United States would not exist. Some sort of French, Catholic state would dominate the continent, and the Ojibway, the Sioux, the Shawnee, the Chickasaw nations would have the same political and cultural presence as African-Americans now do. The English-speaking portion of the continent would still be largely hemmed in between the Alleghenies and the Atlantic."

What would it be like to follow in the footsteps of La Salle today, seeing the places he saw and talking to the people who live there now? That question is what's behind *Ghost Empire*, a mix of history, travelogue, memoir and commentary.

The author was born and raised in Pittsfield, Mass. in a French-Canadian family. Now books columnist for the Toronto Star, he not only takes you on his quest but also shares memories of his childhood and his thoughts on a variety of topics, ranging from modern-day

U.S. and Canadian cultures to his strong Catholic faith. Obviously well-read, he throws in quotes from everybody from Montaigne to Kerouack. He writes in a conversational style and is a good story teller. Accompanying him in his travels makes for an entertaining as well as an instructive ride.

Somewhat confusedly, at least for this reader, Marchand begins the book at a point associated with the end of La Salle's life. He visits an archaeological dig at the site of Fort Louis on Garcitas Creek in Texas, near where the explorer was murdered by his own men. Then Marchand backtracks to fill in the previous twenty years. Fortunately, he supplies a chronology at the start, along with two maps of La Salle's travels, to help keep things straight.

What kind of man was La Salle? Not a very likeable one, judging by the hatred that led to his untimely end and by contemporary records. He could not control his temper nor his urge to dominate others. His Jesuit superiors said he lacked prudence and judgment, and was morbidly anxious about the state of his soul. Others criticized him for withdrawing within himself during his explorations and of being secretive and refusing to take advice or reveal his plans.

Marchand writes: "It is not a state, pastoral theologians emphasize, that is invariably connected to mental illness, but when it does indicate neurosis, it seems to be symptomatic of obsessive-compulsive disorders or of depression."

Nevertheless, his character made him a perfect fit for both the challenges and the freedom of the wilderness.

Shortly after La Salle arrived in Montreal in the spring of 1677, the Sulpician Order, which then owned the entire island, gave him an estate, or seignieurie, of several thousand acres. It was on the southern part of the island, a frontier outpost designed to bear the first brunt of an Iroquois raid and thus give Montrealers time to mount a defense. The place became known as Lachine, site of an infamous massacre by the Iroquois in 1689, a few years after La Salle died. The French and their Indian allies retaliated with their own raids, burning Schenectady to the ground. War continued until a peace treaty was signed in 1701, bringing on "The Great Peace."

Here, Marchand returns to the present to observe a reenactment of the treaty signing. He talks with the re-enactors, including those of Indian ancestry, and attends mass at Montreal's Notre Dame Basilica. This leads him into a typical digression, summoning up Victor Hugo's Notre Dame and that author's remark that the printing press was the instrument that killed Gothic architecture, producing a linear and uniform approach to life that replaced the nonverbal code of paintings, stained glass windows and statuary. French Canada, Marchand notes, did not have a printing press culture; in fact, didn't have a printing press until after the British conquest in 1760. (New England had its first press in 1639.) The Gothic style lives deep in the psyche of Canada, Marchand feels. It is no accident, he contends, that Canadian literature "is far more prone to visions of demon lovers and spirit-haunted wastes than the literature of the United States...." There is then a long riff on Adam Dollard, one of New France's greatest heroes. He is pictured in the great church's windows, flanked by

Seeking La Salle and the French in America

buddies raising their arms in religious exaltation, knowing they all are doomed. The group of sixteen held off an 800-man Iroquois war party at Long Sault for seven days before being wiped out. In the window, Dollard sports "a trim mustache that, together with the Three Musketeers outfit, gives him a resemblance to Douglas Fairbanks Sr." Legend has it that his stand discouraged the Iroquois from carrying out their plan to destroy Montreal and the rest of New France. Marchand says that Quebec intellectuals of the sixties, in rejecting religious and nationalist myths, sneered at Dollard, calling him a "cowboy" and contending that his military conduct was Custer-like in its impetuosity and blundering. The Iroquois were not out to erase French Canada, according to their view, but just wanted revenge for previous attacks. At Long Sault they got their wish.

This kind of story-telling, switching from the historical La Salle to Quebecois today and to long reflections on various topics, is found throughout all of Marchand's book as he follows La Salle to the Great Lakes and down the Illinois River to the Mississippi. Along the way, he stops at the explorer's Fort Frontenac (Kingston, Ontario), at his Fort Niagara (on Lake Ontario at the entrance to the Niagara River), and then at Detroit and Monroe, "the heart of French Michigan," which gives him an opportunity to write again about voyageurs, and about the wilderness French, birch bark canoes and the American myth of westward expansion.

Says Marchand: "Daniel Boone, in this myth, crossed the Alleghenies and found himself in the great virgin wilderness of Kentucky. It was just him and the Indians and the bears. And then a trickle of hardy pioneers followed, and settlements were built where previously there had been nothing but wigwams—and that's the story of America. But the French had been there long before."

The author is fascinated with the *coureurs de bois*, those freelancers of the fur trade who lived among the Indians, married their women and thumbed their noses at regulations designed to keep the colonists from abandoning their farms for the woods. A myth has developed around these men, he says.

"According to this myth," Marchand goes on, "the real French Canadian was not the docile farmer of nineteenth-century Quebec who was ruled by the Church and lorded over by les anglais. Rather the prototype of French Canada was the plucky, freedom-loving coureur de bois." Marchand quotes another writer saying the European French "found us haughty and boastful ... independent and undisciplined, unwilling to obey orders and disrespectful of authority. But they did not see that we were indefatigable hunters, swift runners, conscientious explorers, and excellent at fighting à l'indienne. They also could not deny that we had a zest for life ... We played hard and for keeps, were generally good-looking and charming and pleasant to be with."

Notes Marchand, with the sly wit that often spices his book: "That is true. As evidence, I point to myself."

Typical of his physical and mental meanderings, Marchand follows La Salle's route to St. Ignace at the Straits of Mackinac, the strategic connector between Lakes Huron and

Michigan, and then goes farther into Michigan, where he stays with a couple he met at the Fort Niagara reenactment. Both Tim Kent and Doree Manion are retired classical musicians—he played with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra—with a passion for history. At reenactments, they portray a French trader and his native wife, Silver Fox and Sunny Otter.

"All re-enactors are amateur historians," writes Marchand, "but the difference between the research of your average re-enactor and the research of Tim Kent is the difference between playing trumpet in the local dance band and playing in the brass section of the CSO."

Kent has published several thick books on the daily lives of the French and Indians of Michigan and an important one about birch bark trading canoes, the kind that could hold eight men and a few thousand pounds of beaver pelts. His research included spending a lot of time in the National Maritime Museum in London, when the CSO played there in 1957, to take countless measurements of such a canoe there, one of four still in existence. His measurements fill fifty-seven pages in his book and are precise enough to enable anybody to build an exact replica.

Wherever he goes in La Salle's footsteps, Marchand never fails to find interesting people like Tim Kent nor to unearth countless reasons to share his thoughts on the French in North America, both past and present.

This is the formula he follows as he continues along La Salle's route, stopping in such places as Kankakee and Chicago, Illinois; Green Bay, Wisconsin; Memphis, Tennessee; Sainte Genevieve, the first permanent settlement in Missouri; several places in Arkansas; and, finally, Cajun country and New Orleans in Louisiana. Everywhere, he notes evidence of the French having been there. Chicago was founded by Jesuits, Detroit by Cadillac the explorer. Little Rock was originally called "Petit Roche." The Ozarks started out as "Aux Arcs" (meaning in the territory of the Arkansas Indians).

Why did La Salle's efforts fail to produce a French dominance in the middle of what is now the United States?

Marchand offers several reasons. France concentrated on setting up fur trade monopolies while the English focused on wealth through capitalism: that is, the competitive production of goods, starting with agricultural products for which the American colonies proved useful. Also, the French felt it had no people to spare, unlike the English who had depopulated their yeoman farms by consolidating huge estates in the hands of favored nobles. Consequently, New France contained only about 70,000 people at the British Conquest in 1760, compared with nearly 1.5 million in the thirteen British colonies.

Moreover, the French had the misfortune to have the powerful Iroquois as their constant enemy and to endure a series of costly and bloody wars. Maintaining a chain of trading posts under the circumstances required more men and money than France could spare.

The Conquest, besides taking Canada, doomed France's future in North America. And left the Ghost Empire as a haunting memory.

FCGSC Library Resources You Won't Find on the Internet

Paul R. Keroack, #157

Following are selected titles from the library's catalog, with the new Dewey call number and new or revised subject heading added in bold. The underlined two-digit number following the call number for Quebec (971.4) is the county identification number as used in the library's repertoire shelves. The catalog conversion still in process.

Bonier, Marie Louise. Debuts de la colonie Franco-Americaine de Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

Framingham, MA: Lakeview Press, 1920. 342 p.

Ref H F 89 W9 B7

305.8 Boni

Franco Americans-Rhode Island-Woonsocket

Brasseaux, Carl. The founding of New Acadia: The beginnings of Acadian life in Louisiana, 1765-1803. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1987. 229 p.

Ref H F380 A2 B72

971.6 Acad Bras

Acadians-History, Louisiana-History

Brosseau, J.D. St-Georges d'Henryville et la Seigneurie de Noyan. St-Hyacinthe: La Cie d'Imprimerie et Compatabilities de St-Hyacinthe, 1913. 238 p.

Ref H F1054.5 S24 B7

971.4 44 Bros

St-Georges d'Henryville (Ouebec)-History

Brosseau, J.D. Saint-Jean-de-Quebec: Origine de developpements. St-Jean: Le "Richelieu," 1937. 313 p. Ref H F1054 B76

971.4 61 Bros

St-Jean (Quebec)-History

Charland, Thomas M. Histoire de Saint Français du Lac. Ottawa: College Dominicain, 1942. 364 p. Ref H F1054.3 S2 C2

971.4 <u>73</u> Char

Saint Francais-du-Lac (Quebec)-History

Choquet, Elisee. Les Communes de Laprairie. Laprairie: Impr. Du Sacre-Coeur, 1935. 149 p.

971.4 34 Choq

Laprairie (Quebec)-History

Coolidge, Guy O. The French occupation of the Champlain Valley from 1609 to 1759. (Reprint of 1938 ed.) Harrison NY: Harbor Hills, 1979. 175 p.

F 127 C6/c725 1979

974 Cool

Champlain Valley (Vermont & New York)-History

David, L.C. Les Patriotes de 1837-1838. Montreal: Eusebe Senecal & fils, 1900. 296 p.

Ref H F1032 D25 1900

971.4 Davi

Canada-History-Patriot Rebellion, 1837-1838

D'Entremont, Clarence J., Rev. A brief history of Pubnico, 2nd ed. West Pubnico, NS: C.J. d'Entremont, 1984. 34 p.

Ref H F2349 P78 E57

971.6 Dent

Pubnico (Nova Scotia)-History

Eloi-Gerard, Frere. Inventaire de contrats de marriages au greffe de Charlevoix

Malbaie, P.Q.: Societe Historic de Saguenay, 1943

Ref H F1054 C6 T36

971.4 13 Eloi

Charlevoix (Quebec)-Genealogy

Fournier, Marcel. Les Bretons en Amerique du Nord : Des origins a 1770. Quebec: Societe de Genealogie de Quebec, 1987. 424 p.

Ref H F1035 F8 F68

971.4 Four

Quebec-History; Bretons-Quebec

Gilbert-Leveille, Pierrette. Repertoire des greffes des notaries, v. 2.

Sainte-Foy: Societe de Genealogie de Quebec, 1986. 395 p.

Ref H Keq 169 G54 1985 v.2

971.4 Gilb

Notarial acts-Quebec

Griffiths, Naomi E.S. The contexts of Acadian history: 1686-1784. Montreal: McGill-Queens Univ.

Press, 1992. 137 p.

Ref F F1037 S74

971.6 Acad Grif

Acadia-History

Heroux, Jean P. Troisieme centenaire de Montreal. Montreal: Commission du III Centenaire de Montreal, 1942. 301 p.

Ref H F1054.5 M81 M81

971.4 28 Hero

Montreal (Quebec)-History

Hollier, Robert. La France des Canadiens: Guide pratique du retour aux sources. Montreal: Libr.

Ducharme, 1962. 159 p.

Ref G DC16 H6

971 Holl

Canadians-French origin

LeBlanc, Genevieve. Ste-Thecle, Champlain Co., burials, 1870-1979. Editions du Bien public. 3 fiche 971.4 12 Lebl

Burials-Quebec-Champlain County

FCGSC Library Resources You Won't Find on the Internet

Loranger, Maurice. Histoire de Cap-de-la-Madeleine (1651-1986)

Cap-de-la-Madeleine: M. Loranger, 1987. 337 p.

Ref H F1054.5 C3 971.4 12 Lora

Cap-de-la-Madeleine (Quebec)-History

Plourde, Emilie M. Seigneurs: The weakest link in Canada's feudal chain. Southampton, MA: E.M.

Plourde, 1989. 16 p.

Ref H F1026 P56

971.4 Plou

Quebec-History; Feudalism-Canada

Reid, W. Stanford. The Scottish tradition in Canada. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1976. 324 p.

Ref H F1035 S 4 S43

971 Reid

Canada-History-Scottish emigration

Roy, Pierre-Georges. Les cimetieres de Ouebec.

Levis, PQ: P.-G. Roy, 1941. 270 p.

Ref L F1054.5 Q3 R8

929.3 Roy

Cemeteries-Quebec

Saint-Pere, Rameau de. Une Colonie feodale en Amerique : L'Acadie, 1604-1881

Montreal: Granger freres, 1889. 2 v.

Ref H F1038 R 18

971.6 Acad Sain

Acadia-History

Vaillancourt, Emile. La conquete du Canada par les Normands : Biographie de la premiere generation normande du Canada. Montreal: G. Ducharme, 1930. 251 p.

Ref F F1035 N6 V12

971.4 Vail

Quebec-History; Normans-Canada

Verney, Jack. The good regiment: The Carignan-Salieres Regiment in Canada 1665-1668. Montreal:

McGill-Queen's Univ. Press, 1991. 222 p.

Ref L F1030 G7 V4

971.4 Vern

Quebec-History, Military

Reisinger, Joy. The King's Daughters. Rev. ed. Sparta, WI: J. Reisinger, 1988. 233 p.

Ref L JV7222 R45

971.4 Reis

Quebec-History

David, L. O.

Les Patriotes de 1837-1838. Montreal: E. Senecal & fils, 1900. 296 p.

Ref H F1032 D25

971.4

Quebec-History

Tricentenaire seigneuries Gaspesiennes con cedres a Denis Riverin: Album souvenir 1688-1988 D. Riverin: Les Editions de la S.H.A.M., 1988, 1 v.

Ref F F1035 T75

971.4

Gaspe (Quebec)-History

Poirer, Michel. Les Acadiens aux iles Saint-Pierre et Miquelon: 1758-1828, 3 deportations

Moncton, NB: Les Editions d'Acadie, 1984. 527 p.

Ref F F1170 P64

971.6 Acad Poir

Acadians-Genealogy

Despres-Couillard, Azaire. Histoire de la seigneurie des St-Ours.

Montreal: Impr. De l'Institution des Sourds-Muets, 1915. 345 p.

Ref H F1054 S34

971.4 54 Desp

St-Ours (Quebec)-History

Desaulniers, F.L. Les vieilles familles de'Yamachiche. Montreal: Editions Elysee, 1908 (Reprint ed.

1898). 2 v.

Ref H F1054 Y2 D4

971.4 62 Desa

Yamachiche (Quebec)-History

d'Hauterive, R. Grandsaignes, Dictionnaire d'ancien français: moyen age et renaissance.

Paris: Libr. Larousse, 1947. 591 p.

Ref E PC2889 S74

468.3 Dhau

French language-Dictionaries

Roy, Pierre-Georges. Inventaire des testaments, donations et inventaires du Regime français: conserves aux Archives judicaires de Ouebec. Ouebec: Archives de Ouebec, 1941. 3 v.

Ref L CD3645 Q27

027 Rov

Archives-Quebec

Labelle, Ronald. Au Village-du-Bois: Memoires d'une communaute Acadienne. Moncton, NB: Universite de Moncton, 1985. 245 p.

Ref F F1044.5 M45 L23

971.6 Acad Labe

Acadia-History

Douville, Raymond. Visages du Vieux Trois Rivieres. Trois Rivieres: Ed. Du bien Public, 1955. 282 p.

Ref H F1054.5 T53 D68

971.4 62 Douv

Trois Rivieres (Quebec)-History

Private Ferdinand Lavigne A French-Canadian Civil War Soldier

Joseph Terrien, #188

My mother-in-law told us, long ago, that her father was born in Rockport, Massachusetts. Her grandparents, Ferdinand Lavigne and Marie Dubreuil, returned to Beauce County, Canada after their son's birth. Her grandmother died there and Ferdinand remarried twice after her death.

I could not find Ferdinand and Marie on the Internet or in any of the published source material available to me. I found a record of their son Ferdinand's marriage to Anna Roy at Woburn, Quebec, but I already had that information. I was looking for his parents.

While searching Ancestry.com for a record of Ferdinand and Marie's marriage I noticed two Civil War military records were available for a Fergenan Lavine. I knew they didn't pertain to "my Ferdinand" because he lived his adult life in Canada, his son was born after the war, and surely someone would have mentioned something about any military service.

I kept searching, going back and trying the same things over and over again, hoping that the results would change. Well they didn't. Every time I looked I got the same information. One day my curiosity was aroused by the military records I had been ignoring all that time. They turned out to be a request for a Civil War pension from Fergenan Lavine and a pension request from his widow, Demerise. Hey! Wait a minute! I know who Demerise is! She was Ferdinand's third wife!

I requested copies of Ferdinand's military service record and pension record from the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington D. C. When they arrived a few months later, I was amazed at the volume of useful information they contained. His pension claim had been rejected because the muster rolls for the 8th New Hampshire Infantry listed him as Fargenain, AKA, Hargenon Lavine. He had to prove he was who he claimed to be. This resulted in many letters, written by J. E. Dion, the mayor of St. Sebastien, Quebec, a transcript of his baptismal record, and responses from the government. The same was true when his wife applied for a widow's pension upon his death. She had to provide proof of her marriage to Ferdinand, and the deaths of his two previous spouses, to enable her to collect a pension. All these facts were great for genealogy purposes but more importantly it was the beginning of a very personal history lesson.

Ferdinand Lavigne, was born June 16, 1847 in Stanfold, now Princeville, Arthabaska, Quebec. He was the first child of Charles F. Lavigne and Basilisse Lallier. We don't know how, when, or why he entered the United States, but we do know that he marked his enlistment papers with an "X" on November 7, 1863, in West Lebanon, New Hampshire, and was paid a twenty-five dollar bounty. The Union conscription law allowed a drafted man to hire a substitute, or pay the government a fee, usually about three hundred dollars, as a commutation of service, a practice that was prohibited after February 1864. Ferdinand enlisted in Company I of the 8th Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry as a substitute for Freeland Hutchinson of Berlin,

New Hampshire. Freeland was a farmer from Milan, New Hampshire, who took a great interest in village affairs and was elected to the New Hampshire state legislature in 1874.

Ferdinand was described on the muster roll of November 20, 1863 as being 5 foot 4½ inches tall, with brown hair, hazel eyes, and a light complexion. His place of birth was listed as Vermont, not Canada. He had just turned sixteen in June but he gave his age as nineteen.

Ferdinand gives a summary of his military career in a June 1915 letter. "I was engaged at Gorham N. H. but I signed the papers on the way. We left there by stage for Concord N. H. We left Concord for Long Island and there for New Orleans. From there for Franklin under the command of Captain Landers, Lieutenant Miller and Sergeant Johnston. From there we came back to New Orleans but before we left I was transferred to the 2nd Regiment, Company I, Cavalry. We wintered in the Cotton Press [Steam Cotton Press in New Orleans]... We left there for Alexandria along the Red River. We done [sic] police duty in the city of Natches, Mississippi. There Captain Landers was made Major, Lieutenant Miller a Captain, and Sergeant Johnston a Lieutenant. I was discharged at Concord N. H. They always call me the name of Furgusnon Levine."

In an August 1915 letter, written on the stationary of J. E. Dion, Marchand de Beurre & Fromage, Ferdinand states, "referring to my enlistment we were four from the same place and enrolled in the same regiment on the same day. Louis Houle, Doric Bourassa, Francour and myself." The record shows five men enlisting in Company I on November 7, 1863, all residing at Island Pond, Vermont. They were Harganon Lavine, age 19; Lewis Houll, age 21; Doric Boresaw, age 21; Serril La France, age 23; and Joseph Sherlow, age 21.

The 8th Regiment New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry were known as 1st New Hampshire Cavalry from December 16, 1863 to February 29, 1864, and 2nd New Hampshire Cavalry from March 1 to July 15, 1864. They were assigned to the 4th Brigade, Cavalry Division, XIX Corps, Department of the Gulf.² Regimental historian John M. Stanyan gives us a look at what Ferdinand's first few months of military life were like. "New Iberia was reached on November 12, [1863] and on December 12 a parcel of three hundred recruits was brought to the regiment. On December 21 General McMillan issued an order, detaching the Eighth from his brigade in order that it be changed into cavalry. Horses and saddles had been drawn on the 13th, and on January 1, at Franklin, talk of re-enlistment had begun. On the 6th the regiment was ordered to New Orleans through 'snow two inches deep'. On the 6th at Brashear City, on the 10th at Algiers, and on the 13th at Steam Cotton Press in New Orleans. ... For the space of two months the regiment was drilled in cavalry tactics for eight hours a day. The men were armed with satires (sabers), Sharpe's breech-loading carbines and Remington revolvers." Ferdinand may have felt pretty special with his new Sharpe's single shot, breech loading carbine. It was a high-tech weapon for its day when compared to the Springfield or Remington rifled muskets. Any elation he experienced must have been replaced, in a very short time, by the pain of saddle sores.

Ferdinand never mentioned his involvement in any engagements, so we can only look to the history of the regiment to get some idea of his military life. The Department of the Gulf, under the command of General Nathaniel P. Banks, began the ill-fated Red River Campaign on

Ferdinand Lavigne: A French-Canadian Civil War Soldier

March 10, 1864. The company muster rolls show Ferdinand present for the entire time, and his chronology agrees with the record, but we can only assume he actively participated in any of the events.

By April they had advanced about one hundred fifty miles up the Red River. There had been minor skirmishes along the way at Natchitoches, Crump's Hill, Wilson's Farm and Bayou de Paul. The battle of Mansfield (Sabine Cross Roads) on April 8, 1864 was the major engagement of the campaign. "The main body of the Second New Hampshire Cavalry attacked the Confederate infantry and found it in strong force at the Cross Roads, and were repulsed with a loss. They retreated a short distance and then, with a fresh supply of ammunition, held the front of skirmishing for over two hours, being relieved and ordered to support the batteries." Confederate Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor had forced General Banks to retreat toward Pleasant Hill. The next day around 5 P.M. General Taylor, having been reinforced but still outnumbered, attacked. He hoped the Union forces would be licking their wounds from the previous day's defeat. He almost succeeded in defeating the Union forces but was finally repulsed and had to withdraw from the field. Pleasant Hill was technically a victory for the Union but General Banks decided to cut his losses, abandon his objective of capturing Shreveport, and retreat toward New Orleans.

Ferdinand's friend Serril La France was captured at Sabine Cross Roads, along with twenty-four others, and spent six months in a Confederate prison at Camp Ford in Tyler, Texas. He was exchanged on October 23, 1864, and rejoined the regiment at Natchez, Mississippi on November 13, 1864. Joseph Sherlow returned to the Regiment on May 10, 1864 after deserting at New Orleans in February.⁵

The company muster roll for July and August 1864 shows that Ferdinand was absent and on detached duty at Camp Parapet, Louisiana from July 11, 1864. He returned to New Orleans in September and was ordered to Natchez, Mississippi to perform policing duty. In January 1865 three hundred and sixteen veterans from his regiment were consolidated into a Veterans Battalion of three companies. James H. Landers, now a major, assumed command by virtue of seniority. Ferdinand was transferred to Company C of the Veterans Battalion and ordered to Vidalia, Louisiana, for garrison, guard and patrol duty.⁶

In April of 1865 two memorable events took place far removed from Vidalia, Louisiana. General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, and President Lincoln was assassinated in Washington, D.C. These momentous events were summed up by the regimental historian in one short paragraph: "The news of the capture of Richmond and the surrender of Lee was received with glad enthusiasm, and a triumphal procession occurred; but the exultation was of short duration, for soon came the news of the assassination of the president; and a sad column passed through the streets following the roll of the muffled drums, while the great guns of the fort struck the half-hours during the day."

Ferdinand was ordered to Vicksburg, Mississippi in October and the regiment was mustered out on October 28, 1865. His regiment returned by train to New Hampshire and he was discharged at Concord on November 9, 1865. Thirty-six men enlisted in Company I with

Ferdinand in the fall of 1863. Only thirteen mustered out or were discharged. Two died from illness. One man drowned when the steamer "North America," returning sick and wounded to the north, sank off the coast of Florida. The others, over fifty percent, were accounted for by seventeen desertions and three dishonorable discharges. Casualty figures for the regiment during its four years of service (1861-1865) show eight officers and ninety-four enlisted men killed or mortally wounded. Disease claimed two officers and two hundred fifty six enlisted men. The only mention of any problems Ferdinand may have had was in a letter of January 1916. "I took sick at Alexandria but I was exempt by our Doctor in the Regiment from going to a Hospital. The year was 1864 as far as I can remember." Considering the losses, he was safer on the battlefield than in the hospital.

Ferdinand's declaration for pension form (December 28, 1914) lists several places of residence after leaving the service. "Rockport, Mass for 4 years up to 1869, Lawrence, Mass up to 1873, Chesham, Canada up to 1880, Cookshire, Canada up to 1886 and at St. Sebastien up to this date." He may have gone to Lawrence first and then to Rockport because he gives his residence as Lawrence when he married Marie Dubreuil on April 7, 1872 in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Their son Ferdinand was born on December 27, 1872 in Rockport, Massachusetts. His father gave his occupation as a stonecutter in Rockport.

Confederation came to Canada in 1867. Upper Canada and Lower Canada were unified into the Province of Quebec under the government of Great Britain. There was an organized effort from 1870 to 1875 by the government in Quebec to get French-Canadians to return to Quebec and populate the Eastern Townships with French speaking Canadians. This may be the reason Ferdinand moved to Chesham, now Notre-Dame-des-Bois, in 1873.

Ferdinand Lavigne went on to lead a long and fruitful life. He and Marie had five more children before Marie died in 1886. On January 6, 1889, at the age of forty-two, he married Marie Emma Turmaine at Lac-Mégantic, Quebec. The second marriage produced four more children. Emma died in July 1900. He then married Marie Demerise Rousseau in October of the same year at Ste-Sébastien when he was fifty-three. Ferdinand died in Woburn, Quebec, on September 6, 1918, at the age of seventy-one. Apparently, like many veterans from all wars, he never talked to his family of his adventures and hardships in that far off place called Louisiana.

¹ Full Context of American Civil War Soldiers Database, http://www.ancestry.com

² Regimental History, Eighth Regiment New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry (Three Years), by John M. Stanyan ibid

⁴ ibid

⁵ Full Context of American Civil War Soldiers Database, http://www.ancestry.com

⁶ Regimental History, Eighth Regiment New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry (Three Years), by John M. Stanyan ⁷ ibid

⁸ A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion, by Frederick H. Dyer (Part 3)

⁹ Essay on the history of the Hebridean Scotts of Quebec (http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/9917/hisqub2.htm)

Massachusetts Repertoires in the FCGSC Library Collection Sorted by Locality and Institution

Paul R. Keroack, #157

On the shelves, the collection is sorted by number (MA 01), etc., in the order that each volume was acquired for the library. Members may find it easier to use the following index. This and future indexes will be part of the new cataloging process now underway.

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire	
MA	Attleboro	Bur	Foley Funeral Home, 1911-1985	
12				
MA	Attleboro	Bap	St. Joseph, 1905-1986	
35				
MA	Attleboro	Bur	St. Joseph, 1905-1986	
36				
MA	Attleboro	Mar	St. Joseph, 1905-1986	
03				
MA	Attleboro	Bap	St. Stephen, 1880-1986	
16				
MA	Attleboro	Bap	St. Stephen, 1880-1986 (duplicate of	
26	11.1		#16)	
MA MA	Attleboro	Mar	St. Stephen, 1880-1986	
07	D 11' 1			
MA	Bellingham	Death	Town deaths, 1883-1992	
50	D1 1 /			
MA 40	Blackstone	Mar	St. Paul, 1852-1995	
MA	Blackstone	Mar	C4 Th 1000 1007	
21	Diackstolle	Iviai	St. Theresa, 1929-1987	
MA	Blackstone	Mar	Town records, 1845-1995 (2 v.)	
41	Diackstone	IVIAI	10wii fecolus, 1643-1993 (2 v.)	
MA	Blackstone	Mar	Town register marriages, 1845-1900	
20	Diagnotone	14141	10wii legistei mairiages, 1043-1900	
MA	Boston	Bur	King's Chapel	
30			imig b chaper	
MA	Brockton	Bur	Hickey-Grenier Funeral Home, 1911-	
17			1987	
MA	Douglas	Mar	Town marriages, 1844-1905	
64	-			
MA	Easthampton	Cem	Franco-American headstones, to 1987	
08			,	
MA	Easthampton	Dir	Franco-Americans in city directory, 1944	
13				
MA	Easthampton	Name	Franco-American surnames, 1977	
32				

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire	
MA	Fall River	Bur	Auclair Funerqal Home, 1944-1992	
38				
MA	Fall River	Mar	Blessed Sacrament, 1892-1995	
29				
MA	Fall River	Bap	Notre-Dame de Lourdes, 1874-2001 (3	
59			v.)	
MA	Fall River	Mar	Notre-Dame de Lourdes, 1874-2001 (3	
49			v.)	
MA	Fall River	Mar	St. Jean-Baptiste, 1901-1979	
04				
MA	Fall River	Mar	St. Jean-Baptiste, 1901-1996	
42				
MA	Fall River	Bap	St. Anne, 1869-1996 (4 v.)	
33			1000 1000	
MA	Fall River	Mar	St. Anne, 1869-1930	
10			7. 10.00.100.6.00	
MA	Fall River	Mar	St. Anne, 1869-1996 (2 v.)	
34			9. 16.11	
MA	Fall River	Mar	St. Matthew, 1888-1986	
05	7 4 P'	<u> </u>	G. D. 1 1000 1000	
MA	Fall River	Bap	St. Roch, 1899-1982	
54	F 11 D'	Man	C4 Death 1900 1002	
MA	Fall River	Mar	St. Roch, 1899-1982	
53	Fit-1-1	Don	Aubuchon Funeral Home, 1914-1966	
MA	Fitchburg	Bur	Auduction Funeral Home, 1914-1900	
24	T14-1-1	Dom.	St. Joseph, 1891-1995 (2 v.)	
MA	Fitchburg	Bap	St. Joseph, 1891-1993 (2 v.)	
47	Eitahhung	Mar	St. Joseph, 1891-1895 (2 v.)	
MA	Fitchburg	Iviai	St. Joseph, 1091-1093 (2 v.)	
48 MA	Grafton	Mar	Town marriages, 1843-1905	
61	Granon	Iviai	Town marriages, 1043-1703	
MA	Holyoke	Mar	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1890-1991	
56	TIOLYONG	Iviai	(2 v.)	
MA	Holyoke	Bap	Precious Blood, 1869-1889	
02	HOLYOKC	Dap	11001045 11004, 1007 1007	
MA	Holyoke	Bur	Precious Blood, 1859-1889	
01	Tioryone		11001040 21004, 1007 1007	
MA	Holyoke	Mar	Precious Blood, 1869-1889	
01				
MA	Holyoke	Mar	Precious Blood, 1884-1983 (3 v.)	
55			, ,	
MA	Massachusetts	Govt	Documents concerning Acadian	
57			Deportees, 1755-1766 (2 v.)	

Massachusetts Repertoires in the FCGSC Library Collection

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire
MA	Massachusetts	Vets	Franco-American Civil War veterans
23			
MA	Mendon	Mar	Town marriages, 1844-1905
62			
MA	Milbury	Bur	Turgeon (& Mayette), 1919-2000
51			
MA	New Bedford	Mar	Franco-Americans in civil registers,
06			1865-1920 - [includes church marriages]
MA	New Bedford	Bur	Lamoureaux Funeral Home, 1930-1980
31		<u> </u>	
MA	North Adams	Cem	Blackstone Cemetery, to 1977
15	NT 11 4 11 1		
MA	North Attleboro	Mar	Sacred Heart, 1904-1990
18 MA	North Brookfield	2.6	
63	North Brookneid	Mar	Town marriages, 1844-1910
MA	Northbridge	D	T (8 G 1 1 1) 1040 2000
52	Normonage	Bur	Turgeon (& Gaudette), 1940-2000
MA	Norton	Mar	Tarra and the same in 1950 1950
22	NOLIGII	Iviai	Town register marriages, 1850-1950
MA	Southbridge	Mar	Franco-Americans in civil registers,
09	Southoriage	IVIAI	1834-1916
MA	Spencer	Mar	Town marriages, 1850-1910
65			10 Wil Maillagos, 1050 1710
MA	Springfield area	Obit	Springfield Daily News, 1984
58		-	18
MA	Swansea	Bap	St. Michael, 1922-1995
28		*	1,000
MA	Swansea	Mar	St. Michael, 1922-1995
27			
MA	Swansea	Mar	Town records, 1879-1973 (2 v.)
39			, ,
MA	Swansea	Birth	Town register births, 1879-1973
19			
MA	Taunton	Mar	St. Jacques, 1904-1989
14			
MA	Upton	Mar	Town marriages, 1844-1905
60	117		410 17 0 0
MA A	Worcester	Bur	Alfred Roy & Sons, 1904-1994 (2.v)
25 MA	Worsester	D	Courselland F. 177 1000 1000
37	Worcester	Bur	Courschene Funeral Home, 1930-1988
MA	Worcester	Mar	Notes Domo des Courtis en 1970 1920
11	AA OI CESICI	war	Notre-Dame des Canadiens, 1870-1930
11			

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire
MA 43	Worcester	Mar	Notre-Dame des Canadiens, 1931-1947
MA 44	Worcester	Mar	Notre-Dame des Canadiens, 1947-1997
MA 45	Worcester	Mar	St. Joseph, 1891-1937
MA 46	Worcester	Mar	[duplicate of #11]

Maine Repertoires in the FCGSC Library Collection

Sorted by Locality and Institution

Paul R. Keroack, #157

On the shelves, the collection is sorted by number (ME 01), etc., in the order that each volume was acquired for the library. Members may find it easier to use the following index. This and future indexes will be part of the new cataloging process now underway.

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire
ME 01	Auburn	Mar	1902-1977
ME 27	Augusta	Mar	St. Augustine, 1881-1981
ME 29	Bangor	Vital	Vital records, v. 1, births; v.2, deaths
ME 32	Bangor area	Obit	Bangor Daily News, 2002 (2 v.)
ME 43	Bangor area	Obit	Bangor Daily News, 2003 (2 v.) includes some for 1991 & 2004)
ME 30	Bangor area	Obit	Bangor Daily News, 2004
ME 33	Bangor area	Obit	[duplicate of #30]
ME 34	Bangor area	Obit	Bangor Daily News, 2005 (& Herald News)
ME 23	Berwick	Mar	Queen of Peace, 1927-1982
ME 23	Berwick	Mar	St. Michael, 1886-1982
ME 22	Biddeford	Obit	Index to Daily Journal obits, 1884-1975 (2.v)
ME 02	Biddeford	Mar	St. Andre, 1899-1978

Maine Repertoires in the FCGSC Library Collection

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire	
ME	Biddeford	Mar	St. Joseph, 1870-1979	
03				
ME	Biddeford	Vital	Vital records, to 1856	
_35				
ME	Bingham	Mar	St. Peter, 1920-1980	
04				
ME	Brunswick	Mar	St. Charles Borromeo, 1930-1980	
05				
ME	Brunswick	Mar	St. John Baptist, 1877-1979	
05				
ME	Brunswick	Vital	Vital records, 1740-1860	
36				
ME	Carmel	Vital	Vital records, to 1891	
40	G :	771. 4		
ME	Corinna	Vital	Vital records, 1797-1894	
28 ME	Cumberland	37:4-1	Y'', 1 1 C	
ME 38		Vital	Vital records from town reports, 1893-	
ME	Eagle Lake	Mar	1960	
21	Lagic Lake	Iviai	Vital records, 1872-1939	
ME	Frenchville	Mar	St. Luce, 1843-1970	
06		Wai	St. Luce, 1843-1970	
ME	Jackman	Mar	St. Anthony, 1892-1980 & bapt. 1852-	
14		1	1925	
ME	Jay	Mar	St. Rose de Lima, 1885-1982	
24				
ME	Lewiston	Mar	Holy Cross, 1923-1977	
07				
ME	Lewiston	Mar	Holy Family 1923-1977	
07				
ME	Lewiston	Mar	St. Joseph, 1858-1978	
09	<u> </u>			
ME	Lewiston	Mar	St. Mary, 1907-1977	
13				
ME	Lewiston	Mar	[duplicate of #13]	
25	<u> </u>	-		
ME	Lewiston	Mar	St. Patrick, 1876-1978	
10	Lowiston	Dave	C4- D-4 0 D 1 1070 1076 (2)	
ME 11	Lewiston	Bur	Sts. Peter & Paul, 1870-1976 (2. v.)	
ME	Lewiston	Mar	Sta Potor & Doul 1960 1070	
ME 19	Lewiston	IVIAI	Sts. Peter & Paul, 1869-1979	
ME	Lincoln	Cem	Lincoln Cemetery, 1996; Franco	
31			extractions	

No.	Locality	Record	Repertoire
ME	Lisbon	Mar	St. Ann, 1885-1977
13			
ME	Madison	Mar	St. Sebastian, 1900-1980
14			
ME	Maine	Vital	Records of Rev. Cutter, 1833-1856
37			
ME	Mexico	Mar	St. Therese, 1927-1939
26			
ME	Mount Desert Island	Vital	Vital records, 1776-1820
42			
ME	Old Town	Mar	St. Joseph, 1860-1960 and civil records,
12			1836-1892; deaths 1881-1946
ME	Rockland	Vital	Vital records, 1783-1892
39			
ME	Rumford	Mar	St. John, 1886-1939
26			
ME	Sanford	Mar	Holy Family, 1932-1981
16			
ME	Sanford	Mar	St. Ignatius, 1892-1981
16			
ME	Skowhegan	Mar	Our Lady of Lourdes, 1881-1980
04			
ME	Springvale	Mar	Notre Dame, 1887-1981
23			
ME	St. Agathe	Mar	St. Agathe, 1889-1909
08			
ME	Waterville	Mar	Notre Dame, 1910-1980
17			
ME	Waterville	Bap	Recorded at St. Georges, Beauce PQ, July
20			15, 17, 18, 1841 (& some marr.)
ME	Waterville	Mar	Sacred Heart, 1905-1980
17			
ME	Waterville	Mar	St. Francis de Sales, 1865-1979
15			
ME	Welles	Vital	Vital records 1619-1950
41			
ME	Westbrook	Mar	St. Hyacinthe, 1877-1979
18			
ME	Westbrook	Mar	St. Mary, 1916-1979
18			
ME	Winthrop	Mar	St. Francis Xavier, 1910-1983
24			

2007 in Review

Ivan Robinson, #326

January — The library's new computers are all up and running, offering fast and reliable service for patrons. Plans go forward to get rid of four old ones by sale or donation. ■ Also, remote access capabilities are improved so some information, such as membership lists, can be conveniently updated by authorized persons from off site.

February — The board considers again presenting seminars for the public as a way of drawing new members. They were last offered two years ago but were discontinued because of low attendance. The feeling is that seminars twice a year, rather than monthly, might pick up more people each time.

A technical change seems needed in how life membership fees are figured. The bylaws call for a multiple of the annual individual fee. Even though the individual fee has risen from \$20 to \$25, the board wants to keep the lifetime fee at \$320, so the new multiplier would have to be 12.8. This change will go before the membership for approval at the spring meeting in May.

Webmaster Joe Terrien has updated the society's website with a new design suggested by Ivan Robinson.

Talk begins on what is needed in the next five-year lease on the society's space in Old County Courthouse, owned by the Tolland Historical Society.

Albert Marceau reports visitors to the library in 2006 numbered 983, down from 1,328 in 2005 and a high of 2,188 in 2002. Possibly to blame, the board believes, are the popularity of the Internet, a lessened interest in genealogy and higher gasoline prices.

March — Shirley Morin of Windham is appointed membership coordinator, succeeding Bernadette Meunier, who has moved to New Hampshire. ■ It is decided not to march in this year's Memorial Day parade in Tolland because not enough members want to take part. ■ The annual trip to Quebec is scheduled for July 29 to August 4, allowing those who go to enjoy some of the city's 400th anniversary events. ■ The Maple Leaflet's March issue notes the death Dec. 17 in Storrs of Charles Pelletier, president of the society in1997-1998. He was a retired civil engineer and University of Connecticut engineering professor and, in addition to serving as FCGSC president, had been a longtime Board of Directors member, volunteer librarian, research chairman and seminar presenter. ■ A bound index of the Connecticut Maple Leaf from 1983 to the anniversary issue in the summer of 2006 is now available for \$5.

April — President Raymond Lemaire suggests exploring the idea of contacting members by email with breaking news and other timely announcements. ■ Shirley Morin is appointed to the Board of Directors. ■ Vice President Robert Caron attended meetings in Hartford and Boston regarding Quebec's 400th anniversary plans. ■ Paul Keroack is busy updating the holdings catalog. ■ Library director Germaine Hoffman attends a Librarians Day conference sponsored by the New England Regional Genealogical Conference.

May — Bruce Clouette, a historian based in Storrs, is the guest speaker at the spring membership meeting. He tells how his team of archaeologists was able to trace the route of

Rochambeau's 5,000 troops through Connecticut in1781 on their way to help Washington defeat the British and on their return in 1782 to their ships at Newport, R.I.
The change in figuring the fee for life membership (see February listings) is approved at the meeting.
The society is again in the position of seeking a treasurer after Sam Wolkon resigns for health reasons. President Lemaire is filling in meanwhile.

June — Carol Stone resigns from the board because of other commitments.

July — A new five-year lease is signed with the Tolland Historical Society. ■ Wi-fi access for patrons' laptops is now available in the library.

August — Robert D. Lessard of Bolton is appointed treasurer. ■ Susan Paquette suggests that the society advertise on restaurant place mats. ■ Richard and Jean Fredette and Phillip Fontaine have joined Paul Keroack in cataloging the collection. ■ Reborn public seminars are scheduled.

September — Twenty-eight people attend the annual Volunteer Appreciation Day picnic at the home of Ralph and Maryanne LeGrow in Willington. The turnout is so good that it is decided to have future picnics in September rather than in July as before.

October — Jeanne "Morningstar" Kent of Winsted, guest speaker at the annual membership meeting, tells how to find Native American ancestors. Her talk includes slides, handouts and personal anecdotes about finding her own ancestors. A descendant of the Bear Clan people of the Odanak Reserve near Pierreville, Quebec, she has Abenaki, Nipissing, Montagnais and Algonquin blood in her.
Susan Paquette of Woodstock is elected president during the business session of the meeting. Robert Lessard of Bolton, appointed treasurer in August to fill a vacancy, is elected to that post. Others are reelected. They include Robert Caron of Ellington, vice president; Andrea Scannell of East Windsor, recording secretary; Jean Fredette of Springfield, Mass., corresponding secretary, and Germaine Hoffman of Broad Brook, library director. Four directors are also reelected: Glen Chenette of Griswold, Albert Marceau of Newington, Error!

Reference source not found. of Tolland and Marcel Roy of East Hartford.
Richard Bourque presents a seminar, "Events Leading up to the Ethnic Cleansing of Acadia."

November — Maryanne LeGrow presents a seminar, "Beginning French-Canadian Research."

■ Ivan Robinson gives a slide lecture on French-Canadian genealogy at the Cheshire Public Library. ■ The society's brochure, "Introducing Connecticut's Family Research Organization for French Canadians," is mailed to more than 50 other public libraries in Connecticut.

December — A new professionally made "Open" sign is ordered for outside the library. It will replace an old yellow, hand-lettered plywood sign that has been used for many years. ■ Ivan Robinson presents a seminar, "Genealogy on the Internet." ■ The board continues to discuss the idea of advertising on restaurant place mats. It is felt that there should be some kind of feedback, such as a return coupon, to see if the ads work.

Shirley Giguere Morin, #2075

Members who share similar research interests are listed below. Only those members who do not have an email address or who chose not to have it published are listed. For a comprehensive list of all the surnames, visit our website at http://www.fcgsc.org.

Alexandre

1840 Frances Swietlicki, 2 Copper Ridge Circle, Guilford, CT 06437

Alix

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

Allaire

1752 Joel Cohan, 7 Volpi Rd, Bolton, CT 06043

1636 Louis Fox, 10 Camden St., South Hadley, MA 01075-2319

Allard

1713 William Duffney, 184-1 National Ave., Waterbury, CT 06705

Archambault

1426 Estelle Gothberg, 90 Broad Street, Manchester, CT 06040-2930

Arpin

1980 Candace Bryan, 430 River Rd., Willington, CT 06279

Asseline

1980 Candace Bryan, 430 River Rd., Willington, CT 06279

Auger

920 Jeannette Auger, 96 Katherine Ave, Danielson, CT 06239-2713

Ballard

634 Lawrence Marion, 63 Burnt Hill Rd, Farmington, CT 06032-2039

Baril

2036 Michael Lavallee, 370 Lathrop Rd., Plainfield, CT 06374-2018

Baril/Barrie

1873 Corrine Wiggins, 9780 Simpson Canyon Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601-9364

Beauchemin

920 Jeannette Auger, 96 Katherine Ave, Danielson, CT 06239-2713

Beauchene

1574 Pauline Wilson, 73 Arcellia Drive, Manchester, CT 06042

Beauchesne

1898 Lynn & Allan Carbonneau, 26 Pattern Rd., Stafford, CT 06076

Beaulieu

2009 Jean Rioux, 25 Forest St., East Hartford, CT 06118

Beauregard

#2100 Everett & Dorothy Pothier, PO Box 328, Summerville, SC 29485

#869 Charlotte & Pamela Larue, 11 Edwards St - 1St, Southbridge, MA 01550-1805

1363 Pauline & Leo Andstrom, 151 Lovers Lane, Plainfield, CT 06374-1527

Beauvilliers

1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795

Belanger

2079 Jeanne Caron, 44 Kensington Rd., Coventry, CT 06238

1583 Angelina Shea, 100 Pine Street, Homosassa, FL 34446

Belhumeur

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Bellefleur

964 Dorothy Carreiro, 434 Hook Pl, Ithaca, NY 14850-3125

Benoit

1833 Theresa Shustock, 60 Miller Rd., Broad Brook, CT 06016

1984 Charles King, 133 Jenkins Rd., Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Berard

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Bergin

2003 William Olds, 4 Longview Dr., Bloomfield, CT 06002

Bernier

#762 Helen Bernier, 52 Robbie Rd, Tolland, CT 06084-2210

18 Rene Bernier, 8 Honeysuckle Lane, Niantic, CT 06357-1933

Biron

1891 Gilbert Wolf, 404 Addison Rd., Glastonbury, CT 06033

Blais

1898 Lynn & Allan Carbonneau, 26 Patten Rd., Stafford, CT 06076

Blanchette

#762 Helen Bernier, 52 Robbie Rd, Tolland, CT 06084-2210

Blouin

#771 Norman & Alice Jolie, 19 Yeomans Rd, Columbia, CT 06237-1534

Bombardier

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

920 Jeannette Auger, 96 Katherine Ave, Danielson, CT 06239-2713

Bordeau

319 Mildred Roberts, 71603 180th ST, Albert Lea, MN 56007-5461

Bordeaux

#319 Mildred Roberts, 71603 180th ST, Albert Lea, MN 56007-5461

Bouchard

1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795

2124 Claire Gates, 14 Ridge Circle, Storrs, CT 06268

Boucher

2079 Jeanne Caron, 44 Kensington Rd., Coventry, CT 06238

Boudreau

#825 Beverly Sherman, 3566 Plum Dale Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033-1237

Boule

1388 Helen Barnes, 114 S Spencer Road, Spencer, MA 01562

Bourgeault

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

Bourgeois

1862 Janice Livermore, PO Box 222652, Chantilly, VA 20153-2652

Bousauet

2036 Michael Lavallee, 370 Lathrop Rd., Plainfield, CT 06374-2018

Boutin

1891 Gilbert Wolf, 404 Addison Rd., Glastonbury, CT 06033

Bplduc

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

Braillard

1984 Charles King, 133 Jenkins Rd., Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Brazeau

1583 Angelina Shea, 100 Pine Street, Homosassa, FL 34446

Breault

1820 Germaine Goudreau, 629 Riverside Dr. PO Box 160, Grosvenordale, CT 06246

1814 Vivian A. Moore, C-269 Nayberry La, Storrs, CT 06268-2060

1114 Raymond Breault, 280 Main St, Sterling, CT 06377-1810

#350 Eleanor & Edgar Page, Po Box 85, South Woodstock, CT 06267-0085

Breton

1898 Lynn & Allan Carbonneau, 26 Pattern Rd., Stafford, CT 06076

Briere

1820 Germaine Goudreau, 629 Riverside Dr. PO Box 160, Grosvenordale, CT 06246

Brosseau

1921 Elaine Fazzino, 126 High St., Portland, CT 06450

Brousseau

1744 Clifford Lafleur, 331 Carpenter Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324

1814 Vivian A. Moore, C-269 Nayberry La, Storrs, CT 06268-2060

Caisse

2125 Pauline E. & Arthur J. Casey, 28 Eleanor St, Vernon, CT 06066

Camirand

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

Cantin

2100 Everett & Dorothy Pothier, PO Box 328, Summerville, SC 29485

Carbonneau

1898 Lynn & Allan Carbonneau, 26 Pattern Rd., Stafford, CT 06076

Cardinal

1314 Sheila Clark, 9 Farrell Road, Storrs, CT 06268-2216

1744 Clifford Lafleur, 331 Carpenter Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324

1814 Vivian A. Moore, C-269 Nayberry La, Storrs, CT 06268-2060

Caron

2079 Jeanne Caron, 44 Kensington Rd., Coventry, CT 06238

Carriere

1834 Joseph Carriere, 80 Meadow Lane, Manchester, CT 06040

Carter

931 Ann Marie & Herbert J McKee, 505 Scotland Rd, Norwich, CT 06360-9405

Cauvier

#370 Gilbert & Lucia Levere, 26 Ellsworth Rd., West Hartford, CT 06107-2707

Cava

1224 Leonard Caya & Terri Richard, 438 Kemp Road, Hampton, CT 06247-2010

Chabot

1711 Wendy Lemieux, 501 Dunn Rd., Coventry, CT 06238-1164

1936 Andre Chabot, 60 Chatham Dr., Manchester, CT 06040

Chaloux

295 Leonard Guay, 11419 Orleans Lane, Port Richey, FL 34668-1923

Champeau

#295 Leonard Guay, 11419 Orleans Lane, Port Richey, FL 34668-1923

Charpentier

1833 Theresa Shustock, 60 Miller Rd., Broad Brook, CT 06016

Choinier

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

Choiniere

1840 Frances Swietlicki, 2 Copper Ridge Circle, Guilford, CT 06437

1840 Frances Swietlicki, 2 Copper Ridge Circle, Guilford, CT 06437

Collette

#881 Kenneth Collette, 168 Fairlawn Ave, Waterbury, CT 06705-2120

Comean

1936 Andre Chabot, 60 Chatham Dr., Manchester, CT 06040

Concannon

1583 Angelina Shea, 100 Pine Street, Homosassa, FL 34446

Corbeil

2003 William Olds, 4 Longview Dr., Bloomfield, CT 06002

Cormier

1184 Frank Melanson, 4 Edgewood Ave, Milford, CT 06460

Corriveau

#2125 Pauline E. & Arthur J. Casey, 28Eleanor St, Vernon, CT 06066

#760 Marie Langan, 3813 West Rose Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85019-1729

Cote

2009 Jean Rioux, 25 Forest St., East Hartford, CT 06118

Couillard

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

Coulombe

987 Sylvia Cologne, 190 Laurel St, South Windsor, CT 06074-2347

Courchaine

#64 Donald Roy, 112 E Elm St, Torrington, CT 06790-5016

Cournover

#350 Eleanor & Edgar Page, Po Box 85, South Woodstock, CT 06267-0085

Courtemanche

1142 Claire Mc Auliffe, 25435 Avenida Cappela, Valencia, CA 91355-3222

Coutu

931 Ann Marie & Herbert J McKee, 505 Scotland Rd, Norwich, CT 06360-9405

Cowan

1985 Robert & Millicent Lussier, 1315 Warmwood Dr., Grand Island, FL 32735

Cummings

1800 Nancy Post, 227 Holloster, East Hartford, CT 06118

Cyr

- # 1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795
- # 1666 Phyllis Nedorostek, 5 River Rd., Unionville, CT 06085-1010
- # 53 Candide Sedlik, 196 Brace Rd, West Hartford, CT 06107-1813
- # 1522 Paul St-Cyr, 144 Pondview Drive, Chicopee, MA 01022

Daigle

#53 Candide Sedlik, 196 Brace Rd, West Hartford, CT 061071813

2031 Paul Marchand, 255 Highland View Dr., South Windham, CT 06266

1666 Phyllis Nedorostek, 5 River Rd., Unionville, CT 060851010

Daniels

1980 Candace Bryan, 430 River Rd., Willington, CT 06279

Daoust

1556 Honora Futtner, 1629 Main Street, South Windsor, CT 06074-1008

d'Avignon

1873 Corrine Wiggins, 9780 Simpson Canyon Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601-9364

DeLatour

634 Lawrence Marion, 63 Burnt Hill Rd, Farmington, CT 06032-2039

Deloge

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Delorme

999 Anne Marie St Jean, 62 Maynard St, Putnam, CT 06260-1116

Deschenes

379 Ann Taft, PO Box 893, Arlington, VT 05250

Deshaies

1522 Paul St-Cyr, 144 Pondview Drive, Chicopee, MA 01022

Deveresse

1800 Nancy Post, 227 Holloster, East Hartford, CT 06118

DeVost

1636 Louis Fox, 10 Camden St., South Hadley, MA 01075-2319

Doherty

1799 Pat Tripp, 109 Orchard St., Ellington, Ct 06029

Donais

18 Rene Bernier, 8 Honeysuckle Lane, Niantic, CT 06357-1933

Dore

1314 Sheila Clark, 9 Farrell Road, Storrs, CT 06268-2216

Dore/Dorais

576 Bernard Doray, 734 Pratt, Outremont PQH2V 2T6, Canada

Doucille

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 060352107

Doyon

1794 Edie Parizo, 536 South Main St., West Hartford, CT 06110

Dube

64 Donald Roy, 112 E Elm St, Torrington, CT 06790-5016

Dubois

1574 Pauline Wilson, 73 Arcellia Drive, Manchester, CT 06042

379 Ann Taft, PO Box 893, Arlington, VT 05250

#825 Beverly Sherman, 3566 Plum Dale Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033-1237

Ducharme

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

1583 Angelina Shea, 100 Pine Street, Homosassa, FL 34446

Duclos

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

1184 Frank Melanson, 4 Edgewood Ave, Milford, CT 06460

Duperry

2123 JacQueline Gagnon, 10 Abbott Ave, Terryville, CT 06786

Dupius

295 Leonard Guay, 11419 Orleans Lane, Port Richey, FL 34668-1923

Dupont

2121 Robert & Patricia Talbot, 32 Mountainview Avenue, Bristol, CT 06010

1075 Ernest & Barbara Laliberte, Po Box 85, South Windham, CT 06266-0085

Duquet/Duquette

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

Durand

#350 Eleanor & Edgar Page, Po Box 85, South Woodstock, CT 06267-0085

987 Sylvia Cologne, 190 Laurel St, South Windsor, CT 06074-2347

Ethier

1765 Carol O'Neill, 525 Gardner St., Manchester, CT 06040

Evens

#885 Jeanne Miller, 34 Main St PO Box 233, Versailles, CT 06383-0233

Falcon

2100 Everett & Dorothy Pothier, PO Box 328, Summerville, SC 29485

Fanvou

2041 Jane Gibeault, 19 Jennie Dr., Oakdale, CT 06370

Forand

2124 Claire Gates, 14 Ridge Circle, Storrs, CT 06268

Fortier

1075 Ernest & Barbara Laliberte, Po Box 85, South Windham, CT 06266-0085

Fournier

2032 Lawrence Lynch, 25 Stonehill Rd., North Chelmsford, MA 01663

#762 Helen Bernier, 52 Robbie Rd, Tolland, CT 06084-2210

1636 Louis Fox, 10 Camden St., South Hadley, MA 01075-2319

1711 Wendy Lemieux, 501 Dunn Rd., Coventry, CT 06238-1164

1616 Byron Benton, 77 Avery Heights, Hartford, CT 06106-4201

46 Elaine Mandro, 30 Cherry Ln, West Haven, CT 06516-5607

Frechette

#2121 Robert & Patricia Talbot, 32 Mountainview Avenue, Bristol, CT 06010

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

Freeman

1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795

Gagnon

2123 JacQueline Gagnon, 10 Abbott Ave, Terryville, CT 06786

2031 Paul Marchand, 255 Highland View Dr., South Windham, CT 06266

Gamache

#391 Pearl Kovarovics, PO Box 350, Willington, CT 06279

#1210 Chris Stark, 8621 51St Terrace East, Bradenton, FL 34211

Gannon

2032 Lawrence Lynch, 25 Stonehill Rd., North Chelmsford, MA 01663

Gareau

1873 Corrine Wiggins, 9780 Simpson Canyon Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601-9364

Garrett

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Gaudreau

1840 Frances Swietlicki, 2 Copper Ridge Circle, Guilford, CT 06437

Gauthier

#764 Lucille Langlois, Po Box 47, Quinebaug, CT 06262-0047

2122 Anna Higgins, 54 Silo Way, Bloomfield, CT 06002

964 Dorothy Carreiro, 434 Hook Pl, Ithaca, NY 14850-3125

Gauvin

1142 Claire Mc Auliffe, 25435 Avenida Cappela, Valencia, CA 91355-3222

Gendreau

1666 Phyllis Nedorostek, 5 River Rd., Unionville, CT 06085-1010

Gerard

1980 Candace Bryan, 430 River Rd., Willington, CT 06279

Gervais

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

Gingras

391 Pearl Kovarovics, PO Box 350, Willington, CT 06279

Girard

1873 Corrine Wiggins, 9780 Simpson Canyon Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601-9364

1833 Theresa Shustock, 60 Miller Rd., Broad Brook, CT 06016

Giroux

685 Estelle Sawtelle, 210 Green Manor Terrace, Windsor Locks, CT 06096-2714

1833 Theresa Shustock, 60 Miller Rd., Broad Brook, CT 06016

Godin

2010 Norman Godin, 641 Westminster Rd, Canterbury, CT 06331

Goodhue

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Govette

1840 Frances Swietlicki, 2 Copper Ridge Circle, Guilford, CT 06437

Grenier

1616 Byron Benton, 77 Avery Heights, Hartford, CT 06106-4201

2115 Gisele Bodozian, 70 Fennbrook Rd, West Hartford, CT 06119-0017

Grenon

1936 Andre Chabot, 60 Chatham Dr., Manchester, CT 06040

Grimard

1832 Priscilla Hart, 232 Old Post Rd., Tolland, CT 06084

Guay

295 Leonard Guay, 11419 Orleans Lane, Port Richey, FL 34668-1923

Guillemette

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

Guilmitt

885 Jeanne Miller, 34 Main St, PO Box 233, Versailles, CT 06383-0233

Guimond

1260 Hans & Annabelle Vanderleeden, 43 Florentine Gardens, Springfield, MA 01108-2507

1248 Louis Guimond, 2-547 Belden Ave. Norwalk, CT 06850, Norwalk, CT 06850

Hache

#370 Gilbert & Lucia Levere, 26 Ellsworth Rd., West Hartford, CT 06107-2707

Hackett

911 Maria Holmes, 488 Oak Ave Apt 48, Cheshire, CT 06410-3016

Hebert

1075 Ernest & Barbara Laliberte, Po Box 85, South Windham, CT 06266-0085

1765 Carol O'Neill, 525 Gardner St., Manchester, CT 06040

Henri

#764 Lucille Langlois, PO Box 47, Quinebaug, CT 06262-0047

Houde

1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795

1617 Armand Catelli, 18 Juniper Lane, Berlin, CT 06037

Houle

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Jandren

1752 Joel Cohan, 7 Volpi Rd, Bolton, CT 06043

Jodoin

2123 JacQueline Gagnon, 10 Abbott Ave, Terryville, CT 06786

Jolie

#771 Norman & Alice Jolie, 19 Yeomans Rd, Columbia, CT 06237-1534

Joly

#771 Norman & Alice Jolie, 19 Yeomans Rd, Columbia, CT 06237-1534

Josse

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

Jouanne

1616 Byron Benton, 77 Avery Heights, Hartford, CT 06106-4201

Kelly

1799 Pat Tripp, 109 Orchard St., Ellington, Ct 06029

King

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Klunz

1985 Robert & Millicent Lussier, 1315 Warmwood Dr., Grand Island, FL 32735

Labbee

1814 Vivian A. Moore, C-269 Nayberry La, Storrs, CT 06268-2060

LaBombardier

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Labonte

2097 Roger & Phylis Lapierre, 46 Lakeview Dr., Coventry, CT 06238

1481 Rita Roy, 61 Churchill Dr., Norwood, MA 02062-1644

Lacasse

1945 John Farrow, 14 Virginia D., Ellington, CT 06029

LaChance

1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795

#295 Leonard Guay, 11419 Orleans Lane, Port Richey, FL 34668-1923

Lacroix

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

64 Donald Roy, 112 E Elm St, Torrington, CT 06790-5016

Lafaille

576 Bernard Doray, 734 Pratt, Outremont PQH2V 2T6, Canada

706 Richard Larson, 10 Depot Rd. Unit 1030, Willington, CT 06279

Lafleur

1744 Clifford Lafleur, 331 Carpenter Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324

LaFond

1270 John & Patricia Laframboise, 74 Dexter Avenue, Meriden, CT 06450-6111

LaFramboise

1270 John & Patricia Laframboise, 74 Dexter Avenue, Meriden, CT 06450-6111

Lagace/Lagasse

1184 Frank Melanson, 4 Edgewood Ave, Milford, CT 06460

Lagasse

#881 Kenneth Collette, 168 Fairlawn Ave, Waterbury, CT 06705-2120

Lagrace

53 Candide Sedlik, 196 Brace Rd, West Hartford, CT 06107-1813

Laliberte

1075 Ernest & Barbara Laliberte, Po Box 85, South Windham, CT 06266-0085

Lallier

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

Lamarre

1388 Helen Barnes, 114 S Spencer Road, Spencer, MA 01562

Lambert

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 06035-2107

#2133 Joseph Lambert, 5300 E. Diamond Rd Unit #1, Prescott, AZ 86301

530 Doris Vaughan, 31-7 South Meadow VI-G, Carver, MA 02330-1821

2132 Lise Lambert, 13 Hanson Rd, Canterbury, CT 06331

Lamontagne

379 Ann Taft, PO Box 893, Arlington, VT 05250

Lampron

1270 John & Patricia Laframboise, 74 Dexter Avenue, Meriden, CT 0645-06111

Langan

760 Marie Langan, 3813 West Rose Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85019-1729

Langlois

#764 Lucille Langlois, Po Box 47, Quinebaug, CT 06262-0047

Lanoue

493 Marian Tietgens, 42 Lourdes Dr, Leominster, MA 01453-6710

Lapierre

2097 Roger & Phylis Lapierre, 46 Lakeview Dr., Coventry, CT 06238

LaPoint

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

LaPointe

435 Therese Grego, 7610 E 21St. Pl., Tulsa, OK 74129-2428

Laporte

2036 Michael Lavallee, 370 Lathrop Rd., Plainfield, CT 06374-2018

Larabee

2122 Anna Higgins, 54 Silo Way, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Larche

1556 Honora Futtner, 1629 Main Street, South Windsor, CT 06074-1008

L'Archeveque

1556 Honora Futtner, 1629 Main Street, South Windsor, CT 06074-1008

Lariviere

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Laroche

1961 Carol Stone, Sr., 30 Fern Dr., Storrs, CT 06268

LaRochelle

2041 Jane Gibeault, 19 Jennie Dr., Oakdale, CT 06370

Laroux

2124 Claire Gates, 14 Ridge Circle, Storrs, CT 06268

Lauler

2032 Lawrence Lynch, 25 Stonehill Rd., North Chelmsford, MA 01663

Lausier

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

Lavallee

2036 Michael Lavallee, 370 Lathrop Rd., Plainfield, CT 06374-2018

Lavallie

435 Therese Grego, 7610 E 21St. Pl., Tulsa, OK 74129-2428

Lebeau

2121 Robert & Patricia Talbot, 32 Mountainview Avenue, Bristol, CT 06010 LeBlanc

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

2028 Chris & Cheryl Klemmer, 14 Winhart Dr., Granby, CT 06035

#760 Marie Langan, 3813 West Rose Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85019-1729

Lebrun

#53 Candide Sedlik, 196 Brace Rd, West Hartford, CT 06107-1813

LeClair

#885 Jeanne Miller, 34 Main St., PO Box 233, Versailles, CT 06383-0233

Leclerc

1617 Armand Catelli, 18 Juniper Lane, Berlin, CT 06037

Lefebvre

391 Pearl Kovarovics, PO Box 350, Willington, CT 06279

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

LeGare

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

Leger

764 Lucille Langlois, Po Box 47, Quinebaug, CT 06262-0047

Legrain dit Lavallee

2123 JacQueline Gagnon, 10 Abbott Ave, Terryville, CT 06786

Lelievre

370 Gilbert & Lucia Levere, 26 Ellsworth Rd., West Hartford, CT 06107-2707

Lemay

987 Sylvia Cologne, 190 Laurel St, South Windsor, CT 06074-2347

#760 Marie Langan, 3813 West Rose Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85019-1729

Lemieux

1711 Wendy Lemieux, 501 Dunn Rd., Coventry, CT 06238-1164

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

LePire

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

LeRoux

1814 Vivian A. Moore, C-269 Nayberry La, Storrs, CT 06268-2060

Lord

576 Bernard Doray, 734 Pratt, Outremont PQH2V 2T6, Canada

Loubier

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

Lussier

1726 Edward Perron, 59 Sunnyside Ave., Putnam, CT 06260

1224 Leonard Caya & Terri Richard, 438 Kemp Road, Hampton, CT 06247-2010

Mandville

18 Rene Bernier, 8 Honeysuckle Lane, Niantic, CT 06357-1933

Marc-Aurele

#46 Elaine Mandro, 30 Cherry Ln, West Haven, CT 06516-5607

Marchand

2031 Paul Marchand, 255 Highland View Dr., South Windham, CT 06266

Marion

634 Lawrence Marion, 63 Burnt Hill Rd, Farmington, CT 06032-2039

Marquis

#53 Candide Sedlik, 196 Brace Rd, West Hartford, CT 06107-1813

Martel

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Martin

1765 Carol O'Neill, 525 Gardner St., Manchester, CT 06040

2048 Don Michaud, 1308 Bigelow Commons, Enfield, CT 06082

#825 Beverly Sherman, 3566 Plum Dale Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033-1237

Martineau

1726 Edward Perron, 59 Sunnyside Ave., Putnam, CT 06260

Masse

1961 Carol Stone, Sr., 30 Fern Dr., Storrs, CT 06268

Massicotte

1862 Janice Livermore, PO Box 222652, Chantilly, VA 20153-2652

#869 Charlotte & Pamela Larue, 11 Edwards St - 1St, Southbridge, MA 01550-1805

Masson

1617 Armand Catelli, 18 Juniper Lane, Berlin, CT 06037

McCov

1800 Nancy Post, 227 Holloster, East Hartford, CT 06118

McNeilly

1800 Nancy Post, 227 Holloster, East Hartford, CT 06118

Melanson

1184 Frank Melanson, 4 Edgewood Ave, Milford, CT 06460

Menard

1840 Frances Swietlicki, 2 Copper Ridge Circle, Guilford, CT 06437

2107 Eleanor Placzek, 89 Lealand Ave, Agawam, MA 01001

1873 Corrine Wiggins, 9780 Simpson Canyon Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601-9364

Meunier

1574 Pauline Wilson, 73 Arcellia Drive, Manchester, CT 06042

Meurs

1711 Wendy Lemieux, 501 Dunn Rd., Coventry, CT 06238-1164

Michaud

2048 Don Michaud, 1308 Bigelow Commons, Enfield, CT 06082

Milot

1637 Lillian Beauviliers, 641 Middlebury Rd., Watertown, CT 06795

Molleiur-Molleur

#319 Mildred Roberts, 71603 180th ST, Albert Lea, MN 56007-5461

Monty

911 Maria Holmes, 488 Oak Ave Apt 48, Cheshire, CT 06410-3016

Moquin

#319 Mildred Roberts, 71603 180th ST, Albert Lea, MN 56007-5461

Morand

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 06035-2107

Moreau

#825 Beverly Sherman, 3566 Plum Dale Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033-1237

Morin

1873 Corrine Wiggins, 9780 Simpson Canyon Rd, Klamath Falls, OR 97601-9364

1832 Priscilla Hart, 232 Old Post Rd., Tolland, CT 06084

Nadeau

1794 Edie Parizo, 536 South Main St., West Hartford, CT 06110

#49 Florence "Pat" Davis, 64 Neptune Dr, Old Saybrook, CT 06475-2934

Neron

1556 Honora Futtner, 1629 Main Street, South Windsor, CT 06074-1008

Neveu

2100 Everett & Dorothy Pothier, PO Box 328, Summerville, SC 29485

Nichollet

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

Nosek

#762 Helen Bernier, 52 Robbie Rd, Tolland, CT 06084-2210

Oliver/Olivier

1862 Janice Livermore, PO Box 222652, Chantilly, VA 20153-2652

Quimet

493 Marian Tietgens, 42 Lourdes Dr, Leominster, MA 01453-6710

Pagé

#350 Eleanor & Edgar Page, Po Box 85, South Woodstock, CT 06267-0085

Paquette

#2125 Pauline E. & Arthur J. Casey, 28 Eleanor St, Vernon, CT 06066

Paquin

1820 Germaine Goudreau, 629 Riverside Dr. PO Box 160, Grosvenordale, CT 06246

Patenaude

46 Elaine Mandro, 30 Cherry Ln, West Haven, CT 06516-5607

1980 Candace Bryan, 430 River Rd., Willington, CT 06279

Paulhus

18 Rene Bernier, 8 Honeysuckle Lane, Niantic, CT 06357-1933

Doorl

1800 Nancy Post, 227 Holloster, East Hartford, CT 06118

Pelland

2041 Jane Gibeault, 19 Jennie Dr., Oakdale, CT 06370

Peloquin

999 Anne Marie St Jean, 62 Maynard St, Putnam, CT 06260-1116

Pelowuin

18 Rene Bernier, 8 Honeysuckle Lane, Niantic, CT 06357-1933

Pepin

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 06035-2107

Perreault

#1936 Andre Chabot, 60 Chatham Dr., Manchester, CT 06040

Perron

1898 Lynn & Allan Carbonneau, 26 Patten Rd., Stafford, CT 06076

1726 Edward Perron, 59 Sunnyside Ave., Putnam, CT 06260

Petit

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Piette

435 Therese Grego, 7610 E 21St. Pl., Tulsa, OK 74129-2428

Pinard

1617 Armand Catelli, 18 Juniper Lane, Berlin, CT 06037

Plasse

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

Poirier

379 Ann Taft, PO Box 893, Arlington, VT 05250

Polin

#2115 Gisele Bodozian, 70 Fennbrook Rd, West Hartford, CT 06119-0017

Poliquin

1420 Jeanne & Thomas Devoe, 62 Edgemont Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06110-1121

Popeilarczyk

762 Helen Bernier, 52 Robbie Rd, Tolland, CT 06084-2210

Porion

1363 Pauline & Leo Andstrom, 151 Lovers Lane, Plainfield, CT 06374-1527

Post

1800 Nancy Post, 227 Holloster, East Hartford, CT 06118

Pothier

#2100 Everett & Dorothy Pothier, PO Box 328, Summerville, SC 29485

Potuin

729 Romeo Potvin, 15 Clearview Terrace, Manchester, CT 06040-1918

Potvin

1752 Joel Cohan, 7 Volpi Rd, Bolton, CT 06043

Pretaboire

706 Richard Larson, 10 Depot Rd. Unit 1030, Willington, CT 06279

Proulx

1583 Angelina Shea, 100 Pine Street, Homosassa, FL 34446

Racine

1312 G. Clark Parkhurst Jr, 165 Union City Rd., Prospect, CT 06712

2097 Roger & Phylis Lapierre, 46 Lakeview Dr., Coventry, CT 06238

Rasberry

685 Estelle Sawtelle, 210 Green Manor Terrace, Windsor Locks, CT 06096-2714

Ravenelle

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Richard

1420 Jeanne & Thomas Devoe, 62 Edgemont Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06110-1121

#825 Beverly Sherman, 3566 Plum Dale Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033-1237

Rioux

#370 Gilbert & Lucia Levere, 26 Ellsworth Rd., West Hartford, CT 06107-2707

2009 Jean Rioux, 25 Forest St., East Hartford, CT 06118

Robert

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 06035-2107

Roberts

#319 Mildred Roberts, 71603 180th ST, Albert Lea, MN 56007-5461

2097 Roger & Phylis Lapierre, 46 Lakeview Dr., Coventry, CT 06238

2028 Chris & Cheryl Klemmer, 14 Winhart Dr., Granby, CT 06035

Robillard

1820 Germaine Goudreau, 629 Riverside Dr. PO Box 160, Grosvenordale, CT 06246

Rocheleau

1980 Candace Bryan, 430 River Rd., Willington, CT 06279

Root

1312 G. Clark Parkhurst Jr, 165 Union City Rd., Prospect, CT 06712

Rossignol

1626 Shirleen Moynihan, 37 King Road, West Hartford, CT 06107-3311

Rouillard

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 06035-2107

Roux

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

Rov

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

1522 Paul St-Cyr, 144 Pondview Drive, Chicopee, MA 01022

1626 Shirleen Moynihan, 37 King Road, West Hartford, CT 06107-3311

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

64 Donald Roy, 112 E Elm St, Torrington, CT 06790-5016

1481 Rita Roy, 61 Churchill Dr., Norwood, MA 02062-1644

1984 Charles King, 133 Jenkins Rd., Burnt Hills, NY 12027

485 Delcy Voisine, 150 Silver Fox Lane, Torrington, CT 06790

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

Russell

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

Sabourin

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

oinle 2

1224 Leonard Caya & Terri Richard, 438 Kemp Road, Hampton, CT 06247-2010

Samson

2124 Claire Gates, 14 Ridge Circle, Storrs, CT 06268

Sanasac

1426 Estelle Gothberg, 90 Broad Street, Manchester, CT 06040-2930

Savard

1388 Helen Barnes, 114 S Spencer Road, Spencer, MA 01562

Serre

#391 Pearl Kovarovics, PO Box 350, Willington, CT 06279

Slamons

996 Michele LeBlanc, 227 Tracy Ave, Waterbury, CT 06706-2521

Smith

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 060107328

Snay

965 Richard Snay, 1463 Riverside Dr, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255-0112

St. Cvr

1522 Paul St-Cyr, 144 Pondview Drive, Chicopee, MA 01022

St. Godard

999 Anne Marie St Jean, 62 Maynard St, Putnam, CT 06260-1116

St. Jean

999 Anne Marie St Jean, 62 Maynard St, Putnam, CT 06260-1116

St. Martin

1937 Cora Sciarra, 46 Robbie Rd., Tolland, CT 06084

2041 Jane Gibeault, 19 Jennie Dr., Oakdale, CT 06370

St. Onge

1820 Germaine Goudreau, 629 Riverside Dr. PO Box 160, Grosvenordale, CT 06246

St. Pierre

1388 Helen Barnes, 114 S Spencer Road, Spencer, MA 01562

St.Amand

1666 Phyllis Nedorostek, 5 River Rd., Unionville, CT 06085-1010

St.Laurent

808 Joan King, 14 Crest Rd, Granby, CT 06035-2107

Stebbins

1142 Claire Mc Auliffe, 25435 Avenida Cappela, Valencia, CA 91355-3222

Suprenant

1952 Christopher Child, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Svlvestri

2032 Lawrence Lynch, 25 Stonehill Rd., North Chelmsford, MA 01663

TaLbot

444 Edna Franz, 41 Garwood Rd., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-4511

Tardiff

1142 Claire Mc Auliffe, 25435 Avenida Cappela, Valencia, CA 91355-3222

Tetreau

46 Elaine Mandro, 30 Cherry Ln, West Haven, CT 06516-5607

Theriault/Terriot

49 Florence "Pat" Davis, 64 Neptune Dr, Old Saybrook, CT 06475-2934

Throwe

247 Deborah Pirie, 156 Gager Rd, Bozrah, CT 06334-1316

Thuat

#760 Marie Langan, 3813 West Rose Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85019-1729

Tiffault

#860 Joseph & Patricia Camilleri, 5 Ridge Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-3514

Tremblay

247 Deborah Pirie, 156 Gager Rd, Bozrah, CT 06334-1316

Trudeau

2123 JacQueline Gagnon, 10 Abbott Ave, Terryville, CT 06786

Turcotte

999 Anne Marie St Jean, 62 Maynard St, Putnam, CT 06260-1116

Valley

1812 Gary Potter, 370 Lake Ave., Bristol, CT 06010-7328

Valois

435 Therese Grego, 7610 E 21St. Pl., Tulsa, OK 74129-2428

Veillette

#1713 William Duffney, 184-1 National Ave., Waterbury, CT 06705

Vincelette

1075 Ernest & Barbara Laliberte, Po Box 85, South Windham, CT 06266-0085

Voisine

485 Delcy Voisine, 150 Silver Fox Lane, Torrington, CT 06790

Volin

1834 Joseph Carriere, 80 Meadow Lane, Manchester, CT 06040

Wolf

1891 Gilbert Wolf, 404 Addison Rd., Glastonbury, CT 06033

Worth

1224 Leonard Caya & Terri Richard, 438 Kemp Road, Hampton, CT 06247-2010

Celebrate a Special Occasion with a Gift to the Library

The French-Canadian Genealogical Society Gift Program offers a way for you to honor someone special. Money donated through this program is used to purchase books for the library's collection. All books will have nameplates with the names of the donor and the person being honored.

After receiving your donation, the library staff will select books to enhance the library's collection. Each donor will be notified of the book that has been selected, and the honoree will be notified as well. Your donation will be a gift everyone can share.

Financial Contributions to the Society

We appreciate and rely upon your ongoing financial support. Please consider making a charitable donation to the benefit of the French Canadian Genealogical Society of Connecticut.

All contributions to the society are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law, and may be eligible for your company's matching gift program.

Financial Contributions to the Society

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007 Robert Lessard, #1754

TOTAL – This Report	\$ 621.00
TOTAL - 1 Sept 06 - 31 Aug 07	\$ 1692.00
TOTAL - 1 Sept 05 - 31 Aug 06	\$ 1645.00
TOTAL - 1 Sept 04 - 31 Aug 05	\$ 1056.00

Contributors to the Society's Building Fund

1 July 2007 – 31 December 2007

Anonymous

Robert Auclair, #1678

Joseph Biron Sr., #60

Sylvia Bockstein, #1162

Burton & Lorraine Booker, #1033

David Brunelle, #526

Joseph Charpentier, #1817

Patricia Dion, #1763

Elaine Fazzino, #1921

William Gagnon, #1573

Denise Gorka, #670

Therese Grego, #435

Leonard Guay, #295

Noella Gaumond Johnson, #1797

Paul Keroack, #157

Edward & Judy Ladouceur, #1704

Paul Lajoie, #1402

Edward Lamirande, #446

Frank Melanson, #1184

Jeanne Miller, #885

Edie Parizo, #1794

Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Perusse

Gary Potter, #1812

Allen Spooner, #1516

Barbara Starr, #1334

Frances Swietlicki, #1840

Pat Tripp, #1799

The Society Acknowledges Donations to the Library

Jean Fredette, #1537

For the Period June 2007 – October 2007

June 8, 2007

Susan Paquette, #369

City Directory - 1975 Middletown (CT)

City Directories - 1989 Guilford, Madison, Clinton (CT)

Collection of Burials at Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge, MA

(I & II)

Albert Marceau, #766

Equal Exchange and the Benefits of Fair Trade

June 9, 2007

Cecile Belisle Champagne

Les Canadiens Français 1600-1900, vol. 1

(in memory of parents Alfred Napoleon Belisle & Blance Poissant Belisle)

June 11, 2007

Leo & Blanche Roy, #1609

Monetary gift in memory of Charles Pelletier

June 25, 2007

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Cote, #1642

CDs from Quintin Publications

CD of Dictionnaire National des Canadiens Français, 1608-1760

Mariages et Necrologe St. Gervais, 1780-1973

Miller's Manual

CD of Family Information - Primary Surnames

Cote & Fredette (Fradet, Fredet)

Clyde M. Rabideau Obituaries 2006, 2 vols.,

Obituaries in Franklin Co., NY

July 13, 2007

Christine Carpenter, #1148

The Family of George Gagnon & Rosanna Roy

Elaine Sirmans - monetary gift

August 7, 2007

William Nolin

Burials, Auclair Funeral Home, Fall River, MA 1944-1992

The Society Acknowledges Donations to the Library

August 7, 2007

William Nolin (cont.)

Souvenir ribbons collected from Conventions in the U.S. and Canada from 1925-1933

Doris Bernier Monograph – Nos Agronomes dans le Bas-Saint Laurent, by Gilles Saint-Louis, Impression LP Inc., Rimouski 1996

Repertoires-Baptisms & burials, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Attleboro, MA 1905-1986

Marriages, Blessed Sacrament Church, Fall River, MA 1892-1995

Marriages, St. Jean-Baptiste Catholic Church, Fall River, MA 1901-1996

Repertoire des Mariages, District of Rimouski, 1701-1992, tome 1: A-K, tome 2: L-Z, classement

Par les homes & les femmes

Repertoire des marriages, Comte de L'islet, 1679-1991

Journal L'Estuaire Genealogique, numero 76, Hiver 2000; Societe de Genealogique et d'Archives de Rimouski

Brochure and lists of publications from Societe de et d'Archives de Rimouski

October 4, 2007

Christine Carpenter, #1148

Records of Fort St. Frederic, 1732-1759

Norman Lussier

Lussier-Lucier-Lucia Family Genealogy

Descendents of Jacques Lussier

Susan Paquette, #369

City Directory - New London, CT, 1947

October 14, 2007

Irene Graveline Schott, #1358

Boudreau dit Graveline

Misc. Periodicals and CMLs

Paul Keroack, # 157 4 packages #2 pencils

Susan Paquette, #369

Images of America, Killingly Revisited

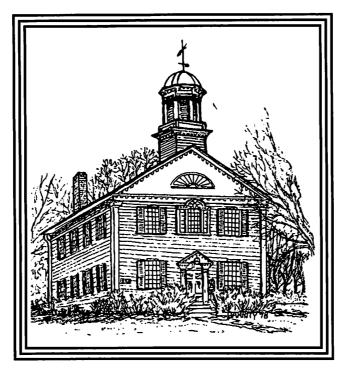
French-Canadian Genealogical Society of Connecticut P.O. Box 928 Tolland, CT 06084-0928

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 46 TOLLAND, CT 06084

Change Service Requested

American Canadian Genealogical Soc. P O Box 6478 - 4 Elm St Manchester, NH 03108-6478 USA



The Old County Courthouse
Our Home at 53 Tolland Green (Route 195)