

## PREFACE

This is a short story beginning with our first ancestors in Canada, Jacques Perrot dit Vildaigre and Michelle Le Flot, and what we know of their lives and times and of their descendants and their lives and times in New France, Quebec Province under the British Regime, in the United States of America and, for some, later in Alberta, Canada.

Some of what has been written in this story is based upon known fact, some is speculation on the part of the writer, and some has been taken from historical books and writings by others. The purpose is to make each of our ancestors seem more real as opposed to a cold listing of names and dates on a few pages. This can be done by describing their lives against the backdrop of historical occurrences which took place during their lives and which probably influenced the way in which they conducted their lives.

The writer is obligated to acknowledge with much gratitude the essential contributions of Mr. Robert Perreault of Danville, Quebec, whose information about our ancestors and their families and marriages has made this all possible. We are also indebted to him for the substantial amount of additional information he has supplied by way of letters and copies of historical information.

Still there is much we do not know. Perhaps with time and diligence, other information will come to light that will further enhance the story.

My thanks also go to my many cousins in both the United States and Canada for their help with the details of our more immediate family, and to them and to their families this booklet is dedicated.

Also, my special thoughts go out over the miles to our many unknown relatives in the United States and Canada and even to those in France. Whether we realize it or not, our lives will always be entwined, not by our knowledge of each other, but as a result of our common ancestry and heritage.

Duane Philip Perrault  
1987



## Perreault - Perrot

Premier ancêtre: Jacques

**L'**ancêtre Jacques Perrot portait le surnom de Vildaigre. Il était originaire de Mons en Saintonge. Fils de Jean Perrot dit Vildaigre et de Mathurine Bigot, Jacques épousa, à Québec, en la chapelle du collège de la Compagnie de Jésus, le 31 août 1654, Michelle, fille d'Antoine Le Flot et de Marguerite, sa mère, arrivée à Québec, le 14 juillet 1654, à bord du navire La Fortune. Étaient présents au mariage, le gouverneur du pays, Jean de Lauzon, le sieur Couillard et autres. Dix enfants naquirent de cette union; trois fils fondèrent un foyer.

Charles de Lauzon Charny concédait à Jacques Perrot, le 2 avril 1656, dans l'île d'Orléans, seigneurie de Lirec, une terre de trois arpents de largeur située entre Robert Gagnon et René Mézeré-dit-Nopse (nos cadastres actuels 61 et 62). Au recensement de 1681 (Sulte V), Jacques Perrot déclare avoir vingt-cinq arpents en valeur et ses voisins sont Gagnon et Guillaume Baucher dit Morency.

Jacques Perrot et Michelle Le Flot, sa femme, vendaient à Joseph Perrot, leur fils aîné, le 15 septembre 1693, une terre dans la seigneurie de Lirec, île d'Orléans, de quatre arpents de front avec maison, grange, étable et cinquante arpents de terre déserte entre les mêmes voisins énoncés précédemment.

Joseph devint seigneur de Saint-François d'Argentenay, I.O., puis vint s'établir à Laprairie de la Madeleine.

L'ancêtre Jacques Perrot eut sa sépulture à Québec, le 17 janvier 1703, et son épouse, le 24 octobre 1710, à Montréal. Ils laissèrent une postérité digne des vulgaires colons pionniers

Translation of the foregoing:

Perreault - Perrot

First ancestor - Jacques

The ancestor Jacques Perrot took the nickname of Vildaigre. He had come originally from Mons in Saintonge. He was the son of Jean Perrot dit Vildaigre and Mathurine Bigot. Jacques married at Quebec in the chapel of the College of the Company of Jesus on August 31, 1654 to Michelle, daughter of Antoine Le Flot and Marguerite. Her mother arrived at Quebec on July 14, 1654, on board the ship La Fortune. Present at the marriage were the governor of New France, Jean de Lauzon, the sieur Couillard and others. Ten children were born of this union; three sons founded new families.

Charles de Lauzon Charny granted to Jacques Perrot, on April 2, 1656, on the Ile d'Orleans, seigneurie de Lirec, a property of three arpents in width situated between Robert Gagnon and René Mézeré dit Nopse (land registry No's. 61 and 62). At the census of 1681, Jacques Perrot declared property of 25 arpents value and his neighbors were Gagnon and Guillaume Baucher dit Morency.

Jacques Perrot and Michelle Le Flot, his wife, sold to Joseph Perrot, their eldest son, on September 15, 1693, a property, in the seigneurie de Lirec, Ile d'Orleans, of 4 arpents of frontage with house, barn, cattle shed and 50 arpents of wild land between the same neighbors mentioned previously.

Joseph became seigneur de Saint-François d'Argentenay, Ile d'Orleans after first establishing himself at Laprairie de la Madeleine.

The ancestor Jacques Perrot went to his grave at Quebec on January 17, 1703 and his wife on October 24, 1710 at Montreal. He left a posterity worthy of the valiant pioneers.

*Antoine*, b 2 déc. 1661, au Château-Richer<sup>1</sup>; m 15 janv. 1691, à Jeanne TREMBLÉ, à l'Ange-Gardien.<sup>2</sup> — *François*, b 22 fév. et s 4 avril 1666. — *Marie*, b 1667; m 27 nov. 1691, à Louis TREMBLÉ. — *Madeleine*, b 7 avril 1670; m 17 oct. 1689, à Charles GAUDIN. — *Jean*, b 24 août 1672; m 10 nov. 1698, à Anne GAUDIN. — *Anne*, b 22 mars 1676; m 4 oct. 1697, à Joseph GRATON.

**1691**, (15 janvier) l'Ange-Gardien.<sup>1</sup>

II. — PERRON, ANTOINE, [FRANÇOIS I. TREMBLÉ, JEANNE, [PIERRE I. *Françoise*, b 6 nov. 1691. — *Hélène*, b 8 fév. 1694. — *Marie-Ursule*, b 2 fév. 1696. — *Antoine*, b 10 oct. 1700. — *Pierre*, b 10 août 1706. — *François*, b 1<sup>er</sup> sept. 1704.

**1698**, (10 novembre) l'Ange-Gardien.<sup>1</sup>

II. — PERRON DIT LESUINE, JEAN, [FRANÇOIS I. <sup>1</sup> GAUDIN, ANNE, [CHARLES I. s 19 nov. 1705. *Jean-Baptiste*, b 10 avril 1700. — *Paschal*, b 15 avril 1702. — *Gaspard*, b 28 fév. 1704. — *Cécile*, b 17 mai 1705.

**1706**, (25 janvier) l'Ange-Gardien.

2<sup>e</sup> TOUCHET, SUZANNE, [SIMON II. *François*, b 13 avril 1708. — *Nicolas*, b 1<sup>er</sup> juin 1709. — *Pierre*, b 25 avril 1711; m 26 juillet 1739, à Marie-Françoise DUBOURNEL, au Détroit. — *François*, b 16 juillet 1713. — *Louise*, b 24 avril 1716. — *Louis*, b 3 avril 1718.

I. — PERONNE, sœur DESTOUCHES, de Paris, enseigno de Champlain, était à Québec en 1617. — *Sagard*, p. 562.

I. — PERONNE sœur DE MAZÉ, (1) Louis, conseiller.

I. — PERONNE, MICHEL, b...; s 30 août 1661, à Québec.

PERONNELLE, (DE LA) FRANÇOIS. — *Voy. EUBRY*, au second volume.

I. — PERRAULT, JULIEN.

PELTIER, MARIE, [GUILLAUME I. *Marguerite*, b 23 sept. 1648, à Québec. — *Marie-Madeleine*, b 1650; s 8 juillet 1724, aux Trois-Rivières.

I. — PERREAU, GUILLAUME, marin, de La Rochelle.

PEROT, JEAN.

s 24 juillet 1655, à Montréal.

PERROT, ANNE, femme de Pierre BLAIS, en 1669.

( 1654, (31 août) Québec. )

I. — PERROT DIT VILDAIGRE, JACQUES, b 1629, fils de Jean et de Mathurine Bigot; s 17 janv. 1703.

(1) Capitaine de la garnison du fort de Québec et conseiller en 1664. — *Registres du Conseil*.

Le FLOR, Michello, b 1642; fille d'Antoine et de Marguerite Lamère.

*Marie*, b 22 janv 1656; m 17 sept. 1669, à François DE JARRET, à Ste. Famille. — *Anne*, b 1661; m 23 nov. 1676, à Gabriel TIMIERCE. — *Joseph*, b 1663; m à Marie GAGNÉ. — *Catherine*, b 27 janv. 1666, au Château-Richer; m 16 août 1694, à Etienne JANEAU. — *Jacques*, b 24 juin 1668; m 11 oct. 1690, à Anne GAGNÉ, à Montréal. — *Marie*, b 7 et s 9 déc. 1670. — *Pierre*, b 23 juin 1672; 1<sup>er</sup> m 23 nov. 1699, à Anne JOURDAIN; 2<sup>e</sup> m 31 mai 1704, à Madeleine WILLIS; s 10 oct. 1740. — *Marie*, b 28 sept. 1674. — *Marguerite*, b 6 et s 11 août 1676. — *Marguerite*, b 24 juin 1679.

**1670**, (4 novembre) Montréal.<sup>1</sup>

I. — PERROT DIT LAGORCE, PAUL, menuisier, b 1645, fils de Simon et de Marguerite Cerisier, de St. Surin de Morlagne, évêché de Xaintes.

CHRÉTIEN, Marie, b 1635, fille d'Anselme et d'Anne Bernard, de St. Sulpice de Paris.

*Marie*, b...; m 15 mai 1688, à Jean COUZIN, à Repentigny. — *Marie*, b 14 janv. 1673, à Boucherville. — 1<sup>er</sup> m à François DRAUNEGARD; 2<sup>e</sup> m 11 sept. 1696, à François DESNOYERS; s 24 avril 1703. — *Pierre-Paul*, b 30 oct. 1674, à la Pointe-aux-Trembles de Montréal<sup>2</sup>; m 6 nov. 1702, à Marie MONTAUBAUT, à Ste. Famille. — *Paul*, b 28 oct. 1676; m à Madeleine L'ÉVEILLÉ. — *François*, b 7 fév. 1678. — *Anne*, b 4 fév. 1680. — *Marie-Anne*, b 8 juillet 1682. — *Irénée*, b 17 mars 1684. — *Jean*, b 1687; s 21 janv. 1709, au Cap Santé. — *Louis*, b 18 et s 24 janv. 1788. — *Jacques*, b 20 mars 1690. — *Marie-Josette*, b 11 avril 1693.

**1670.**

I. — PERROT, (1) FRANÇOIS-MARIE. LA GUIDE, Madeleine.

*Marie-Madeleine*, b 4 sept. 1672, à Québec. — *François-Marie*, b 29 mai 1674, à Montréal. — *Jacques-Henry*, b 5 mars 1677. — *Madeleine-Angélique*, (2) b 8 août 1679. — *Geneviève*, b 1<sup>er</sup> sept. 1682. — *François*, b 1<sup>er</sup> mai 1684.

I. — PERROT, NICOLAS, capitaine de la côte de Bécancour.

RACLOT, Marie-Madeleine.

*François*, b 1672; s 8 août 1745, aux Trois-Rivières. — *Nicolas*, b 1674. — *Clémence*, b 1678. — *Michel*, b 1677; m 17 oct. 1712, à Jeanne BAUDRY. — *Marie*, b 1679. — *Marie-Anne*, b 25 juillet 1681. — *Claude*, b...; m 9 juillet 1714, à Marie GOULET, à Repentigny. — *Jean-Baptiste*, b 1688; s 29 oct. 1705. — *Jean*, b 15 août 1690; m 18 août 1714, à Marie QUINTIN.

(1) Seigneur de Ste. Geneviève, Gouverneur de Montréal. Il a donné son nom à l'île Perrot, près de Montréal.

(2) Filleule de De Frontenac.

## CHAPTER I

### The Origin of the Name Perrot, Perrault, Perreault

The surnames Perrot, Perreault, Perrault, pronounced Pèrō, we believe originated as descendants of Pierre (Rock). Our original surname was Perrot, from Pierrot where in certain French dialects the "ie" changed to "e".

Surnames in France began during the years 1100 - 1200, but in some regions, such as Normandy, they began around 900 A. D. Prior to the use of surnames, reference would be made to Jacques, son of Pierre, or Jacques, Pierre fils.

These surnames then evolved such as:

One Pierre lived at the top of a hill, he was called Pierre-haut which became Pierrehaut to Perrhaut to Perraut.

Another Pierre lived at the bottom of the same hill, he was called Pierre-bas which became Pierrebas or Perrebas.

Also two Pierres, one was tall, he was called Pierre or Perre. The other was small, he was called Pierreot or Pierrot or Pierret. Pierreot and Pierrot became Perrot and Pierret became Perret.

Another Pierre lived by the water and he became Pierre-eau to Pierreau to finally Perreau.

When our ancestor Jacques Perrot came to New France, he was known by the surname Perrot. But as time passed and new generations came along who did not write and the surnames were written only by the priests, notaries or census takers, the Perrot surname eventually was changed to Perrault or Perreault.

Over the years our surname has gone from Perrot to Perreault to the present Perrault.

"Eau" and "au" in French are pronounced as "ō". The "lt" at the end of the name is silent, so that in any way that the name is spelled, it is still pronounced the same, "Pèrō".

The most common alternate spelling of the name Perrot even in the days of our ancestor, was Perreault followed by Perrault.

Other surnames were, and still are, Pérau, Pérault, Péreau, Pérot, Perraut, Perreau, Carcy, Chateauguay, Deryzy, Desrochers, Joyel, Lagorce, Poitevin, Quercy, Saint Pierre, Turbal, and

Vildaigre. Deryzy, Desrochers and Vildaigre originated in our immediate family.

Some years ago, a group of French businessmen visited the Marplex plant in Rhineland. Some were from Canada and some were from the city of Nantes in France. One from Nantes told me that our name was a Norman name and that at one time in France there was a famous Duke de Perrault. Also, my friend, Adrian Plamondon, of the Swedan plant in Quebec, visited France twice and while there and traveling around, he would look for our names in the telephone directories. He found two Perreaults in Bordeaux but all the rest he found were in Normandy. I wonder if the old name Perrot is still in use. I did notice a photograph in a National Geographic article about Brittany Province in France which showed a picture of one Andrée Perrot.

## CHAPTER II

### New France - The Beginning 1650 - 1710

Our first ancestor who came to Canada from France was Jacques Perrot dit Vildaigre. Jacques was born in 1629, the son of Jean Perrot dit Vildaigre and of Mathurine Bigot. Jacques came from the town of Mons, which is located in the Department of Charente-Maritime in the Province of Saintonge in France. Jacques took the nickname of Vildaigre, the same as his father.

The taking of nicknames was fairly common in France during this period of history by those who were noble, minor nobility, seigneurs and, in the case of "dit" names, particularly by those in the military. The word "dit" is best translated as meaning "called". Apparently about 10% of families in France had "dit" names. In the case of soldiers, this was a "nom de guerre", a name they took when they enlisted. In Canada the use of "de" in the family name, once a sign of noble rank, no longer had that meaning. The seigneur who was not a noble added the name of his seigneurie to his regular family name using a "de" (of, from) before the added seigneurie land name. The soldier or other individual who was known by a nickname, preceded by "dit" (called) often changed the "dit" to a "de". Also in those days, the common form of address for a man was "sieur", the equivalent of today's "monsieur". It was used to address a person who was a landowner but not a "seigneur". A seigneur was addressed as "Monseigneur", meaning "my lord". Thus Jacques would have been referred to as Jacques Perrot, sieur de Vildaigre.

The nickname Vildaigre probably meant Ville D'Aigre or town of Aigre. There is a town of Aigre in the Department of Charente, located about thirty miles northeast of Mons. Jacques' nickname was referred to in the old Canadian census records as Villedaigre or as Villedaigne.

Jacques was apparently a soldier when he came to New France. At that time the Company of New France was the feudal lord of Canada and his employment as a soldier was probably contracted for by them. To be a soldier at this period in Canada was an honor. Jacques very possibly was an officer of some sort, judging by some of his early and later acquaintances and contemporaries.

Jacques left France and came to New France sometime between 1650 and 1654 and most probably he served with the garrison in the fort and Chateau St. Louis on the cliff at Quebec.

In the seventeenth century, most of the ships bound for New France sailed from the Port of La Rochelle, seventy-five miles

northwest of Jacques' hometown of Mons, and we can assume that the ship Jacques sailed in was no exception. The trip to New France frequently took three months or more and to survive such a trip was a feat in itself. Many of the ships were full of disease and infection, and the food was bad and consisted basically of salted meat, wormy hardtack and putrid water. Many of those who set out from France did not survive the voyage to New France and died enroute.

At present we do not know when and how Jacques met his future wife. Perhaps she had come to New France with her father at an earlier date than her mother. Maybe her father was a soldier or held office in the government or was a merchant. We know that her mother arrived at Quebec on July 14, 1654 on board the ship La Fortune. In any case, Jacques Perrot was married in Quebec, in the Chapel of the College of the Company of Jesus (Jesuits) on August 31, 1654, to Michelle Le Flot. Michelle was born in 1639, the daughter of Antoine Le Flot and Marguerite Lamère. Michelle was about fifteen years of age at the time of the wedding. Present at the wedding ceremony were the governor of New France, Jean de Lauzon, the sieur Couillard and others. Jacques was obviously an important man and perhaps after the wedding ceremony, there was a reception at the Chateau St. Louis, given by the governor, Jean de Lauzon.

Jacques and Michelle initially made their home in Quebec. Their first child, a daughter, Marie, was born at Quebec and baptised there on January 22, 1656.

At this time, the little town of Quebec consisted of a cluster of houses, cafes, inns, warehouses and quays at the lower town, with a few houses clinging in dignity on either side of the road which climbed up the cliff. At the top of the cliff, on this street, were the Jesuit's college and seminary on the right and to the left was the fort and the Governor's residence, known as the Chateau St. Louis. Behind the fort was the Recollet's Hospice. The hospital and the Ursuline nuns' convent was located on the slope looking down to the St. Charles River.

After the birth of their first child, Marie, Jacques and Michelle must have decided it was time for a home and a land of their own. On April 2, 1656, Charles de Lauzon Charny, son of the Governor of New France, Jean de Lauzon, granted to Jacques Perrot a property located in his seigneurie de Lirec on the Ile D'Orleans. This property was three arpents in width between neighbors Robert Gagnon and René Mézeré dit Nopse. This was land registry lot No's. 61 and 62. Upon this property Jacques and Michelle Perrot eventually settled and raised a family of eight children, which consisted of five girls and three boys. Two other girls died shortly after they were born.

Jacques and Michelle had begun their married life in very troubled times for New France. The Iroquois were a constant menace to the entire colony. They had a force of warriors that exceeded twenty-five hundred, whereas the total population of New France was about two thousand, and settlement was confined to the north side of the St. Lawrence from Montreal to a little past



Quebec. In 1647 there were one hundred soldiers in the three principal settlements of Quebec, Trois Rivières and Montreal. By 1648, this had been decreased to sixty-eight. By 1650, the Iroquois had destroyed the Huron villages and the Hurons who survived were dispersed to the west, with some coming to Quebec where they hoped to find protection from the French.

In 1650 it seemed fitting that the exiled Hurons should be settled on the Ile D'Orleans across the basin from Quebec, in a position not unlike that on the island from which they had just come; and there, a new village, called by the name of the abandoned Sainte Marie, was quickly begun.

The French divided among the Hurons some cleared lands and, in addition, built a stone fort for their protection. But the Iroquois followed their victims to the very gates of Quebec itself and to the Ile D'Orleans. They could be found lurking in the forests of the island and caused the same panic which had made a hell of Huronia. It was soon clear that only within the fort built on the island were the Hurons safe. The conditions of the French settlers at Quebec was hardly less wretched with a haunting terror, day and night.

During the thirty year period from 1633 to 1663, the settlements were subjected to continuous attacks by the Iroquois. Casualties were heavy and all males were subject to compulsory military service. By 1652 the first forty settlers at Trois Rivières suffered thirty deaths; and, in 1652, the Governor and twenty-one settlers were killed.

On the night of May 19, 1656, three hundred Mohawk warriors paddled silently past Quebec to the Ile D'Orleans and by daybreak were lying in wait for Huron victims. The lurking savages waited until the women came forth for their work in the fields and then in a wild rush, they killed six Hurons and seized about eighty others, chiefly women and girls. At mid-day the French in Quebec witnessed a harrowing spectacle, as a long row of forty canoes in battle array filed past the town. The Mohawk warriors raised triumphant yells and caused their wretched prisoners to sing and even to make some attempt at dancing in their frail craft. Jacques no doubt was a witness to this spectacle.

There were cannon in Quebec! Why did they not fire on the canoes well within range? One reason was that the firing would destroy Huron friend as well as Mohawk foe; another that the mission on the way to Onondaga might be massacred if the French should break the peace. The Governor, Jean de Lauzon, formerly President of the Company of New France, who watched this defiance, was a timid man. The company was still the feudal lord of Canada, and Lauzon is chiefly remembered by vast grants of land made to himself and to his family. He was past seventy, a trader, not a soldier, quite unfit to lead in a dangerous crisis; now he struck no blow against the murderous band which flouted him. The Ile D'Orleans proved so unsafe that the Hurons removed to a camp at Quebec surrounded by a palisade.

In late 1656, Jean de Lauzon died, and his son Charles de

Lauzon, sieur de Charny, held his father's place as governor until new arrangements could be made. In 1657 he left Quebec to become a priest in France and, until a successor could be found, he was replaced by the former governor, Ailleboust, who had continued to live in the colony. Ailleboust was at this time seigneur D'Argentenay. The new governor, Pierre Voyer D'Argenson, came to Quebec later in 1657 and assumed his responsibilities.

In 1658, the Iroquois fury increased. The Mohawks sent war parties which committed violence almost before the gates of Quebec. The settler on the outskirts of Montreal, Trois Rivières or Quebec went to the fields in the morning with a knife, and perhaps a hatchet or a pistol at his belt, often with a musket slung over his shoulder. His seizure by the lurking savages might mean torture through a long night amid the jeers of human fiends. While he worked in the fields, his wife and children might vanish to a merciless captivity. Yet, in spite of the Iroquois, the fields were cleared, the houses and barns were built, new settlements made and the fields were tilled, for the settlers' courage was sustained by religious faith. At this period there became, in general, a devout practice, still continued in some households in French Canada. Morning and evening in every house, the family would gather and together confess their sins, and the head of the family would lead in saying a litany and the women, children and servants would join in the responses.

On June 16, 1659, New France received its first bishop. He was François de Laval-Montmorency, formerly Abbot of Montigny and from one of the oldest and most noble families in France. He was welcomed with joy in Quebec where the church bells rang and the cannon boomed. Bishop Laval immediately became very involved in the affairs of New France, and he soon became embroiled with the various governors and proved to be a very tough and firm adversary.

Meanwhile the tales of suffering, of miraculous escape and of stern retribution during this period are endless. Some of the instances satisfy our sense of justice. In June, 1660, eight renegade Hurons, who had become Iroquois, lay in wait near a house at St. Anne de Beaupré, twenty miles below Quebec on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. When the men went out for the day, the savages rushed in, seized the young wife and her four children and paddled off up the St. Lawrence. Word went quickly to Quebec to watch for the canoe on its way homeward, and a party, chiefly of Algonquins, lay in wait at Point Levy, opposite Quebec. For safety the savages traveled by night and at about ten o'clock on the evening of June 5, the huge canoe, bearing the eight savages and the woman and her four children, came creeping past. A sharp volley fatally wounded the woman and killed one child, but stopped the canoe, and those Iroquois not drowned were made prisoners. The life of one, a youth of fifteen, was spared, but the others were divided between Trois Rivières and Quebec, to be publicly tortured and burned by the Indian allies of the French.

On October 6, 1661 the Iroquois attacked at Chateau Richer where they sacked the farms of Jean Picard, the widow Caron and Claude Bouchard and killed six settlers before leaving.

One might speculate that in those early days, and as a result of the Iroquois threat, Charles de Lauzon and others encouraged as many of the military personnel as possible to settle on the Ile D'Orleans to strengthen it as a bastion against the Iroquois.

Ste. Famille, located on the northeast shore of the Ile D'Orleans, was founded in 1661. The church at St. Famille, however, was not built until 1669, so those born at Ste. Famille prior to the church were taken to Quebec, Chateau Richer or St. Anne de Beaupré for baptism.

In 1661, Jacques and Michelle Perrot were blessed with a second daughter, Anne, who was born at Quebec or possibly at their new home on the Ile D'Orleans, if Jacques had it completed at this time.

The constant Iroquois attacks on the various settlements was the setting for Jacques and Michelle when they began to plan their home and life on their land on the Ile D'Orleans. Jacques was probably still a soldier in the garrison at Quebec, so that he had to take time away from his military duties to clear land, first for a homesite and to construct a suitable house, probably of logs, and then later a barn and other necessary buildings. After this, he would have to clean land for planting. It is estimated that one man could clear about one and one-third arpents per year. This all took time, and I would guess that it was a number of years before they were comfortably established in their new home.

Our ancestor, Joseph Perrot, who was the first son born to Jacques and Michelle Perrot, came into this world on July 9, 1663, and was baptised in the church at Chateau Richer.

Also in 1663, Canada became a royal colony by the edict of April, 1663, which became Canada's second and enduring constitution. The colony was now under the official wing of Louis XIV and his Minister of Marine, Jean-Baptiste Colbert. Exciting things would begin to happen for New France as we shall see.

We have, in the Jesuit Relation of 1663, a description of Canada as anyone sailing up the St. Lawrence in that year would see it. There were signs of progress, houses were to be seen all the way from Cap Tourmente to Quebec. The Ile D'Orleans was growing rich harvests. Far away on the south side of the river, settlements were visible. Quebec stood out boldly with houses and quays at the lower town and high on the cliff, a fort and a group of churches and monasteries. Settlements stretched up the river beyond Quebec to Trois Rivières and Montreal. We wonder that so much had been done by the small number of French settlers in the face of the constant Iroquois fury.

In 1665, the little town of Quebec numbered seventy houses, and the population of New France totalled twenty-five hundred. During that summer a succession of ships arrived from France bringing soldiers, settlers with their families, and young girls of marriageable age. Some of these girls were scarcely past

twelve. But they were not married offhand; they lived under protection with the nuns for some months while they made the acquaintance of suitable men.

Also arriving in that year was the Marquis de Tracy whom the king had appointed lieutenant general over all the French dominions in the west. With the Marquis came the Regiment of Carignan-Salières, totaling more than a thousand men and one hundred officers. In September, 1665, the new rulers of Canada arrived, and the Marquis de Tracy installed them in office. The new governor was Daniel de Rémy, sieur de Courcelle. With him came a new type of official, the intendant, Jean Talon, who was to be the business man in the new system.

Operations against the Iroquois began at once. They had harassed Canada chiefly by way of the Richelieu River, thus there were sent eight hundred men who built three forts which were impregnable to Iroquois attack; one at the mouth of the river, the present Sorel; one at the foot of the falls, the present Chambly; and one, Fort Thérèse, on an island near the point where Lake Champlain empties into the river. But this was not the end of it, in the late summer of 1666, the Marquis de Tracy led a part of the Regiment of Carignan-Salières on an expedition into the Mohawk country which destroyed villages and crops and effectively chastised the Mohawks.

On November 9, 1663, Jacques and Michelle Perrot acquired new neighbors. Guillaume and Marie Bauché dit Morency had purchased the property formerly occupied by two Swiss, Jean Terme and Jacques Trud, who had occupied it for one year after it was first granted to René Mézeré dit Nopse. On February 26, 1666 a fourth child and a third daughter, Catherine, was born to Jacques and Michelle. She was followed by a second son, Jacques, who was born on June 17, 1668.

At the census of 1667, Jacques had declared a value of 18 arpents on their land. This he had accomplished in a period of eleven years since 1656, an average of almost one and two-thirds arpents per year, which was better than the average but we can assume that he probably secured some help from others from time to time.

Jean Talon, who later became known as "the great intendant", was a remarkable man who did much for New France during his seven year tenure in office. In the spring of 1666, he took a census. There were 3,215 French in Canada of whom 2,034 were males. Quebec had a population of 547 and Montreal had a population of 766. In the whole country were 4 lawyers, 4 surgeons, 20 shoemakers, 11 bakers and 7 butchers. In religious work were 54 clergy and 46 nuns. Talon began a ship building industry, built a brewery at Quebec and also a tannery and encouraged the use of homespun clothing. He began a model farm and imported horses, sheep and pigs and distributed them among the settlers to encourage breeding. Last but not least, he encouraged the placing of settlers upon the land, including the sizeable importation of people from Normandy and "the king's girls" as wives for the unmarried men in the colony. By 1672 about 1,000 "king's girls"

had reached the colony.

Many unmarried soldiers of the Carignan-Salières Regiment were eventually persuaded to settle in Canada. Both the King and Colbert thought it well to keep the unmarried officers in the colony to avoid losing them if they returned to France, and wives of their class either came from France or were found among the local "gentil" class. For both men and officers the king provided bounties for those who got married.

One of these officers was François de Jarret de Verchères whom Jacques probably became acquainted with during the course of his military duties at Quebec. No doubt Jacques took a liking to François and invited him to visit at his home on the Ile D'Orleans. There François met Jacques' and Michelle's oldest daughter, Marie Perrot, and over a period of time this relationship evidently developed into a courtship. On September 17, 1669, François Jarret de Verchères married Marie Perrot at St. Famille on the Ile D'Orleans. Marie was thirteen years of age at the time of the wedding. She and François went on to establish a very important branch of the Jacques and Michelle Perrot family in Canada, which had a number of very distinguished offspring, both male and female.

On December 7, 1670, Jacques and Michelle had a daughter, Marie, born to them who died shortly after birth. On June 21, 1672, Michelle gave birth to their third son, Pierre.

In 1669, Louis XIV ordered compulsory military service for all males in the colony 16 to 60 years of age. It was also specified that they should be formed into militia companies. The militia units were distinguished by the color of their uniform coats; Quebec was red, Trois Rivières was white and Montreal was blue.

Also at this time, Louis XIV began the creation of the Canadian Noblesse. Prior to this the Company of New France had granted some sixty seigneuries, chiefly to directors and their associates, most of whom never saw their holdings. In 1672, after surveys had been made, Jean Talon began to award seigneuries on behalf of the king. Those who became seigneurs in Canada were mainly of a class, well born, but ready for responsibility and the hard work that went with it, or were military officers such as François Jarret de Verchères. François was awarded his seigneurie in 1672, located on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, twenty miles down river from Montreal at present day Verchères county and the town of Verchères. Other officers who were awarded seigneuries at this time were Saurel (Sorel), St. Ours, Soulanges, Varennes, Chambly, Berthier, Contrecoeur, Lanaudière and others.

The seigneur, when he was given an estate, had to appear at the Chateau St. Louis and take his oath of allegiance to the king. With sword and spurs removed, he knelt before the Governor and swore to be a loyal subject, and if necessary, to fight for his sovereign. When the tenant took up land on the seigneur's estate, he was required to kneel and swear fealty to him. The feudal system, with its ceremonious manners, left an imprint on Quebec, which is felt to this day.

On Michalmas Day, the habitants gathered to pay their rents to the seigneur. It was a gala occasion at the manor house. The habitant and his wife, dressed in their best, were received in a large room by the seigneur, who provided wine and other refreshments. If they could not pay in money, they paid in grain, poultry, vegetables or other. They gave him their homage. He gave them his protection, and if danger came, there was his great stone mill, as strong as a fort! The machinery for this mill had to be brought from France, and cost the seigneur so much that one-fourteenth of his tenants' grain was paid to him as a necessary toll.

On New Year's Day, the tenants again visited the manor house, coming across the glittering snow, well wrapped in homespun tunics against the cold, wearing bright colored sashes about the waist and a cowl drawn over the head. Upon their arrival at the manor house, they knelt to ask the seigneur's blessing. The children gazed in wonder at the thick stone walls that sometimes had loopholes for gunfire. Indoors their eyes were like stars when they saw pictures on the walls, the carved furniture, and the square of tapestry above the mantelpiece. There was a blazing fire on the hearth, and its light shone on the bottles of wine and plates of little sugared cakes. The younger children of the seigneur and his grandchildren ran to greet the visitors. The seigneur moved among his people, inquiring about their well-being with mingled familiarity and stateliness.

Again on May Day, the habitants came in a body to the manor house. This was a joyous festival. In front of the manor house the painted maypole was set up, and in their bravest attire, the young people danced around it, weaving the colored strands in a prescribed pattern, to the music of a violin. Possibly the seigneur might join in the dance, but never was his rank forgotten, for he was the lord and master in this feudal relationship.

In church, special prayers were offered for the seigneur and his family. He was the first of the laity to be censed and to receive communion, in processions he walked next to the priest; his carriage was the first to drive away after the service and to overtake or pass him on the road was regarded as a grave discourtesy.

The tenants had to work no more than six days a year for the seigneur, but usually only three, ploughing, seeding and harvesting.

The customs, ceremonies and manners described in the preceding descriptions of the seignioral system apparently did not come about until Louis XIV created the Canadian Noblesse primarily by way of this system.

Jacques and Michelle and their children, when young, probably never did participate in the described activities. When they received their land from Charles de Lauzon, sieur de Charny, the Company of New France was then the feudal lord and they had



granted some sixty seigneuries, mainly to directors of the Company and others in France. In 1636, the Ile D'Orleans was conceded to Jacques Castillon, who did not develop it. Bishop de Laval acquired his share in 1662, and in 1666, the bishop acquired the fief of Charny-Lirec from sieur de Charny. The fief of Argentenay at this time belonged to the widow D'Ailleboust. On April 24, 1675, Bishop Laval ceded his interest in the island to sieur Berthelot of Paris, France.

Among Jean Talon's many accomplishments during his tenure of office was encouragement for the exploration of the far interior, and by the time he left Canada in 1672, traders and missionaries had reached to the farthest shores of Lake Superior.

On June 14, 1671, at Talon's direction, sieur de Saint-Lusson, surrounded by a score of Frenchmen including Nicolas Perrot and Pierre Moreau, sieur de la Touppine, had held a great ceremony at Sault Ste. Marie during a gathering of many western Indian tribes summoned there by Perrot. Saint-Lusson had put up a huge cross with the escutcheon of the arms of France above it. He made a solemn declaration that all of the land known and as yet unknown, belonged to France, and that all its people were the king's subjects and owed him their obedience.

In 1672, Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac came to New France as Royal Governor. One of his first acts in the spring of 1673 was to go to Montreal and organize an expedition to Lake Ontario. He sent LaSalle to the Iroquois country to summon them to a meeting on Lake Ontario. They met at Cataragui, the point where the lake narrows into the River St. Lawrence. Frontenac awed the Iroquois with a great display of military majesty as he arrived with a large convoy of canoes and flatboats loaded with cannon. The next day he received in state more than sixty old and important chiefs, and he addressed them in a benevolent but firm tone and called them children. In the days that followed, Frontenac gave audience to each of the chiefs in turn and received them at his table. He pleased their wives with gifts and played with their children. All this time his men were busy erecting a fort, which he told the Iroquois was a trading post for their convenience and where they could secure their needed supplies. This was later to be known as Fort Frontenac. He then returned to Montreal, having achieved the plan of former Governor Courcelles.

Frontenac would carry on where Jean Talon left off in the exploration of the great western reaches and the Mississippi River area. In 1673, he sent out Jolliet and Marquette who explored the Mississippi down to what is now the Arkansas River before turning back. Then Frontenac encouraged LaSalle in his ventures and explorations, which would eventually carry him to his death in Texas in 1686. In addition, he encouraged Duluth and Nicolas Perrot in their explorations and their trading ventures west and south of Lake Superior.

On September 28, 1674, Michelle gave birth to a daughter, Marie, and on August 6, 1676 to another daughter, Marguerite, who died on August 11. Then, on June 24, 1679, Michelle gave birth to a last child, another daughter also named Marguerite, who

survived. On November 23, 1676, Jacques gave his second born daughter, Anne, to Gebriel Tibierge in marriage at the church in Ste. Famille. Their family was now complete and their two oldest daughters were married. At the census of 1681, Jacques declared a value of 25 arpents on their land, a gain of 7 arpents since 1667. This represents an average gain of 1 3/4 arpents per year.

France greatly needed a leader with bold initiative, but now she dismissed a proven governor who truly possessed it and sent in his place Lefebvre de la Barre in 1682. La Barre proved to be a massive failure, particularly in his dealings with the Iroquois, where he was weak indeed. In 1685, La Barre was replaced with the Marquis de Denonville.

It was about this time that our ancestor, Joseph, left home to make his way in the world. Joseph went to the vicinity of Montreal, where he eventually established himself at Laprairie de la Madeleine. We shall take up the story of Joseph in the next chapter.

In 1687, Governor Denonville set out from Fort Frontenac with a force of two thousand. He was further reinforced by a force of one thousand Indians and coureurs-de-bois from the west. This force proceeded to the Seneca country where they inflicted heavy losses on a Seneca ambush party and burned four Seneca villages before retiring. But beyond this, Denonville also proved himself weak in his further dealings with the Iroquois. This resulted in the massacre at Lachine in 1689 and his decision to destroy Fort Frontenac. Denonville was replaced that year by Frontenac.

On November 28, 1687, Jacques and Michelle experienced a great sorrow as a result of the untimely death of their daughter, Anne Tibierge, at the age of 26.

In October of 1690, a British fleet commanded by William Phips attacked Quebec with ships and land forces, but were totally unsuccessful and were forced to retire after the defeat of their landing force near the St. Charles River.

In 1691, Frontenac had begun to further fortify Quebec, and to young Gedeon de Catalogne fell the task of planning the first real defenses. Under the eye of the great French military engineer, Vauban, impressive works began to grow, climbing up the heights of Cape Diamond itself. Quebec was to be the unassailable citadel of the New World and it cost money. Even with conscripted labor from twenty miles about, costs still mounted at a rate that brought agony to the heart of Intendant Champigny and sharp protests to his lips and pen. In 1691, the expenditure for defense reached 99,000 livres. In 1693, it was 193,000 livres and a year later 750,000. Even though this figure included pay for the troops, the increase was considered to be appalling.

Louis XIV could not see the great works of Quebec growing before his eyes. The vast stone redoubt that crowned Cape Diamond had, for the first time, become part of the defense, an impressive part, mounting sixteen cannon. Frontenac himself laid the cornerstone in that year, 1693. From Cape Diamond the solid



earthworks now girdled the city to the St. Charles River. Prevost, with his early improvisation, had done a magnificent job, but for all that his fortifications were but a child's toy, compared with the defenses that now crowned the heights.

In 1693, Jacques and Michelle sold their property on the Ile D'Orleans to our ancestor, their oldest son, Joseph. Jacques and Michelle then probably went to live at Quebec. At Quebec, they must have been pleased with the great improvements in the defenses. What a difference as compared to the days when they were first married.

On August 16, 1694, Jacques gave his third eldest daughter, Catherine, to Etienne Janot when they were married at the church in Ste. Famille.

Their third son, Pierre, who took the nickname Deryzy, was married at Notre Dame, Quebec, on November 23, 1699 to Anne Jourdain. Pierre was to marry a second time to Madeleine Willis on May 31, 1704 at Notre Dame in Quebec. Pierre was a major in the militia and died at Quebec on September 10, 1740.

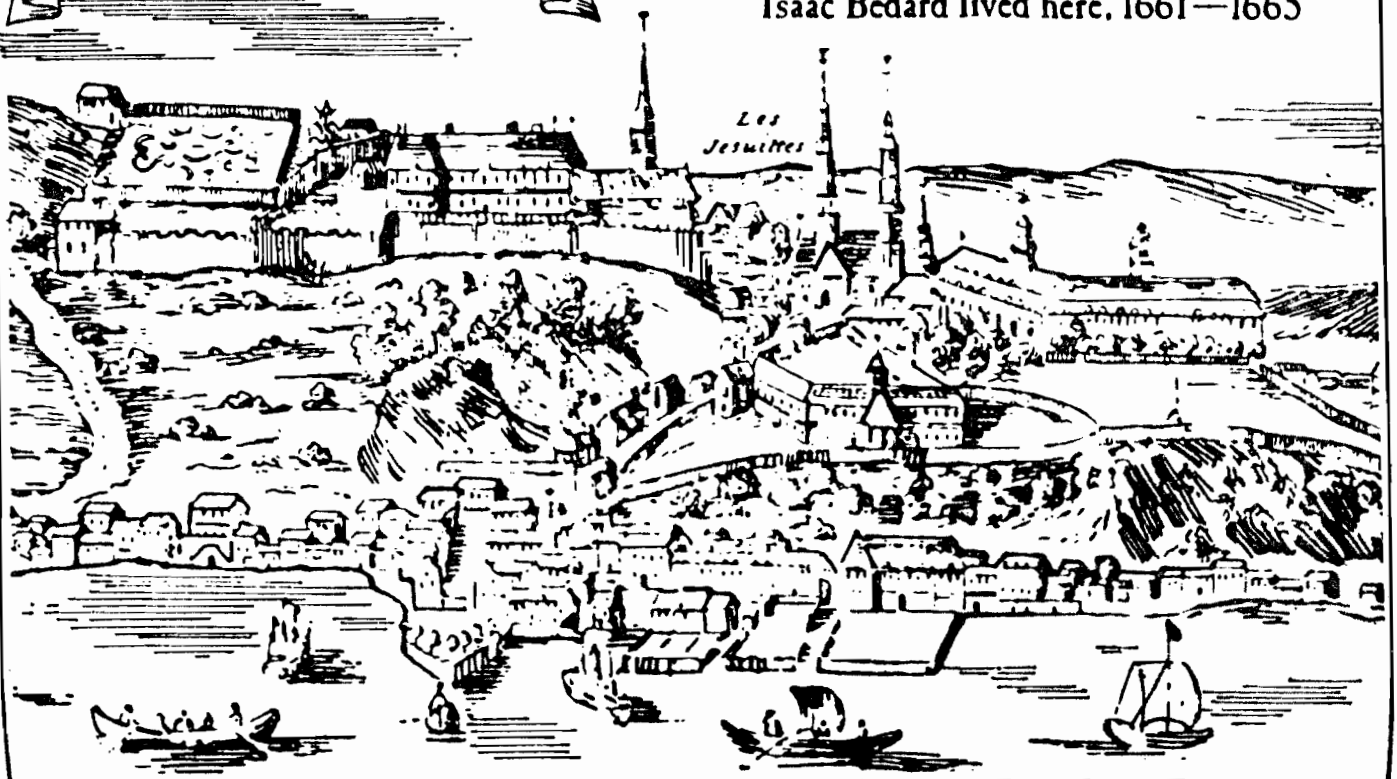
Our ancestor, Jacques Perrot, sieur de Vildaigre, went to his grave in Quebec, on January 17, 1703 at age 73. He did not live to see his eldest son, Joseph, become seigneur de Saint-François D'Argentenay, but his wife, Michelle, did, and she must have been very proud for both of them.

On September 1, 1710, the youngest daughter of Jacques and Michelle, Marguerite, married Alexandre Celles dit Duclos at Notre Dame in Montreal. On October 24, 1710, Michelle Perrot died at Montreal, where she had probably gone to live with her newly married daughter, Marguerite, after the death of Jacques. Michelle was 71 at the time of her death. Marguerite died on May 27, 1756 in Montreal.

# QUEBEC - 1680

JACQUES PERROT LIVED HERE-1650-1658

Isaac Bedard lived here. 1661-1665



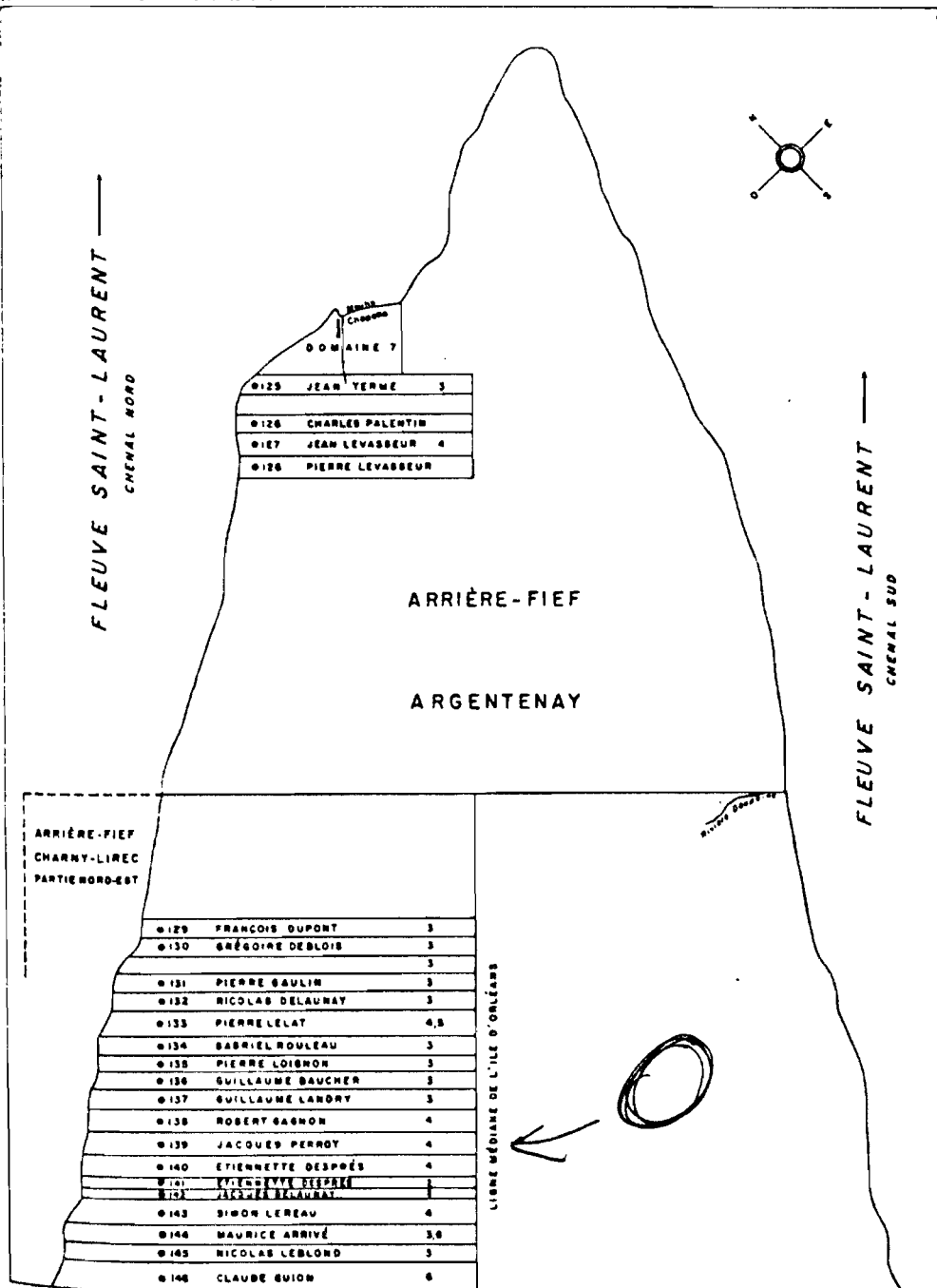
LA LARGEUR DES TERRES  
EST INDIGUÉE EN ARPENTS

LES CHIFFRES PRÉCÉDÉS D'UN ASTÉRIQUE  
SERVENT À NUMÉROTÉ LES TERRES EN CENSIVE

L'ARRIÈRE-FIEF ARGENTENAY ET LA PREMIÈRE PARTIE  
DE L'ARRIÈRE-FIEF CHARNY-LIREC

PAR MARCEL TRUDEL

1000 PIEDS FRANÇAIS  
10 ARPENTS = 0,015625 KILOMÈTRE  
0,003 KILOMÈTRE



Note: Actual numbers 61 and 62,  
for the censive number 139 -

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**Terre No 19, de Jacques Perrot-Villedaigre (1629-1703), de 4 arpents,**

**Nos cadastraux actuels : 61 et 62**

1656, 2 avril (gr. Badeau), concession de Charles de Lauzon-Charny à :

Perrot-dit-Villedaigre, Jacques (1629-1703), 3 arpents,  
entre : Robert Gaignon et René Mézeré-dit-Nopse.

1666, recensement, p. 65.

Perrot, Jacques, 37 ans, et Michelle (Le) Flot, 27 ans, sa femme, etc.,  
entre : Robert Gaignon et Jean LeClerq (?)

1667, recensement, p. 72c.

Perrot dit Villedaigne, Jacques, 18 arpents en valeur, etc.,  
entre : Robert Gaignon et Guillaume Baucher dit Morency.

1681, recensement, p. 84c.

Perrot, Jacques, 25 arpents en valeur, etc.,  
entre : Robert Gaignon et Guillaume Baucher.

1689, carte de Villeneuve, p. 168.

Perrault dit Villedaigre, Jacques, No 64,  
entre : Robert Gaignon et Guillaume Baucher.

1693, 15 septembre (gfe Genaple), vente de Jacques Perrot-dit-Villedaigre et sa femme, Michelle Lefleaux, à :

Perrot, Joseph (1663-1742), leur fils aîné, d'une terre dans Lirec, de 4 arpents de front, avec maison, grange, étable et 50 arpents de terre déserte,  
entre : Guillaume Bauché et Robert Gaignon.

1700, 3 novembre (gfe Chambalon), cette terre est occupée par :

Perrot, Joseph (1663-1742), époux de Marie Gagné (1671-1739), fils du précédent, 4 arpents,  
entre : Robert Gagnon et Guillaume Baucher.

1709, carte de Catalogne.

• Perrot, le Sr,

entre : P(ierre) Drouen et J. (sic) Morancy.

1718, 1er avril (gfe LaCétière), donation de Joseph Perrot et Marie Gagné, sa femme, à :

Perrot, Barthelemy, François et Louis, leurs enfants, d'une terre de 4 arpents de front, leur venant de Jacques Perrot, père,  
entre : Pierre Drouin et Joseph Baucher.

1725, 25 août, aveu et dénombrement, p. 15.

**Perrot, Joseph**, 4 arpents, avec maison, grange, étable, et 100 arpens de terre labourable,  
entre : Pierre Drouin et Guillaume Baucher.

Sur le lot cadastral No 62 « se trouve encore une vieille maison, servant maintenant d'entrepot et qui remonte assurément au régime français » (cf : Pierre-Georges Roy, *Vieux Manoirs, Vieilles Maisons* (1927), p. 293). Cette maison n'aurait-elle pas été construite par Joseph Perrot (1663-1742), qui fut seigneur d'Argentenay ?

**Terre No 20, de Guillaume Baucher-Morency (1630-87), de 4 arpents,**

Nos cadastraux actuels : 63, 64 (emplacement) et 65, moitié est

1656, 2 avril (gfe Badeau), concession de Charles de Lauzon-Charny à :

**Mézeré-dit-Nopse, René (1616-95)**, 4 arpents,  
entre : Jacques Perrot dit Villedaigne et Pierre Nolin dit Lafougère.

Entre 1656 et 1663, cette terre, de 4 arpents, passe à :

**Després, Tiennette**, (veuve DuPlessis-Querbodo).

(entre : Jacques Perrot-Villedaigne et François Boivin).

1663, 9 novembre (gfe Filion), vente de Tiennette Després, veuve de Guillaume DuPlessis (Guilmot de Querbodo), à :

**Baucher dit Morency, Guillaume (1630-87)**, 6 arpents (comprenant 2 arpents de la terre suivante, soit la moitié de notre terre No 21),

entre : Jacques Perrot dit Villedaigne et Jacques DeLaunay.

1663, 17 novembre (Cf : J. et D. du C.S., vol. I, pp. 60 et 61).

**Terme, Jean, et Trud, Jacques**, (Suisse), seront dédommagés des travaux qu'ils ont faits depuis un an sur la terre que Demoiselle DuPlessis a vendue à Guillaume Baucher Montmorency, par devant Filion, notaire, le 9 novembre 1663.

1666, recensement, p. 64.

**Bauché, Guillaume**, 30 ans, et Marie Parady, 24 ans, sa femme etc.

1667, recensement, p. 72c.

**Baucher dit Morency, Guillaume**, 25 arpents en valeur, etc.,

entre : Jacques Perrot dit Villedaigne et Jacques DeLaunay.

1681, recensement, p. 84c.

**Bauger (Baucher) Guillaume**, 50 arpents en valeur; et Barbe Dion, 70 ans (veuve de Pierre Paradis, sa belle-mère),

entre : Jacques Perrot et (2<sup>e</sup>) Nicolas Drouin.

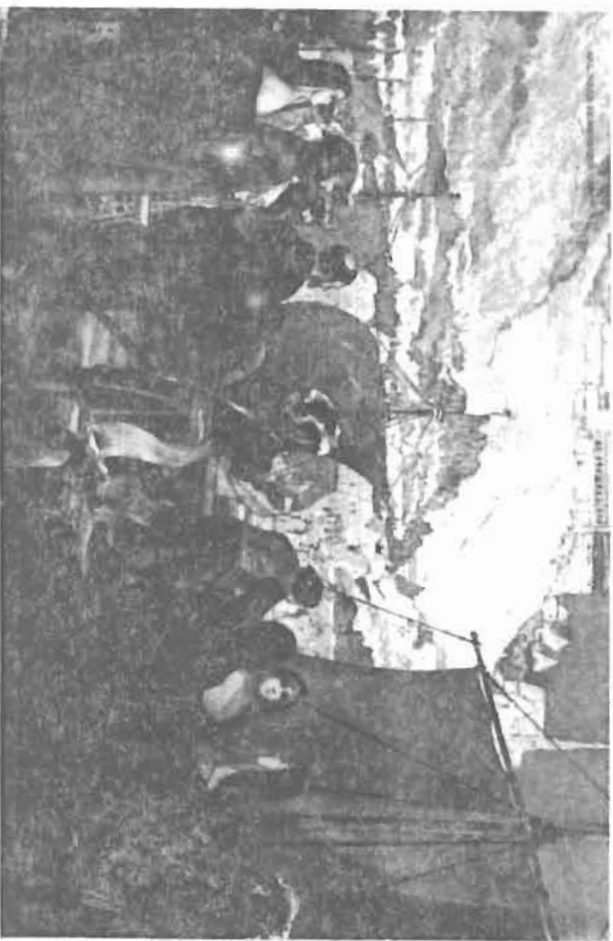


#### JOHNSON'S NEW NEIGHBORS

The drawings of Iroquois, here and on the following three pages, are by Grasset de Saint Sauveur (*Courtesy of the New-York Historical Society, New York City*)



SHIPS FROM THE MOTHER COUNTRY ARRIVE IN NEW FRANCE (CH. 2).



ARRIVAL OF THE URSULINE SISTERS IN QUÉBEC (CH. 2).



MÈRE MARIE, FIRST MOTHER SUPERIOR OF THE URSULINES (CH. 2).



FRANÇOIS DE LAVAL, FIRST BISHOP OF QUÉBEC (CH. 2).



JEAN TALON, FIRST INTENDANT, VISITS A SETTLER'S HOME (CH. 2).

### CHAPTER III

Joseph Perrot  
Seigneur de Saint-François d'Argentenay  
1663 - 1760

When Joseph reached maturity, he left home on the Ile d'Orleans and went to the Montreal vicinity where he established himself at Laprairie de la Madeleine. There was a fort at Laprairie and perhaps Joseph was in the military like his father or maybe he set up a farm or was in the fur trade. While at Laprairie he met and married Marie Gagné on April 21, 1688. She was the daughter of Pierre Gagné and Catherine Daubugeon and her baptism on November 2, 1671 was only the third one in the parish of Saint-François-Xavier at Laprairie. Of special interest to the writer is that her godfather was Phillipe Mandon (Plamondon) who could be the first ancestor in New France of Adrian Plamondon, formerly of the Swedan Company of Lanoraie, Quebec and a good friend of mine.

Joseph was at Laprairie when on August 5, 1689, fifteen hundred Iroquois swept down upon Lachine, six miles up the river from Montreal on the St. Lawrence, where they killed and pillaged. Two hundred were killed immediately, and one hundred and twenty were carried off. They raged up to the walls of Montreal itself, burning, killing and occasionally dining on a captive under the eyes of the citizens.

For weeks relatives and friends could see the torture fires burning across Lake St. Louis. The governor, Denonville, would not allow his forces to attack the Iroquois in an attempt to free the tormented captives. It was not until October that the main body withdrew, taking with it ninety captives.

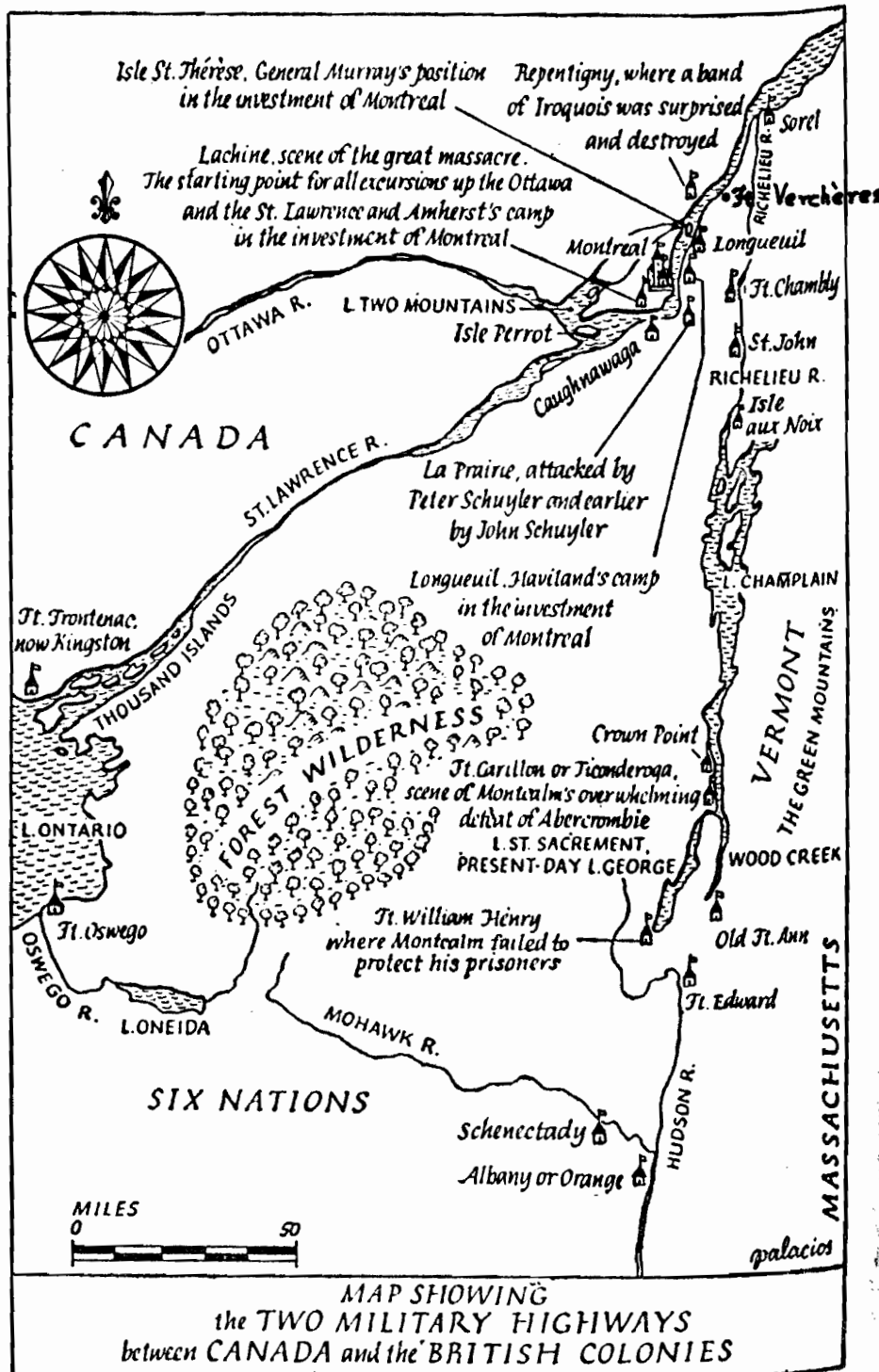
On November 13, 1689, the Iroquois attacked the little settlement of LaChesnaye twenty miles downriver from Montreal, where they killed twenty and carried off many as captives.

On June 30, 1690, Joseph Perrot and Marie Gagné had their first child, a daughter, Marie, and she was baptised at Notre Dame of Montreal.

In the fall of 1690, Captain John Schuyler led a force of twenty-nine Dutch and one hundred twenty Indians to an attack on the Laprairie settlement, where they burned houses, destroyed cattle and crops, killed six settlers, including four women, and took nineteen prisoners. The Indians refused to attack the stockaded fort and so the attackers then retired.

At this time, Frontenac returned as governor, and he planned a





three-pronged attack on the British settlements in New York, New Hampshire and Maine. These attacks were launched, one each from Montreal to New York, Trois Rivières to New Hampshire, and Quebec to Maine.

Meanwhile, in Canada, the Iroquois came again, first at Pointe aux Trembles at the eastern end of the island of Montreal, where they struck swiftly, burning thirty homes and killing and taking captives. Next was Repentigny, a few miles farther downriver from Pointe aux Trembles, where a party of Iroquois had found a comfortable haven in a deserted house near the fort. But in this case, they were the ones who were unknowingly discovered and attacked by French forces from the fort. All but five Iroquois were killed, and the French lost six dead.

Joseph's brother, Jacques, who took the nickname of Desrochers, had also come to the Montreal vicinity, where he married Anne Gagné at Notre Dame, Montreal on October 11, 1690. She was probably a sister of Joseph's wife, Marie.

On August 11, 1691, Major Peter Schuyler, with a force of one hundred twenty English and Dutch and fifty Indians, attacked Laprairie. But this time it was not unprotected; there were eight hundred men, militia and regulars on hand at the fort. A sharp fight ensued, and Schuyler was forced to retire quickly, only to run into a second French force which unsuccessfully tried to bar his retreat. French losses were forty dead and sixty wounded. Phillipe Mandon (Plamondon) was possibly one of those wounded in this engagement, as he died at Montreal a month later. No doubt Joseph, and possibly Jacques, also served in this engagement as members of the militia, which service was mandatory at this time.

Joseph's second child, a son, Bertrand, was born at Laprairie on January 7, 1692 and was baptised at Notre Dame, Montreal.

On September 15, 1693, Jacques Perrot and his wife, Michelle, sold to Joseph Perrot, their eldest son, their property on the Ile D'Orleans, seigneurie de Lirec, consisting of four arpents of frontage with house, barn, cattle shed and fifty arpents of wild land between neighbors Gagnon and Guillaume Baucher dit Morency.

Joseph and his wife, Marie, took up residence on this property, and their next six children were born there during the period 1694 to 1704. A son, Joseph, was the first child born on the island, on July 2, 1694.

In 1695, Frontenac began the restoration of Fort Frontenac. On July 20, 1695, seven hundred men left Montreal to make the journey to the site of the old fort. They found the fort not quite in ruins and soon made it habitable and established a garrison of forty-eight men under La Valliere.

On January 28, 1696, a third son, Barthélémy-François, was born on the island to Joseph and Marie.

On July 4, 1696, Frontenac began his last campaign. He left Lachine with a force of eighteen hundred French, half regulars and

half militia, plus five hundred mission Indians. Joseph's brother, Jacques, may very well have been a part of this force. They traveled first to Fort Frontenac and then on Lake Ontario to the Oswego River, by which they could go to the heart of the Iroquois country. Arriving in the Onondago country, they destroyed the Onondago capital, and others marched to and burned an Oneida fort and villages.

On January 30, 1698, Joseph and Marie were blessed with their second daughter, Geneviève.

Frontenac died on November 28, 1698 in Quebec, at the age of seventy-eight, a great governor, soldier and a faithful servant to his king and country.

On December 10, 1699, Marie bore Joseph a fourth son, Louis, and on July 18, 1700, Joseph's brother, Jacques dit Desrochers died or was killed at Laprairie.

Callière, Frontenac's successor, was a capable man and he made peace with the Iroquois in 1701.

In 1702, England and France were again at war. The French took action by way of attacks on the New England area and settlements, such as Hertel de Rouville's attack on Deerfield, Massachussetts, on February 28, 1704.

Marie Perrot gave birth to a fifth son and our ancestor, Jacques, on March 19, 1702.

The society of French Canada was hierarchical in structure; it was graded into distinctly separate upper and lower layers. The bulk of the colonists, or habitants, were farmers and formed the broad lower order. On the upper levels were the government officials, the large landowners or seigneurs, and the principal clergy. In between the two main groups, the wealthy fur-trade merchants and the ordinary fur traders did, in a sense, represent a commercial or middle class. In reality, however, New France had virtually no middle class. The big fur merchants tended to be closely linked to government officials; and since there was little commerce in the colony apart from the fur trade, and no industry to speak of, there were very few tradesmen and only a handful of artisans. They did not form an effective middle class.

Accordingly, with hardly any middle class between upper and lower orders, the division in society was clear-cut, indeed. Furthermore, the system of landholding established definite social distinctions. Land was held according to the seigneurial system. It was granted in large blocks to the seigneurs, who rented it in smaller holdings to the habitant farmers. The habitants paid their seigneur various forms of rent and performed certain services for him. The result was to create two groups on the land; the seigneurs, who were the landlords with special privileges and authority, and the habitants, tenant farmers, who owed not only rent and services, but honor and respect as well. The seigneur or lord owed the duties of government and military leadership to his tenants, and they owed obedience and armed

support to him. Hence, the seigneurs in Canada might serve as a military order, their holdings or seigneuries, as units of local government or defense. The habitant was no downtrodden peasant, but a self-sufficient, self-respecting farmer. But between the habitant and seigneur, there was a broad distance of dignity and privilege to separate them. The seigneur was shown much respect. His word carried much weight throughout the countryside, and he was lord and master in this system of feudal relations.

The dictionary states that "seigneur" means lord or nobleman. Some historians refer to the seigneurs as the Canadian Noblesse. However, there was no noble class that originated in New France. For the most part, the relatively few nobles there inherited their titles. A title had to be purchased from the crown. Thus, a seigneur was not by virtue of his receiving a seigneurie (lordship) or land grant, a noble, but his status was prestigious, and hence the term, "Canadian Noblesse", which has been used to describe them. The term "seigneur" was also an honorable title bestowed on persons of high rank.

Actually, the highest honor to which Canadians could aspire, since noble titles were not available to them in the eighteenth century, was through an officer's being named, by virtue of military valor, to the royal and military Order of Saint Louis. The award of the coveted Cross of Saint Louis carried with it the title of "Chevalier" (knight), which title was not passed on to one's heirs upon death.

Joseph and Marie became parents of a sixth son, Augustin, who was born on March 8, 1704.

About 1705, our ancestor, Joseph Perrot became seigneur de Saint-François D'Argentenay. The fief of Argentenay was located on the northeast end of the Ile D'Orleans. The granting of this fief would have been by Governor Philippe de Rigaud de Vaudreuil and the Intendant Jacques Raudot. The former Governor of New France (1648-1651 and 1657) Louis d'Ailleboust was the original seigneur of this fief. Joseph must have been an important man and must have distinguished himself in some way to receive the honor of being granted this seigneurie.

The first marriage in the family of Joseph and Marie took place in the church at Ste. Famille on January 31, 1707 when Joseph gave the hand of his first born daughter, Marie, to François Mercure.

Joseph's and Marie's last child, a son, Pierre, was born on the manor D'Argentenay and baptised at Saint François on January 5, 1708. Also, they experienced a great sorrow when their second son, Joseph, died on the manor at Saint François on September 3, 1708 at age 13.

Also in 1708, Hertel de Rouville led another attack on the English settlements, this time at Haverhill, Massachusetts. He had with him Joseph's nephew, one of the Verchères, a younger brother of Madeleine de Verchères who had led such a heroic defense of her father's seigneurie fort in 1692. The young

Verchères and one of Rouville's brothers were killed in this action.

In 1710, the British captured Port Royal in French Acadia, and this area then became known as Nova Scotia and set the stage for the later expulsion of the French Acadians.

On July 30, 1711, a British fleet of seventy ships left Boston carrying twelve thousand men bound for Quebec. However, this force met with disaster on August 23rd, amidst gales and fog, when eight troop transports and two supply ships were lost on the rocks above Anticosti on the north shore. This attempt was then aborted and peace came once again at the end of 1711.

Joseph's younger brother, Pierre, had gone to live at Quebec, where he married twice and eventually became a Major of Militia, which probably resulted in his being the Commandant of Militia for Quebec under the local governor there.

On April 15, 1711, Joseph and Marie experienced sorrow again when their eighth and last born son, Pierre, died on the manor at Saint François.

On February 25, 1715, Joseph's and Marie's first born son, Bertrand, married Madeleine Guyon at Ste. Famille.

Louis XIV died on September 1, 1715, and the era of the "Sun King" ended for both France and New France, for which he had done much. Upon his death, the Duke of Orleans was named Regent until the young king, Louis XV, was able to govern France.

Joseph and Marie's first born son, Bertrand, married a second time, after the death of his first wife, to Angélique Simon on August 1, 1717 at Chateau-Richer. On November 22, 1717, Joseph gave his second daughter, Geneviève, in marriage to Nicolas Drouin at Ste. Famille.

Notes from the census records of this period indicate that in April, 1718, Joseph Perrot and Marie Gagné, his wife, made a gift to their sons, Barthélémy-François and Louis, of a property of 4 arpents of frontage between Pierre Drouin and Joseph Baucher. Also, these notes indicate that on August 25, 1725, Joseph Perrot is listed as having 4 arpents with house, barn, and cattle shed and 100 arpents of tillable land between Pierre Drouin and Guillaume Baucher.

There is a further note which refers to Pierre-Georges Roy's book, "Old Manors-Old Houses" of 1927, page 293.

"On the lot, Land Registry No. 62, is to be found, still, an old house, now used as a warehouse and which dates back certainly to the French regime. This house, is it possible that it could have been built by Joseph Perrot who was lord of Argentenay?"

Aside from the almost constant fighting and warfare, what was New France like at this time? The countryside has been described as delightful and in a fine state of cultivation. Equally

pleasing were the farmhouses; whether of stone or wood, all were whitewashed each spring. The front door opened into a good-sized living room with a huge fireplace. The kitchen, with another fireplace for cooking, was on one side and a bedroom on the other. The upstairs garret had an army of beds for the children and had little dormer windows. Almost all the furniture was made by the men of the family. A storeroom was provided at the rear of the house, with a nearby log barn and stable. Not far off was a roothouse and an outdoor oven built of stone for year round use in baking. Here and there was a church spire, their height adding a touch of variety to the generally flat horizon. From one city to the other, the string of small settlements resembled a single long narrow village, so closely did the buildings hug the river shore. Fields of grain ran to the water's edge. A small field of wheat, when ground in the seigneurs mill, provided enough flour for all the bread the family would consume in a year, and from a little patch of corn came meal in plenty for the many cakes. Sometimes oats, rye and barley were grown, and there was always a vegetable garden near the house where melons, pumpkins, turnips, parsnips, beans and peas were cultivated. Beans and peas were the favorite vegetables and there was always a pot of pea soup on the fire. Almost every family had fruit trees, and wild berries and plums were abundant. Every farm had cattle and poultry, the woods abounded in wild game, and fishing was excellent. They also grew and cured many pounds of tobacco, for the men smoked incessantly and even the women indulged in this habit.

Their clothes were handmade of wool, fur and leather. Every farm had sheep and a spinning wheel and hand loom.

Although boats and canoes served as the chief means of transportation, travel by land was on the increase for short distances. Dogs pulling carts or sledges were common. The summer vehicle was the caleche, with its seat poised high in the air over a single pair of wheels. When the snow came, the caleche gave way to the carriage with its solid wooden runners, low seat and high back, well provided with fur robes. Horses were extremely popular.

Most men were described as being civil, doffing their hats to every person they met in the streets and roadsides. They were also neat in their persons and all shaved their beards.

The women were described as being generally handsome, well-bred and virtuous with an innocent and becoming freedom. They dressed very fine on Sundays, though on other days they did not take much pains with their dress. They were very fond of adorning their heads. Their hair was always curled and powdered and ornamented with glittering bodkins and aigrettes. Every day but Sunday they wore a neat little jacket and a short petticoat which hardly reached half the leg. In this they seemed to imitate the Indian women. They did not spare themselves, they were always at work in the home or about the farm. They were likewise cheerful and content, as well as being witty and charming.

The French Canadians knew well how to enjoy life and did not struggle for things beyond their reach. They loved the land, their church, their children, their animals, good company and a

merry time. Adversity made them into a strong and versatile, close-knit group of people with proud traditions.

Joseph and Marie's third son, Barthélémy-François, married Dorothee Brisson, at Chateau-Richer on April 17, 1719. Their fourth son, Louis, married Françoise Simon at Chateau-Richer on September 22, 1723 and brought sorrow to all when he died on December 4, 1726.

Our ancestor, Jacques, married Françoise Guyon at Ste. Famille on February 22, 1729. One child was born of this union, a son, Joseph, who later married Marguerite Blouin on February 7, 1763 at St. Jean, Ile D'Orleans. Françoise evidently died, because on August 17, 1739, Jacques married a second time to Marthe Letourneau at Ste. Famille.

On May 21, 1731, Bertrand married for a third and final time to Marie Gagnon at Ste. Famille.

The huge fortress of Louisbourg on Isle Royale (Cape Breton) was begun in the summer of 1713. By 1745, the civil population numbered about four thousand. The number of soldiers varied, but was never more than about fourteen hundred.

In 1720, the town of Quebec had about seven thousand inhabitants. In pleasant variety were noblesse, soldiers, high officials with the governor and intendant at their head, clergy, including the bishop and other ecclesiastics, and it also cultivated women in its religious communities.

In 1731, LaVerendrye began his work of exploration in the west. He built a number of forts and trading posts west of Lake Superior and explored into what is now the Dakotas. On May 17, 1749, in Paris, five Canadian officers were awarded the coveted Cross of St. Louis. Among them was Pierre de la Verendrye, and another was Jean Jarret de Verchères.

Joseph Perrot's beloved wife, Marie Gagné, died at their home on the Ile D'Orleans in 1739 at the age of 68. Joseph followed her in death on July 29, 1742 at the age of 79.

Jacques and Marthe Letourneau's first born child was a daughter, named Marie-Marthe after her mother, born on July 21, 1740 at Ste. Famille. She was followed by a second daughter, Marie-Madeleine, born March 16, 1742, and yet a third daughter, Geneviève, born on March 8, 1744, both at Ste. Famille.

In 1744, Britain and France were again at war. On May 6, 1749, at Louisbourg, the French prepared to attack a British post, the fishing station at Canso, a barren island some fifty miles west of Nova Scotia. The capture of Canso brought acute alarm to New England and confirmed the view that the fortress of Louisbourg was a menacing threat. Thus, on April 20, 1745, with a landing of New Englanders west of the town, began the battle for the fortress which, after much bombardment, surrendered to the English on June 28, 1745. This war ended on April, 1748 with the treaty of Aix-La-Chapelle. Louisbourg was returned to the French.



On August 30, 1746, Marthe bore Jacques a son, whom they named Jean-Baptiste. He was followed by a second son, named Bernard, on January 1, 1749 and by a third son, our ancestor, Augustin, on October 22, 1752, and who was the last of our ancestors born during the French regime.

In 1754, Britain authorized war on land in America. In 1755, France sent Count Dieskau and three thousand troops to Canada. Britain sent Major-General Edward Braddock with fifteen hundred men to Virginia with a plan to capture Fort Duquesne at the forks of the Ohio River. Braddock met with disastrous defeat on July 8, 1755 before reaching Fort Duquesne and was killed in the conflict. Meanwhile, Dieskau, with three and a half thousand French regulars, Canadians and Indians, met an English army under Johnson on Lake George, which resulted in no decisive action, but Dieskau was wounded and captured by Johnson.

In 1756, Britain began the expulsion of the French Acadians from Nova Scotia because they refused to take an oath of allegiance to Britain.

On May 20, 1756, Marthe gave birth to a fourth daughter, Marie-Pelagie.

On May 10, 1756, the Marquis de Montcalm arrived at Quebec to take command of the French military forces. In the summer of 1756, he led in the capture of the British fort at Oswego. In 1757, he captured Fort William Henry at the south end of Lake George. In the summer of 1758, he was again victorious over a large British army of sixteen thousand men with his own force of three thousand at Fort Carillon (Ticonderoga). But, in spite of Montcalm's successes, the end was now in sight for New France.

On July 27, 1758, Louisbourg surrendered after a long siege. In August of 1758, the British re-occupied Oswego, and on August 27, Fort Frontenac surrendered. On November 24, a British army advanced to Fort Duquesne, which the French burned and abandoned.

On May 20, 1759, Marthe gave birth to their last child, a daughter, Marie-Marguerite, and the family of Jacques and Marthe was now complete.

On June 25, 1759, a large British fleet anchored near the head of the Ile D'Orleans, and a landing on the island was made in the early morning of the 26th. The siege of Quebec had begun.

All the inhabitants of Ile D'Orleans had to abandon their homes, their livestock and crops at the command of the English, who used the island as a base of operations. The inhabitants evidently removed across the river to Charlesbourg, where they eventually spent three months with anxiety and the most complete deprivation. From there they could witness the destruction and devastation wrought by the English as they pillaged their homes, killed and ate or carried off their livestock and poultry, and burned their crops. Of course, the able-bodied men were busy with their militia companies, which were involved in the defense of Quebec and would participate in the various military actions. On



July 31, Indians and Canadians dressed as Indians, crept up on British sentries on the island and killed and scalped them.

After much bombardment and unsuccessful attacks by the British, on September 13, 1759, they landed during the night at Foulon, where they climbed the heights to the Plains of Abraham. In the very confused battle that ensued, the forces of Montcalm were defeated and both of the commanders, Wolfe and Montcalm, received fatal wounds. Five days later, on September 18, Quebec surrendered.

In April of 1760, Levis, who had wintered at Montreal, approached Quebec with an army which proceeded to defeat a British army from Quebec at Sainte-Foy. But Levis, rather than pursuing the routed British and attempting to retake Quebec, retreated to Montreal where New France capitulated to the combined British armies on September 8, 1760. The Treaty of February 10, 1763 confirmed to the French Canadians all the terms that were promised at the capitulation--their language, their religion and their laws, which they retain to this day.

Our ancestor, Jacques, was 57 years of age at the time of the siege and probably served in it with his militia unit, along with his brothers. No doubt the surrender was a difficult circumstance for Jacques along with all the others. Perhaps he even went on to serve with Levis in the campaign of 1760, but after the capitulation, he and his wife and their children became British subjects.

I would speculate that the proud traditions that were established prior to the conquest gave them all strength for the uncertain future. The ordinary habitants who were all subject to compulsive military service in their local militia units, through necessity, became skilled guerrilla fighters, and by the end of the seventeenth century, were certainly a match for the Iroquois. The Canadians, having defeated their enemies, the Iroquois and the English, and successfully defended what they regarded as their homeland in two long previous wars, were proud of their prowess as fighting men. In our family, Joseph, Jacques and Pierre, sons of Jacques and Michelle, and Joseph and Marie's sons Bertrand, Barthélémy-François, Louis, Jacques and Augustin, we know served in the militia and probably saw action in the many campaigns conducted during their periods of service. In this time of defeat, those who survived the conquest could recall the old traditions with pride and look forward with firm resolve as new subjects of Great Britain.

The first four years after the conquest were good years for the French Canadians as they were governed by the leaders of the British army, who were most understanding and sensitive to their plight.

The French colonist fought a continuous war with the Iroquois from 1633 to 1701. At that time, the Iroquois consisted of five Indian nations, the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas. The so-called French and Indian wars occurred:

1. 1689 to 1697, ending with the Treaty of Ryswick on September 29, 1697.

2. 1702 to 1713, ending with the treaty of Utrecht on April 11, 1713.

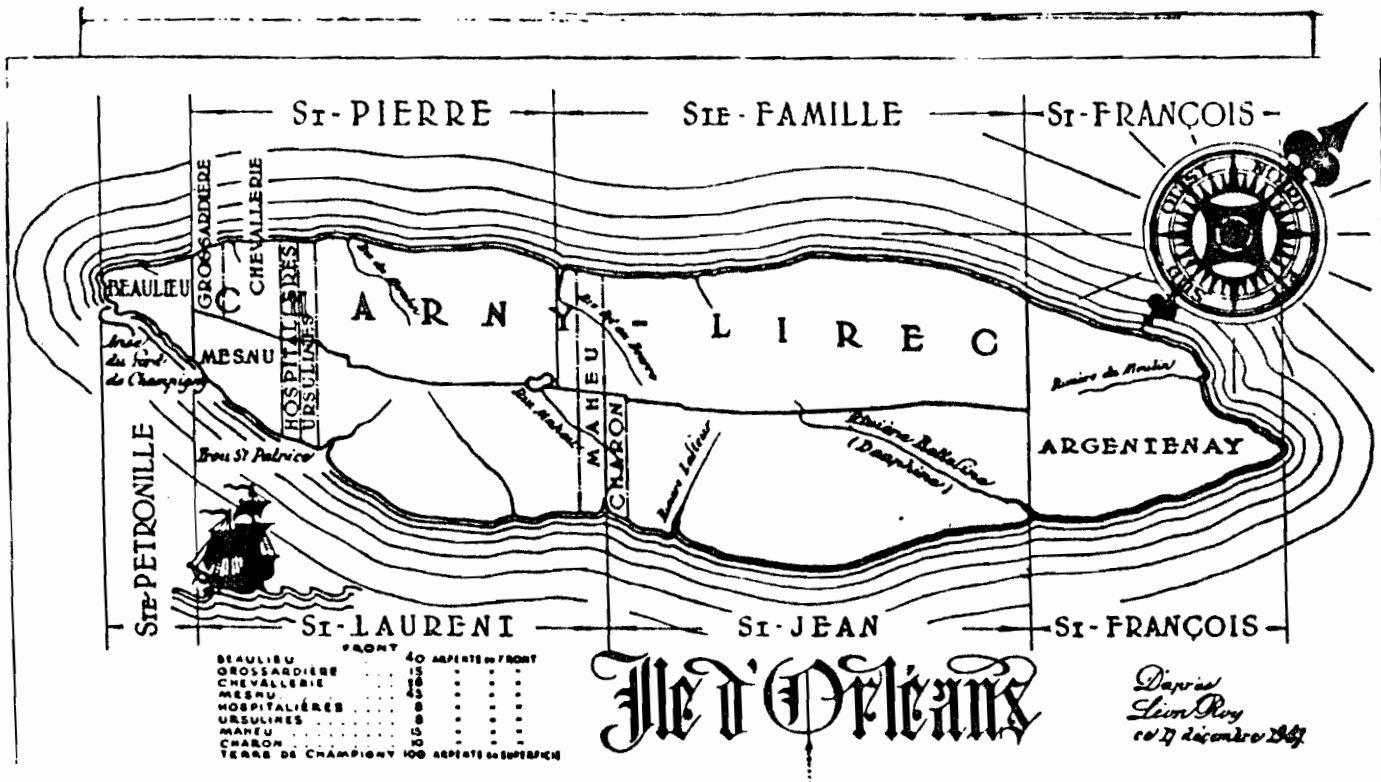
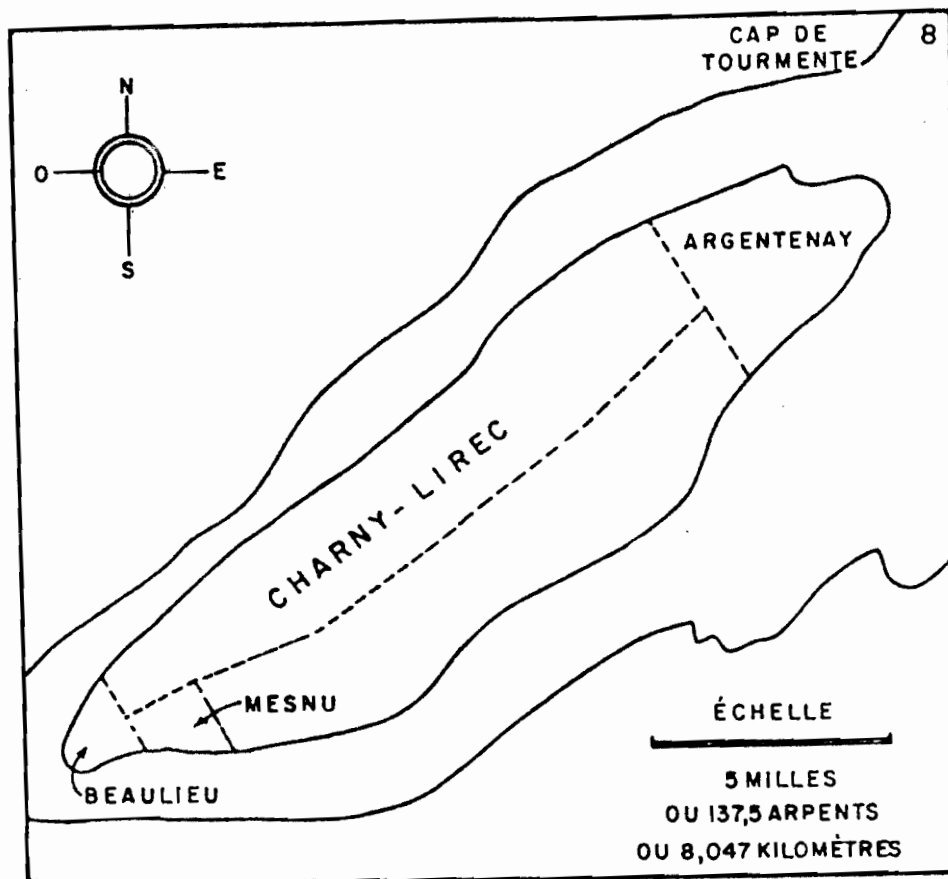
3. 1744 to 1748, ending with the Treaty of Aix-La-Chapelle in April, 1748.

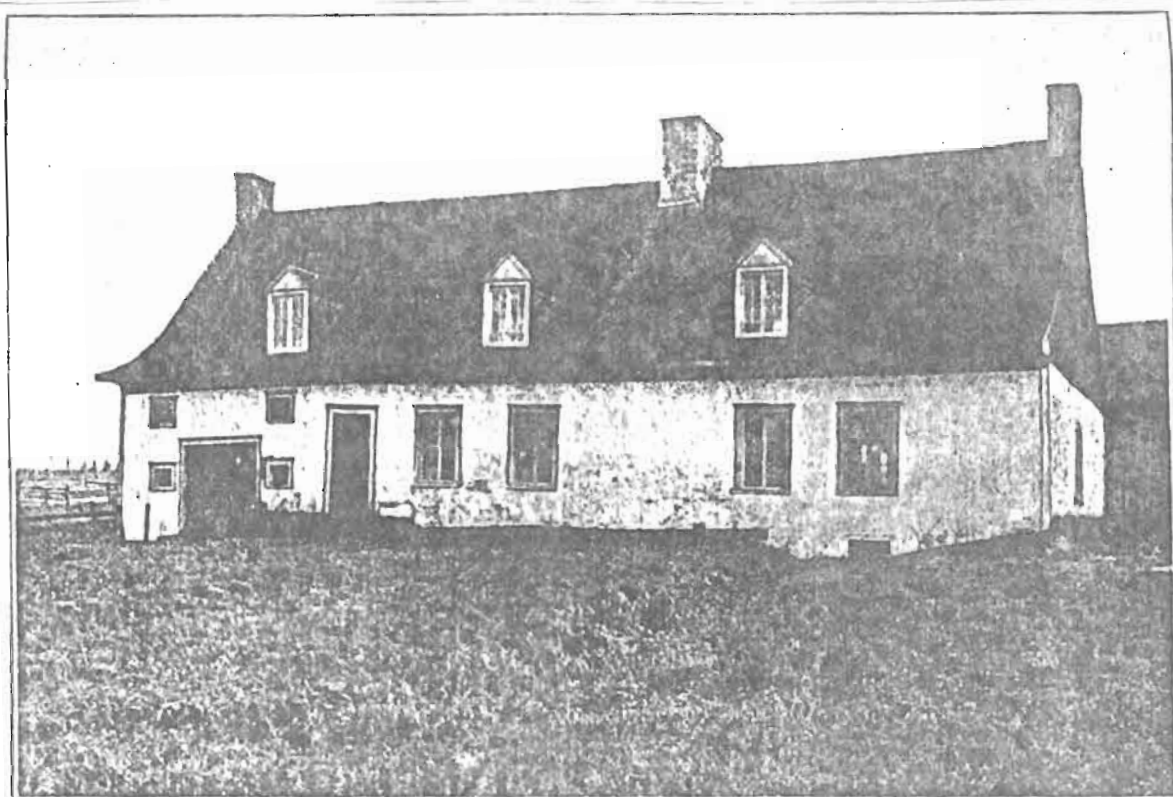
4. 1754 to 1763, ending with the Treaty of Paris on February 10, 1763.

The colony of New France began in Acadia in 1604, in Quebec in 1608 and lasted until 1760.

Recent evidence in the old census notes indicate that our ancestor, Joseph, may have become a seigneur as early as 1701. Reference is made, dated August 29, 1701, to a transfer of property by Marie Paradis, widow of Guillaume Baucher-Morency, to her sons, Joseph and Guillaume, and indicates this property adjoined that of the seigneur, Joseph Perrot. Thus, Joseph would have received the fief d'Argentenay from Governor Louis-Hector de Callières and the Intendant Jean Bochart de Champigny. Joseph was 38 years old at this time.

# L'ILE D'ORLÉANS: LES ARRIÈRE-FIEFS DE JUIN 1663

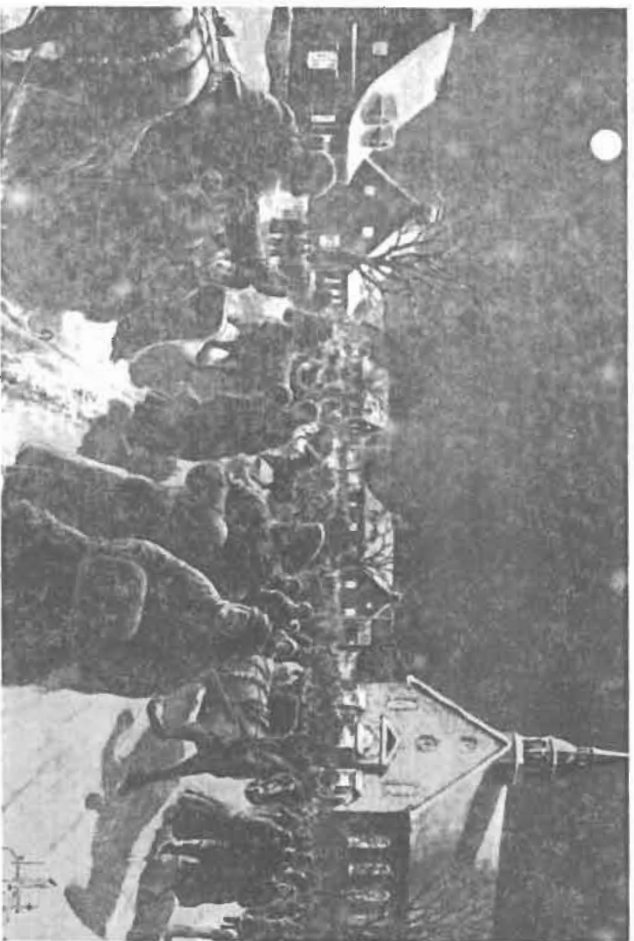




ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS RECORDS IT IS THOUGHT THAT VERY POSSIBLY THE OLD HOUSE PICTURED ABOVE, WHICH DATES BACK TO THE FRENCH REGIME, WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT BY JOSEPH PERROT. THE NOTE REFERS TO PIERRE-GEORGES ROY'S BOOK "OLD MANORS-OLD HOUSES," PUBLISHED IN 1927, PAGE 293. "ON THE LOT, LAND REGISTRY No. 62, IS TO BE FOUND, STILL AN OLD HOUSE, NOW USED AS A WAREHOUSE AND WHICH DATES BACK CERTAINLY TO THE FRENCH REGIME. THIS HOUSE, IS IT POSSIBLE THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN BUILT BY JOSEPH PERROT WHO WAS LORD OF ARGENTENAY?"



THE HUSBAND'S OUTDOOR OVEN BAKED BREAD FOR HIS FAMILY (CH. 3).



RETURNING FROM MIDNIGHT MASS (CH. 3).

traced back for centuries, and many were made from time to time out here. The best known, though not the best, "Alouette," has such a contagiously rollicking tune that it has become immensely popular with impromptu choruses in English Canada. When the members of Parliament have finished the business of the session and are waiting for the final ceremonies, they invariably sing this song, led, of course, by one of the French members. The music and the words of the first stanza of "Alouette" are printed below.

*Chœur*

1. A...lou...et...te, é...n...tille a...lou...et...te, A...lou...

*Fin Solo*

et...te, je t'y plu...me...rai. 1. Je t'y plu...me...rai la

*Chœur*

têt, je t'y plu...me...rai la têt, je t'y plu...me...rai la

*Solo Chœur*

têt, A...lou...et...te! A...lou...et...te! Ah! A...lou...

*D.C.*

2. Je t'y plu...me...rai le bec... 3. Je t'y plu...me...rai les yeux...  
Et le bec, et la tête... Et les yeux, et le bec, et la tête...

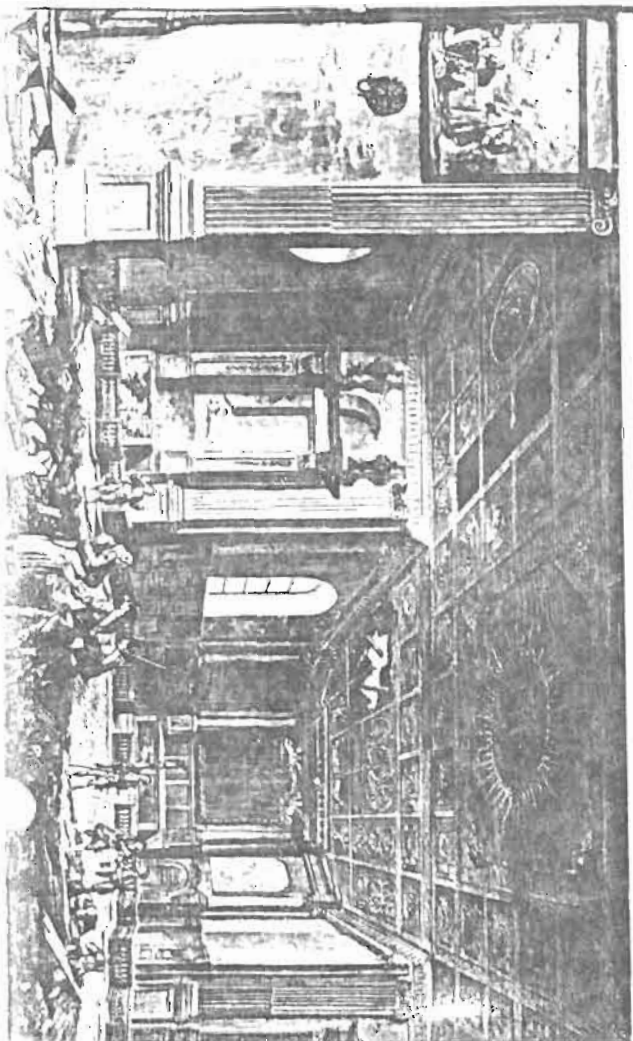
4. (etc.) le bec, le cou, les ailes, le dos, les pattes, la queue

Whenever two or three Canadians were gathered together—at home, in the fields, in the woods, or on the river—they were sure to burst into song. They sang when they met in one another's houses; they sang as they guided the plough or wielded the axe; and in the canoe their paddles kept time with the song that sped them along. No children of the earth ever had a gayer or more wholesome existence.

25. The Siege of Quebec, 1759



27. Interior, Jesuit Church, Quebec, 1759. By Richard Shortt



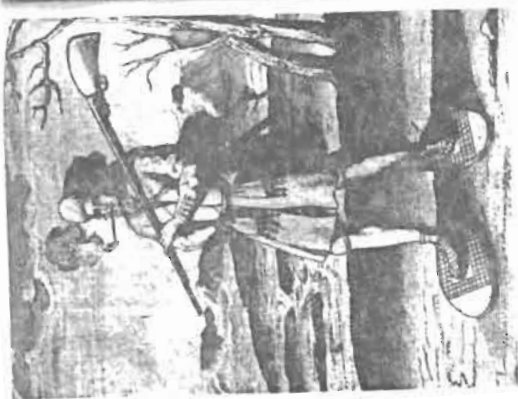
26. Jesuit College and Church, Quebec, 1759. By Richard Shortt







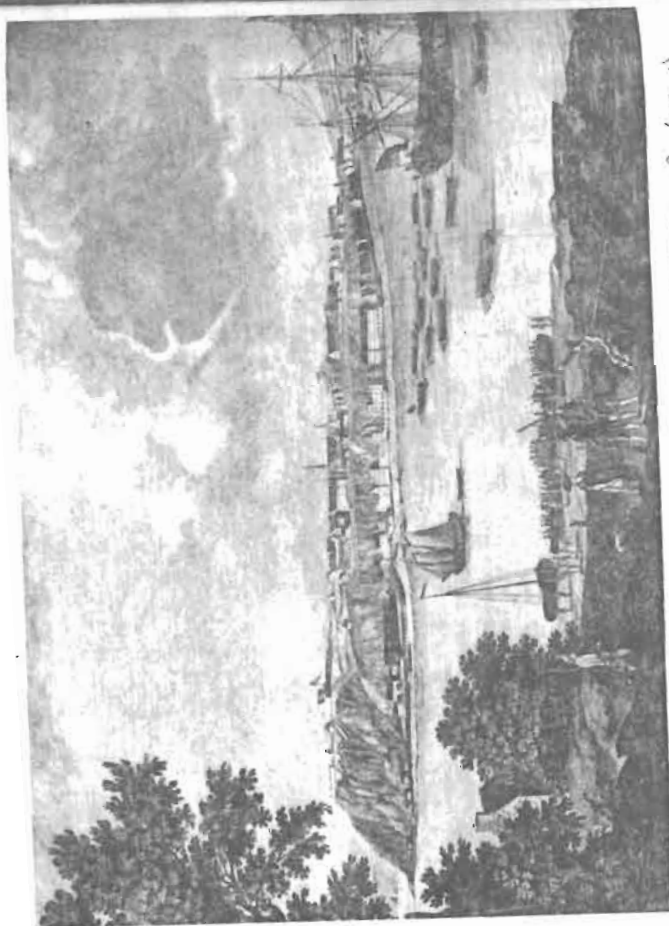
*French Militiaman of the Seven Years War*



A. PICTORIAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CAPTURE OF QUEBEC, BY HERVEY SMYTH, AIDE TO GENERAL WOLFE (CH. 4).



VIEW OF QUEBEC FROM POINT LEVY, BY RICHARD SHORT IN 1761 (CH. 4).



THE DEATH OF GENERAL WOLFE, BY BENJAMIN WEST (CH. 4).



LOUIS JOSEPH, MARQUIS DE MONTCALM (CH. 4).



SIR GUY CARLETON, LORD DORCHESTER (CHS. 5, 6).





Officier du régiment de Carignan, 1666

## CHAPTER IV

### The Verchères 1665 - 1769

As already taken up in the second chapter, François Jarret de Verchères arrived in New France in 1665 as an officer in the Carignan-Salières Regiment.

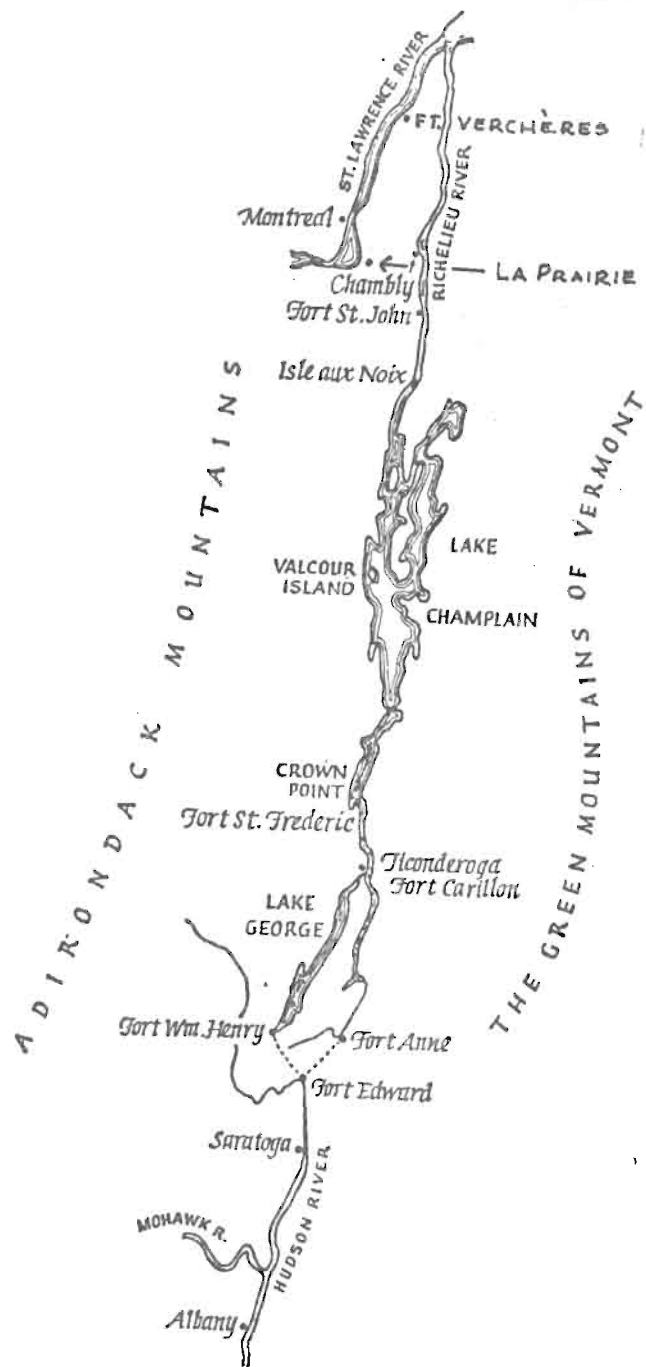
François probably served initially with the group who were sent to build forts along the Richelieu River invasion route used by the Iroquois against the French settlements. Here they built three forts, one at the mouth of the river at Sorel, one at the foot of the falls at Chambly, and one on an island near the point where Lake Champlain empties into the river.

He probably also accompanied the expedition led by the Marquis de Tracy in the late summer of 1666 to the lands of the Mohawks, where they destroyed several Mohawk villages and their food supplies.

François elected to remain in Canada when the regiment returned to France. We have two dates given for his marriage to Marie Perrot, daughter of Jacques and Michelle Perrot and sister of Joseph Perrot. One is September 10, 1667, when Marie was eleven years old, and the other being September 17, 1669, when Marie was thirteen years old. Although girls married very young at this period in history, the writer tends to think the 1669 date is more correct. The marriage took place at Ste. Famille on the Ile d'Orleans.

The records indicate that François Jarret de Verchères received his seigneurie in 1672 when Jean Talon, the intendant, began awarding seigneuries to the Carignan-Salières regimental officers. It was located at the present town of Verchères, which is in Verchères county in the province of Quebec, about twenty miles down the St. Lawrence from Montreal, and included Verchères Island in the river. This seigneurie was also located in that section of Canada which was most vulnerable to attacks by the Iroquois due to its proximity to the Richelieu River. Of course, the intent in awarding these seigneuries to the military officers, who in turn would settle them with soldiers from their respective commands, was to reinforce this area against the Iroquois threat. Here François and Marie settled with the intent to build a decent life for themselves and their family.

In time, François built a fort and a blockhouse connected by a covered passageway. This was Fort Verchères, which eventually became known as Fort Dangerous because of the excessive peril in which its inhabitants existed.



The mouth of the Richelieu was protected and guarded by the fort at Sorel, and the wily Iroquois had fallen into the habit of leaving the water before reaching the river mouth and striking inland. After a few miles, they would find themselves in sight of the fort and blockhouse of Verchères. It had suffered so many attacks and alarms that the inhabitants lived in constant dread. But François had settled down with more good will and determination than most of his fellow officers, and, in spite of all the attacks and problems, was reasonably successful over the years.

A curious spell of overconfidence seems to have invested the Verchères domain on the morning of October 22, 1692. Seigneur Verchères was on duty with the garrison at Quebec, and Madame de Verchères was in Montreal or at Laprairie, probably visiting with the families of her two brothers, Joseph and Jacques Perrot. It had been a good season in spite of the constant alarms which had kept men as well as women indoors. The fields were high with waving corn, the pumpkins were ripe and yellow, the last of the melons remained to be gathered, and the trees were laden with fruit. The sun had been so bright and cheerful this fine October morning that the settlers had decided to risk gathering this bountiful harvest. They were out in the fields, and the cheerful sound of their voices could be heard from all parts of the cultivated area as they labored with sickle and hoe.

The fourteen-year-old daughter of the family, Madeleine, was at the wharf on the riverbank, which was close to the main entrance of the fort. The settlers had a name of their own for wharves, calling them mouille-pieds, which meant "wet feet"; but this did not concern small Madeleine (from the descriptions available she seems to have been petite and rather pretty) because she was probably expecting her mother from Montreal, and so would not have dared put on her best kid-topped shoes with tasseled drawstrings. A hired man whose name was Laviolette was with her.

A sound of musket fire reached them from the direction of the fields where the settlers were at work. Laviolette, with his greater height, could see more of what was happening than the girl. In a voice of great panic he cried: "Run, Mademoiselle, run! The Iroquois!" She saw then that the fields had filled almost in the winking of an eye with naked top-knotted warriors, screeching their triumphant battlecries and killing unarmed workers as fast as they could run them down.

She turned and made for the fort, followed by the man Laviolette. Her mind was filled with supplications to God and the Holy Virgin, but at the same time, busy with thoughts of what might be done. There were only two soldiers in the fort, she knew, in addition to her two brothers, aged twelve and ten, a very old man of eighty or thereabouts, and a number of women with infant children. They reached the fort uninjured in the face of a heavy spatter of Iroquois bullets.

"To arms! To arms!" cried the girl.

Outside the gates were two weeping women who had seen their husbands cut down and killed by the fierce marauders, and it required a firm hand and a display of confidence, both of which the child managed to achieve, to get them inside. Madeleine closed the gate herself and drove the crossbeams into place.

She found the two soldiers in the blockhouse, which was safer than the somewhat dilapidated fort. One had hidden himself and the other was standing over a barrel of powder with a lighted fuse in his hand.

"What are you going to do?" she cried.

The man answered in a quavering voice, "Light the powder and blow us all up."

"You are a miserable coward!" said the girl, driving him away from the ammunition supply.

She proceeded then to instill courage into the huddled group about her.

"We must never surrender!" she told them.

"If I am taken and cut to pieces or burned before your eyes, you must never surrender!"

They must fight as though they were all soldiers and numerous enough to hold the Indians off, she said, and perhaps God, who was watching them as she spoke, would send them help in time. The rest were encouraged by her words. Broken palisades were strengthened and the ammunition made ready.

A canoe now appeared on the river nearing the landing place. In it was a settler with his family, trying to reach the fort. Madeleine went out to meet them and help them land in full sight of the bewildered savages, who imagined this was a ruse to draw them into the open. She got the family safe inside the palisade.

Her young brothers and then the two soldiers in a shamefaced silence took guns to the loopholes and began to fire on the Indians in the fields. By running from one loophole to another, while the women loaded the guns for them, they were able to create the impression that a sizable garrison held the fort.

That night, there was a storm, the snow and the wind offering good cover for an attack. Again she contrived to appear strong. She allowed no slackening, no giving in from hunger or fatigue. She begged her brothers to remember their gentle birth and to act like men. They and the other men shouted loudly to each other. When Madeleine saw a few cattle not killed by the Iroquois standing at the gate of the fort in the middle of the night, she went out into the open, musket in hand, and boldly flung wide the gate and let them in. Her boldness staggered the Iroquois. They imagined a strong, fearless guard. The guard was feeble, but it was fearless.

For a week, the little band of defenders kept up their brave pretense. Madeleine threw off her bonnet, put on a soldier's hat and appeared at each of the three bastions. The men, including the octogenarian, the two boys, and the petticoated commander, slept at intervals only and never at night. They stood guard at the bastions of the fort and at the loopholes in the blockhouse in the daytime, firing briskly when the bronze skin of a hostile warrior showed in the fields or in the cover of the trees. At night they paced the platforms to keep awake and kept up encouraging cries of "All's well!" at regular intervals. The gallant little band was so successful in its pretense of being an adequate garrison that the Iroquois, still lurking in the woods, did not risk an attack. It became known later that the Indians held a council of war and decided that the chance of carrying a fort so well defended was slight.

During this week of effort and strain, the meager garrison took their orders without question and drew their inspiration from the girl of fourteen. In the desperate moment of time when she had first seen the war party issuing from the trees, she had ceased to be a child. An adult resolution had taken possession of her. Knowing the full weakness of her tiny band--the soldiers had displayed their clay feet in the first moments of the attack, her brothers were still children, the old man could do no more than doddle about the loopholes--she drove them with a fierce energy and never allowed them a moment's ease. She slept little herself and consumed the cold scraps of food which the women prepared, with an eye on the fields and the line of trees. She preached at them and prayed with them when their will to go on faltered. She sometimes swayed unsteadily with the weight of the musket which she always carried (and used also to good effect), her face became pale and wan, her eyes were shadowed and deep-sunken. But never for a moment did she give way to her fears.

On the night of the seventh day, a party of forty men arrived from Montreal under the command of sieur de La Monnerie, a lieutenant in the French army. They stopped at the landing place and hailed the fort, not knowing whether the defense still held out but fearing very much that they would find the Iroquois in possession. Madeleine had been dozing with her head on a table, her musket still in her arms. She roused herself and mounted the bastion.

"Who are you?" she demanded.

The answer came back in an unmistakably French voice, "It is La Monnerie, who comes to bring you help."

In a voice which seemed for the first time to show emotion, Madeleine ordered the gate to be opened. Leaving one of the soldiers there to keep guard, she ventured out alone into the darkness. When she met the lieutenant on the path, she stopped and saluted him.

"Monsieur," she said in a voice high-pitched with the first hint of hysteria, "I surrender my arms to you."





J. Grallé del. & sculp.

J. Laroque sculp.

*Iroquois allant à la Découverte*

She was ready to drop with fatigue but she remained a good commander to the end. Her first thought was for those who had shared with her the long vigil.

"Monsieur," she said to La Monnerie in a tone of great earnestness, "it is time to relieve them. We have not been off our guard for a week."

A picture of Madeleine shows her with neat golden curls and a dainty pink and white dress. This is in contrast to the way she must have looked at the end of that dreadful week, a thin, weary child with dark circles about her eyes, with her dress, which she had not had time to change, crumpled and torn, and with her powder-stained child's hand rigid in salute as she gave over her command to the officer.

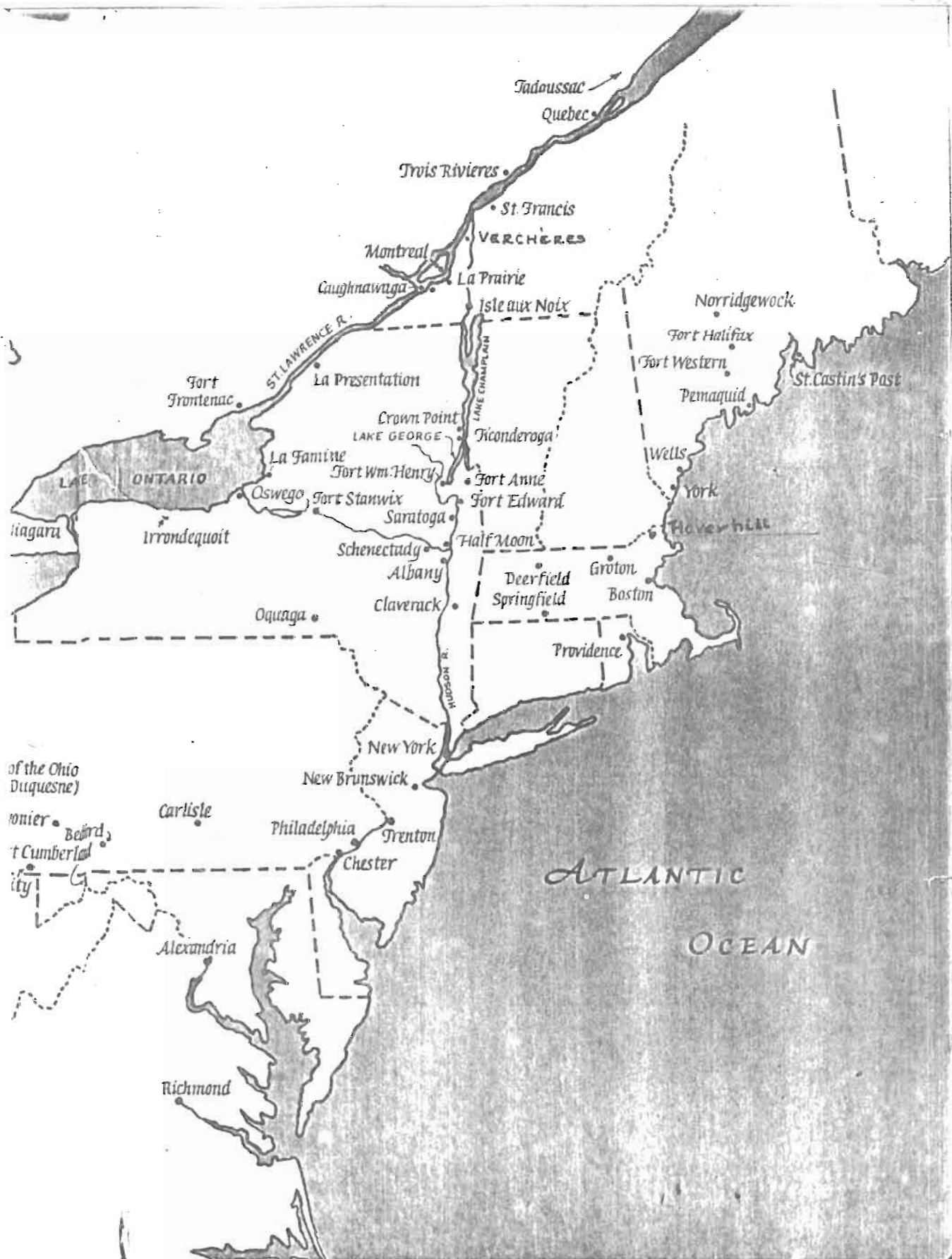
When she told the story later of these remarkable seven days, she made no mention of what followed immediately after the arrival of the rescuing party or of the emotions she felt. It may be assumed, however, that she did not allow herself to break down and that her tears were held back until she reached the privacy of her room. It may also be taken for granted that she slept the clock around and that the effects of her seemingly unending vigil were not easily shaken off. Did the maturity of character and mind which she had summoned so resolutely continue to govern her thereafter, or did she slip back into the fancies and humors of girlhood? One thing may be accepted, perhaps, that she began to insist on some grown-up privileges. It would be pleasant to think, for instance, that she was allowed to wear her kid-topped shoes whenever she chose and that she was allowed the right to have considerations on her skirts, the panniers, which were deemed proper only when girlhood had been put behind.

Her full name was Marie-Madeleine Jarret de Verchères, the granddaughter of Jacques and Michelle Perrot, and she was fourteen-and-a-half years old when she thus earned for herself a place in Canadian annals with Adam Dollard and the heroes whose shades are in his train. She was summoned by the Marquis de Beauharnois, who held the post of governor, when she was a young married woman, and told her story at his request, with proper dignity and simplicity. She was treated with the consideration she had earned and given a small pension, an award by Louis XIV. Her husband was Pierre-Thomas Tarieu de Lanaudière, and she brought a number of children into the world. They lived in rather less parlous times and had no opportunity to emulate the deed of this remarkable girl who had become their mother. We can imagine the tremendous feeling of pride and thanksgiving which Jacques and Michele Perrot must have felt for their beloved granddaughter.

Reference has been made to the two younger brothers of Madeleine, who participated also in the heroic defense of Fort Verchères in 1692. One was ten years of age at this time and the other was twelve.

The writer believes that the elder brother who was twelve years old in 1692 was the one who accompanied Hertel de Rouville, in the summer of 1708, on a raid on Haverhill, Massachusetts.





The party set out from Montreal with a hundred French and about three hundred Indians. However, many of the Indians deserted on the way and only a few remained for the assault. Hertel's band was thus mainly French and he regarded them as crusaders against the infidels. After all knelt with him in prayer, they crept up to the village, dashed in with sword and axe in hand, killed about fifty, set fire to the houses and hurried away to avoid pursuit. In the fighting, Rouville's brother and young Verchères were killed.

The youngest of Madeleine's brothers was probably Jean Jarret de Verchères who later served in the Troupes de la Marine throughout his life. The records indicate he was an ensign in 1710, a lieutenant in 1729 and a captain in 1743. In 1747 he earned the following encomium: "A worthy officer who has commanded in the upper posts, and has acquitted himself so well that he has always been employed by the general, whenever his services were required." In 1750 he was awarded the coveted cross of St. Louis, which carried with it the title of "chevalier" (knight). We know from the records available to us in the Wisconsin Historical Collections that he commanded at Fort Michilimackinac (Mackinaw City, Michigan) during periods from 1737 to 1744, at Fort La Baye (Green Bay, Wisconsin) from 1747 to 1749 and at Fort Frontenac (Kingston, Ontario) in 1752 where he died in 1752. He no doubt served at other posts during his career but we have no record of them.

The Wisconsin Historical Collections and others indicate the following:

October 16, 1737--Letter of Governor Beauharnois to the French minister,

"The sieur de Verchères, the commandant at Missilimakinac, wrote me on the 12th of last June that in the vicinity of his fort there were nearly thirty coureurs de bois armed with swords, guns, and pistols herewith to fight those who might oppose their passage; that those people had many savages on their side, and that as he is not strong enough to stop them, he causes a careful watch to be kept. He writes that nothing he could say would represent the fact as bad as it is."

The governor then went on to tell that he had determined to ask for amnesty for them and that the king had pardoned them.

June 16, 1742--Speech of the Outaouacs of Missilimakinac to Beauharnois, Governor General of New France, thanking him for sending them Monsieur de Celoron to govern them. Also that de Celoron was leaving and being replaced with Monsieur de Verchères and that they know him and will do all in their power to satisfy him.

Sept. 5, 1742--Letter from Beauharnois to the French minister, regarding the auctioning of the upper posts to the highest bidder and indicating he gave orders to sieur de Verchères to send the officer second in command to spend the winter every year with the

Outaouacs of Saguinan to prevent their trading with the English.

Oct. 12, 1742--Letter from Beauharnois to the French Minister,

"The sieur de Verchères writes me on the 9th of September last, that he had caused to be paid to the sieur Lamarque and company the 56 packages that the sieur de la Verendrye owed to their firm, and had caused 24 others to be handed to the sieur Legras for the goods that firm had left in the western posts. Thus, Monseigneur, this matter is settled by virtue of the order I gave, a copy whereof I have had the honor of sending you.

"That officer writes me that he caused to be delivered to the Scioux chiefs who came here last summer, the two captives of their nation that I had promised in my private room should be handed over to them from amongst those who were to come down in La Colle's party. He writes me that the Outaouacs of his post held a council in his presence with the Sakis, Renards, Puants, Scioux and Sauteux, in which the former spoke advising them not to detach themselves from me, and, following their example, to listen to my advice and follow it; (judging by the answers they gave the Outaouacs) to be disposed to do my will."

1743--Commandants of Western Posts:

Missilimackinac: the sieurs de Verchères, Captain, Commandant. De Gaspe

De Gaspe--Ignace Aubert, dit de Gaspé, was born 1714 and married (1745) Marie-Anne Coulon de Villiers. In 1739, he was appointed ensign, lieutenant in 1749, and captain in 1756.

1747--Letter from the Governor, Count de la Galissoniere to the French Minister,

"1. Mr. de Verchères, who is appointed commander at the Bay, and who has accompanied the convoy from Montreal to Michilimackinac, where he is to await the decision of the general, and to command until further orders, is merely to send word to those of the Bay that matters have not permitted his visiting them; that their brethren stop the road on him; that the canoes which were carrying goods to them are arrived at Michilimackinac, where they will find their supplies; that the accidents which have just happened, have thus prevented their father sending them goods, and he enjoins them absolutely not to allow any person to go to any other post than that of said Bay, until affairs be settled.

"2d. After the departure of the canoes which are to bring down the peltries to Montreal, 100 @ 150 men are to remain as a guard at the post. It is presumed that they will be provided with food until next spring. Should that not be the case, and the Indians refuse to sell any, he has orders to have recourse to every expedient, even to force of arms, to procure a supply. But doubting, as we do, the possibility of collecting provisions necessary for the wintering of the people of the place, and of the 100 men of the garrison, whom he is to retain, we issue orders to Montreal for the dispatch of 10 good bark canoes, loaded with

flour, Indian corn, peas, fat, suet, pork and salt beef, to the extent of 30 thousand weight. These 10 canoes will leave Montreal as soon as possible. The General intends that Lieutenant Saint Pierre shall serve as Mr. de Verchères' deputy, and the former is to remain in command at Michilimakinac, in case the latter visit the Bay. We add to Mr. de Verchères' instructions, that the voyageurs who will be detained at Michilimakinac, are to trade concurrently at the post, and should they make any representations, we shall pay attention to whatever is just.

"We send sieur de la Verendrie, Junr, back to Michilimakinac with our despatches to Mr. de Verchères, in order that this commandant may be early advised of the arrangements we are adopting for the relief of that post.

"Aug. 25th. We are in receipt of letters from Messrs de Beaucourt and Michel, in answer to ours of the 15th; he informs us that they are about to dispatch, with all diligence, the convoy of 10 canoes of provisions destined for Michilimakinac, under command of Mr. de St. Pierre.

"28th. The General writes to Mr. de Verchères; he makes no change in the arrangements for Michilimakinac; he adds only, that should the Indians of the Bay appear to him favorably disposed towards us, of which he will be informed, he leaves him at liberty to send Mr. de Saint Pierre to that post, to sound them and carry them presents, should he be of opinion that that officer might undertake the journey without danger, and that it is necessary to secure the fidelity of these Indians.

"Oct. 3rd. We learn the arrival of Mr. de Verchères at Michilimakinac. This officer informs the General that he had met on the way, 5 of the Indian canoes that had attacked the French, and that he had pursued them. The Indians landed and fled in the woods; our Frenchmen caught one of them, whom they tied, and have broken 5 canoes. Some property belonging to Frenchmen, and a scalp, were found in the prisoners sack; he was asked how he got them; answered, that those at the head of the Bay had made a present of them. Finally, to other interrogatories, he persisted in saying he was not guilty. 2 Outaouacs' canoes that were in last summer's campaign, arriving next day from Montreal, claimed the prisoner, assuring Mr. de Verchères that he belonged to the family of Koquois, a chief who is attached to the French and known to Mr. de Verchères, who released the prisoner, making the most to them of the favor he did them.

"Nov. 10th. We are in receipt of letters from Michilimakinac. Lieutenant St. Pierre, who had been selected to command the convoy sent to that post, arrived there without any accident in 45 days. Captain de Verchères, appointed commandant at the Bay, and who was to remain at Michilimakinac with his traders from Montreal, had taken his departure thence for his post with the voyageurs."

Shortly after his arrival at La Baye, he found that all the surrounding tribesmen were plotting to destroy the fort. We have no details of the manner in which Verchères broke up this formidable conspiracy, which was in fact a part of a larger revolt that threatened all the French posts in the west.

The new governor-general of Canada, the Marquis de la Jonquiere was an able naval officer but unscrupulous and



grasping. He began his administration in 1749 and picked Paul Marin for the western post because he was an ardent trader. So in 1750, Jean de Verchères probably was assigned to command at Fort Frontenac.

We find reference in the Historical Collection--"The storekeeper at Toronto writes to Mr. de Verchères, commandant at Fort Frontenac, that some trustworthy Indians have assured him that the Saulteux who killed our Frenchman some years ago, have dispersed themselves along the head of Lake Ontario, and seeing himself surrounded by them, he doubts not but they have evil design on his fort."

May 31, 1750--Letter from French minister to La Jonquiere: "His majesty also approves of your having told the commandant of La Baye to urge the Sakis, Renards, and Folles Avoines to go to Montreal for their presents, according to custom. It is to be hoped that they have decided to undertake that journey, and that you have succeeded in inducing them themselves to avenge the attack made by some Sauteurs on the sieur de Verchères."

Jan. 6, 1744--Mackinac baptisms: "I solemnly baptised in the church of this mission, Charles, a Negro slave of Mr. de Verchères, commandant of this post, from about 18 to 20 years of age, sufficiently instructed and desiring Holy Baptism which he thought he had probably never received, and which I administered to him conditionally. The godfather was Mr. Charles Chaboiller, voyageur; and the godmother, Therese Villeneuve, wife of sieur Gautier."

P. Du Jaunay, Miss. of the Society of Jesus  
Therese Villeneuve; Chaboillez

Jean also was witness at a wedding in which Charles Langlade was also a witness. He was a contemporary of La Verendrye and many other notables in the west during his period of service; 1710 - 1752. He must have had a very full and interesting military career and probably served at other important posts of which we have no record.

Another of the Jarret de Verchères we find mentioned in the Wisconsin Historical Collections is Catherine. The writer can only speculate but perhaps she was the daughter of Jean. In 1751, she married Pierre Joseph Hertel, sieur de Beaubassin. He belonged to a prominent Canadian family who had estates in Acadia. Born in 1715, he became ensign in 1748 and a lieutenant in 1756. Also in 1756, he was stationed as the commandant at La Pointe de Chequamegon on Madeleine Island near Ashland. Reference is made that she became an "especial" friend of the Marquis de Montcalm. This inference tends to convey a hint of scandal in the relationship between Catherine and Montcalm. He arrived in New France on May 10, 1758, sieur de Beaubassin served at La Pointe from 1756 to 1758. Beaubassin left La Pointe in 1758 with a company of Indians, which he had trained, to aid the hard-pressed French forces against the English. In 1759 he came to Quebec, where he served during the siege and took part in the campaign of 1760. After the capitulation he went to France. We do not know what happened to Catherine.

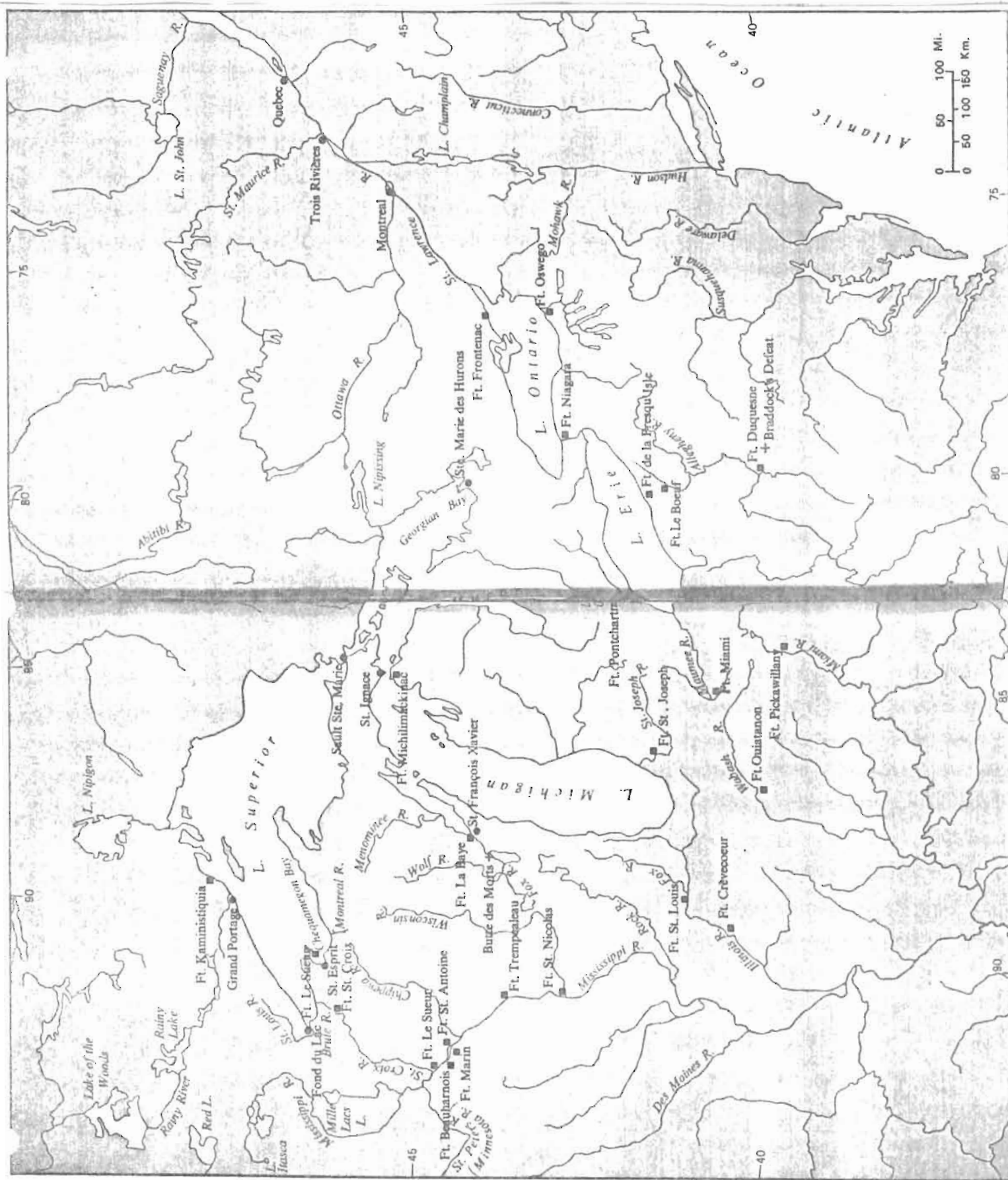
Another Verchères mentioned in letters of 1769 by Sir William Johnson to the colonial secretary was probably Louis Jarret de Verchères, who was second ensign in the Canadian troops in 1756 and first ensign in 1757. Sir William believed that he was inciting the Indians of the Lake Erie area against the English as cited in two of Sir William's letters of 1769.

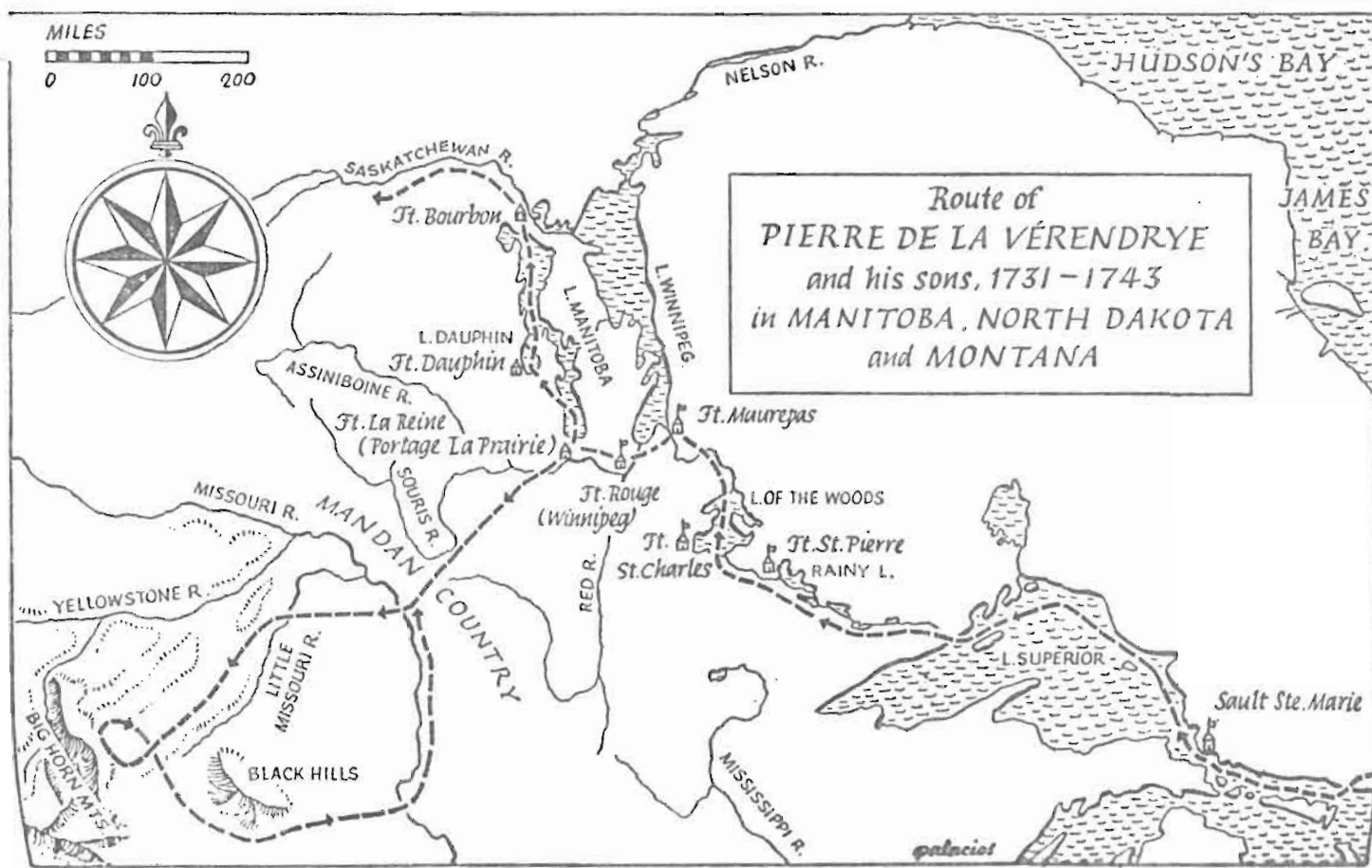
We note that the Verchères family, following in the military tradition established by François as an officer in the regiment of Carignan-Salières, all apparently became members of the officer corps of the Troupes de la Marine.

During the early years of New France, the military establishment became the dominant element in the colony, and remained so down to the conquest. This development was begun with the arrival of the first companies of Troupes de la Marine in 1683, sent to bolster the colony's defenses. By 1685 they numbered more than sixteen hundred. They were comprised of independent fifty-man companies, each commanded by a captain with a lieutenant, two ensigns, and two cadets. In the Troupes de la Marine, commissions were not purchased as in the regular regiments and promotion was based on merit.

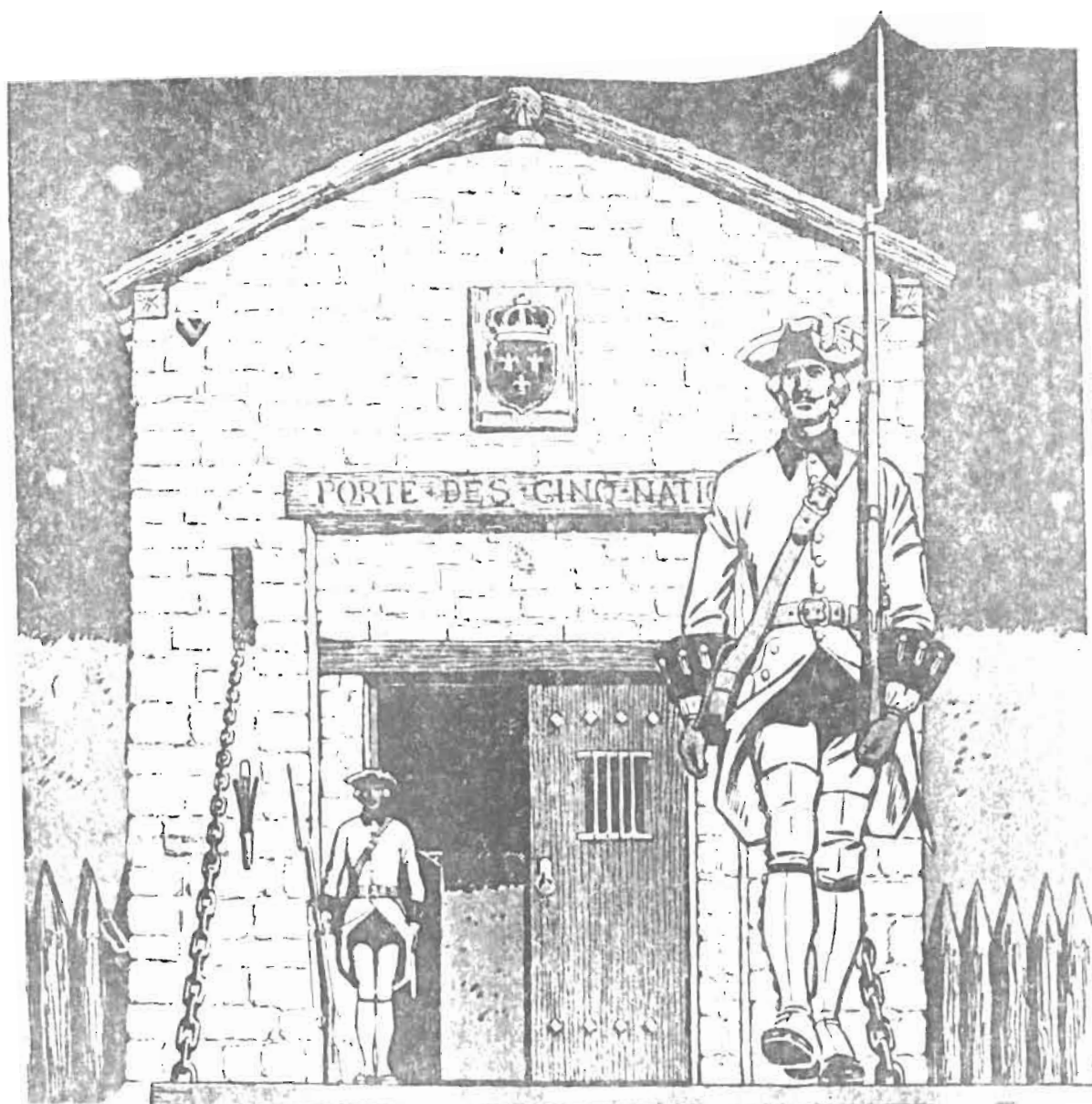
The original officer corps of these troops in Canada all came from France, but many of them, if not most, remained permanently in the colony, married Canadian girls, acquired seigneuries, and became members of the colonial upper class. Governor-general Denonville, in 1687, recommended to the minister that in the future Canadians be given commissions in these troops in preference to replacements sent from France. The recommendation was accepted by Louis XIV, and during the ensuing years, the officer corps of the Troupes de la Marine became Canadian.

Marie (Perrot) Jarret de Verchères, wife of François and mother of Marie-Madeleine and Jean, died at Verchères on September 29, 1728.









## LE MANOIR DE LA PÉRADE À SAINTE-ANNE-DE-LA-PÉRADE

**V**OICI le manoir où décéda, le 8 août 1747, Marie-Anne Jarret de Verchères, femme de Pierre-Thomas Tarieu de la Pérade, celle qui est entrée dans l'histoire sous le surnom d'héroïne de Verchères. Elle avait vécu un peu plus de quarante ans dans ce manoir.

Le manoir de la Pérade fut construit en trois parties. Celle du nord-est de cinquante pieds de front par vingt-six de profondeur, en pierre de grève, à un étage, date de 1673. Elle fut bâtie par Thomas-Xavier Tarieu de Lanouguère (Lanau-dière), officier au régiment de Carignan, co-seigneur avec Edmond de Suève, son compagnon d'armes, de la seigneurie de Sainte-Anne ou de la Pérade.

La partie centrale de vingt-six pieds de front sur trente-six de profondeur, fut construite par Pierre-Thomas Tarieu de la Pérade, quatre ans après son mariage avec Marie-Madeleine de Verchères. Cette partie fut rehaussée de deux autres étages, en 1873, par Pamphile-P.-V. Du Tremblay, capitaine de milice et seigneur Dorvilliers, et dame Marie-Clémentine Dufort, son épouse, qui possédait le manoir depuis 1867.

Enfin, la partie sud-ouest, de vingt-six pieds par vingt-six pieds, à un étage, fut construite en 1825, par l'honorable John Hale, membre du Conseil législatif et seigneur de la Pérade, pour y recevoir lord Dalhousie, gouverneur du Canada.

A cette époque, le chemin royal était au sud-est du manoir, sur le coteau. C'est en 1845 que l'honorable M. Hale réussit à le déplacer pour le faire passer au nord-ouest du manoir.

En 1891, l'honorable M. Mercier, premier ministre de la province de Québec, qui avait acheté le manoir de la Pérade, y reçut les zouaves pontificaux et y tint même une couple de séances du Conseil exécutif de la Province.

Nous venons de voir que lord Dalhousie fut l'hôte de l'honorable M. Hale au manoir de la Pérade. Sous le régime français, la maison seigneuriale de la Pérade avait aussi reçu des personnages distingués. Les gouverneurs de Vaudreuil et de Beauharnois s'arrêtèrent à deux ou trois reprises au manoir de la Pérade afin de saluer M. de la Pérade et sa femme, l'héroïque Madelon <sup>(1)</sup>.

(1) Notes de M. Pamphile-P.-V. Du Tremblay.

(Partial translation of the text as it relates to Marie-Madeleine, her husband, the construction of the manor house, the road change and the governor's visit.)

Here is the manor house where Marie-Anne Jarret de Verchères died on August 8, 1747. She was the wife of Pierre-Thomas Tarieu de la Pérade and is recorded in history under the name of the Heroine of Verchères. She had lived a little more than forty years in this manor.

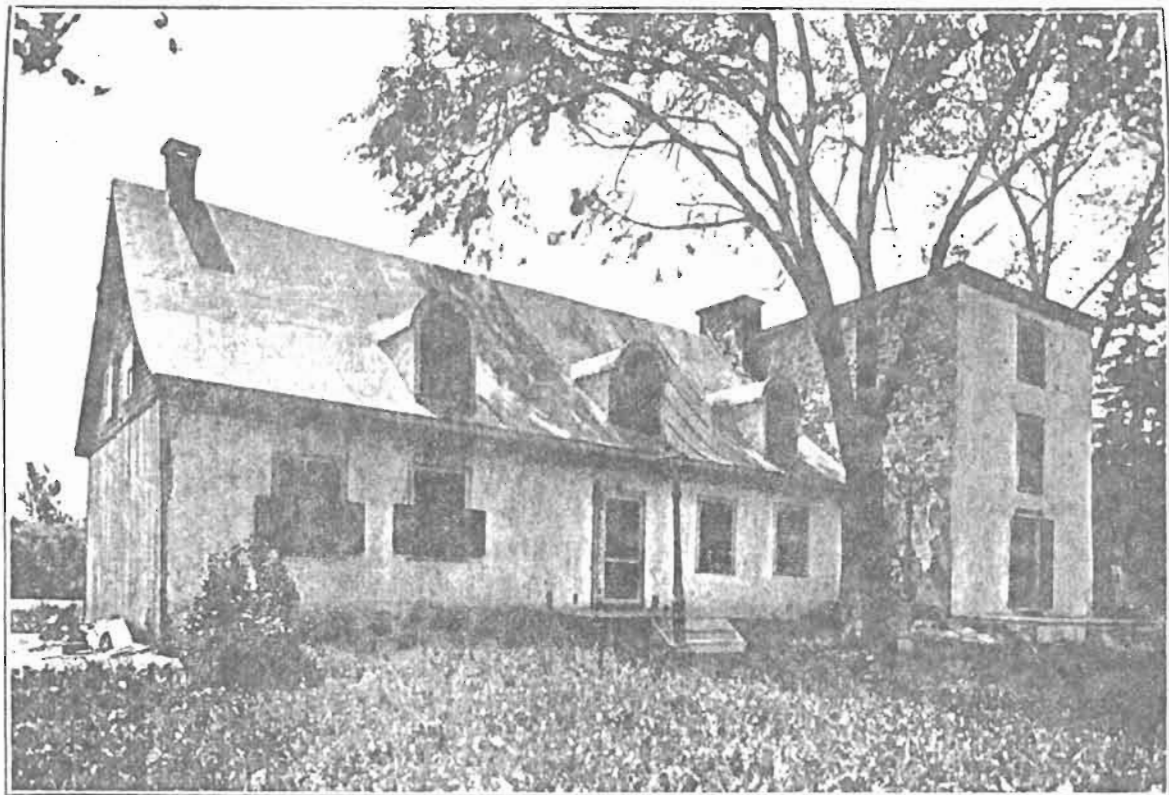
The manor of the Pérade was built in three parts. The northeast section, with fifty feet in front by twenty-six feet in depth, was built of bank stone to a height of one story in 1673. It was built by Thomas-Xavier Tarieu de Lanouguere (Lanaudière), an officer in the regiment of Carignan-Salières, and co-seigneur with Edmund de Suève, his companion in arms, of the seigneurie of Sainte-Anne or de la Pérade.

The central part of twenty-six feet of front by over thirty-six feet of depth was built by Pierre-Thomas Tarieu de la Pérade, four years after his marriage with Marie-Madeleine de Verchères. This part was raised to two additional stories in 1873 by Pamphile-P.-V. Du Tremblay, captain of militia and seigneur Dorvilliers, and Marie-Clementine Dufort, his wife, who possessed the manor from 1867.

Finally, the southwest part of twenty-six feet by twenty-six feet of one story was built in 1825, by the Honorable John Hale, member of Council of Legislators and seigneur de la Pérade, especially to receive Lord Dalhousie, Governor of Canada.

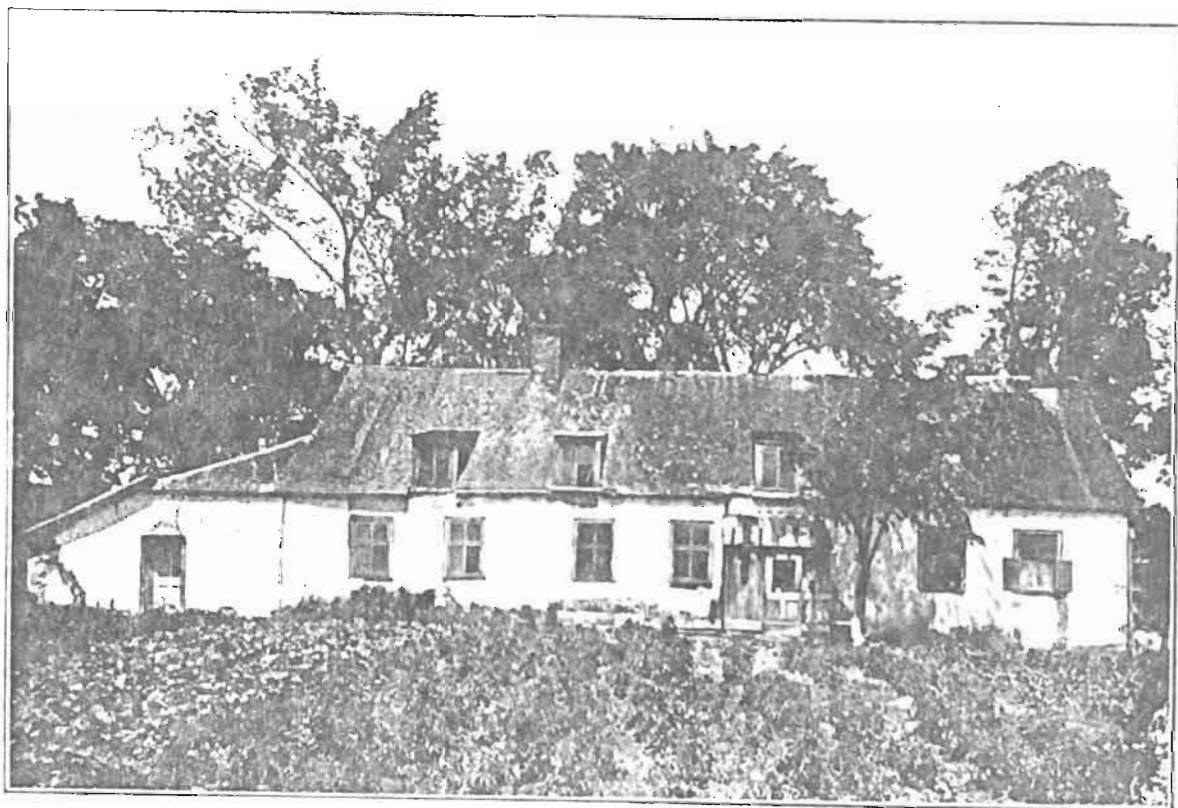
Originally, the road was located southeast of the manor on the hill. But in 1845, the Honorable Mr. Hale was successful in his attempt to relocate the road so that it passed to the northeast of the manor.

Under the French regime, this seigneuriale manor house had also received some distinguished visitors, the Governors Vaudreuil and Beauharnois stopped in for two or three visits to the manor in order to greet Monsieur de la Pérade and his wife, the heroic Madelon.



L'ANCIEN MANOIR DE LANAUDIÈRE À SAINTE-ANNE-DE-LA-PÉRADE

Cette vue donne la façade actuelle.



L'ANCIEN MANOIR DE LANAUDIÈRE À SAINTE-ANNE-DE-LA-PÉRADE

Ancienne façade, du côté du fleuve. Le chemin passe maintenant à l'est de la maison.

## Chapter V

### The British Regime 1760 - 1875

The French in Canada were not ignored after the conquest; they numbered about 65,000 and they were practically the whole population. Excepting for those in the conquering army, only a few hundred English-speaking people entered the country, settling in the towns of Quebec and Montreal. For almost four years after the conquest, Canada was governed by the leaders of the victorious army. From the beginning to the end, the military regime was a happy time for the Canadians.

Life went on for the family of Jacques Perreault and Marthe Letourneau. First born and daughter, Marthe, married Antoine Simon on November 23, 1761 and son, Jean-Baptiste, married Louise Bussieres on January 31, 1769. Marthe was married at Ste. Famille, Ile D'Orleans and Jean Baptiste at Saint-Pierre, Ile D'Orleans.

During the American Revolution in September, 1775, American general Montgomery's army began their invasion of Canada via the Richelieu River route. They occupied Montreal and the adjoining countryside. Montgomery then learned that Benedict Arnold and a force of thirteen hundred had appeared at Quebec. With a total force of only eight hundred, half of which he had to leave as garrison troops in the area he had conquered, he went to Quebec to join Arnold. The siege of Quebec began on December, 1775. The Americans by this time numbered scarcely a thousand and their guns were too few and too light to make any impression on the fortifications. Montgomery and Arnold decided to try a surprise assault in the early hours of December 31, 1775, on both ends of the lower town. Arnold led the attack on the north side and was wounded at the outset. Montgomery on the south and more than one hundred were killed and some four hundred and thirty were captured.

The French Canadians had been openly friendly and most sympathetic to the Americans in the beginning, but eventually grew more hostile as they realized this pitiful force of Americans were incapable of bringing the salvation they had originally promised. The exhaustion of American money and supplies forced the Canadians to provide goods and services for nothing. Thus by June 15, 1776, the American invasion of Canada was at an end.

On September 30, 1777, Marie-Madeleine married Michel Morin, and Geneviève married François Rinfret dit Malovin, with both weddings taking place at Ste. Famille on the Ile D'Orleans. On January 3, 1778, daughter Marie-Pelagie married Pierre Turcot, and our ancestor, Augustin, married Marie-Angélique Prémont on



THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION TOOK LAND FROM CANADA BUT GAVE HER  
SOME OF THE FINEST PEOPLE IN THE OLD COLONIES. THE COMING  
OF THE LOYALISTS, BY HENRY SANDHAM (CH. 6).



February 3, 1778. Once again both weddings took place at Ste. Famille on the Ile D'Orleans. On March 2, 1778 Bernard married Marie Lamontagne at Notre Dame, Quebec. Jacques died on November 4, 1787 at Ste. Famille and did not live to see his youngest daughter, Marguerite, marry René Destroismaisons on April 15, 1799 at Ste. Famille.

On November 12, 1778, our ancestor Augustin and his wife, Angélique were blessed with their first child, a daughter, Marie-Angélique, born at Ste. Famille. She was followed by a second daughter, Marie-Magdelaine, who was born on July 28, 1780 at Ste. Famille. A third daughter, Marie-Marguerite, was born in 1782 at Ste. Famille, but she died on May 27, 1784. A fourth daughter, Marie-Ursule, was born at Ste. Famille on April 5, 1784. She was followed by a fifth daughter, Marie, born on June 17, 1786, but who died on July 21, 1786 at Ste. Famille; and still a sixth daughter, Marie, born on August 11, 1787 at Ste. Famille, who died on October 6, 1778 also at Ste. Famille. Next came Augustin and Angélique's first son, named Augustin after his father, born on July 30, 1789 at Ste. Famille. Son Augustin was then followed by a seventh daughter, Marie-Catherine, born on September 20, 1791 at Ste. Famille. Apparently some time after the birth of Marie-Catherine, Augustin and Angélique moved their family from the Ile D'Orleans to St. Cuthbert, where their eighth and last daughter, Geneviève, was born on May 18, 1794, but who died a short time later on June 17, 1794. Finally, on January 3, 1796, Angélique bore Augustin their last child and second son, our great-great-grandfather, Jean-Baptiste, at St. Cuthbert.

At the end of the American Revolution, many former Loyalists had settled in Canada, particularly in Nova Scotia and what was called Upper Canada, now the Province of Ontario.

Augustin and Angélique's first daughter, Marie-Angélique, was married on October 2, 1797 to François Brule at St. Cuthbert. Their third daughter, Marie-Ursule, married on September 21, 1801 to Jacques Martel at St. Hyacinthe. About this time, Augustin and Angélique moved from St. Cuthbert and settled at Ste. Croix, where, on May 21, 1806, their second daughter, Marie-Magdelaine, married Louis-Paul Martel.

Next came the War of 1812, and the French Canadians, sullenly neutral during the war for American Independence, were now openly resenting the rule of their British masters. However, while they had little love for the British, they had less for the Americans than had been shown a generation previous.

Augustin and Angélique's son, Augustin, married Josephite Martel at Ste. Croix on September 22, 1812. Our ancestor, Augustin Perreault, died at Ste. Croix on April 4, 1816 at the age of 63. On August 26, 1817, our great-great-grandfather Jean-Baptiste married Elizabeth Houle at Ste. Croix.

Education in French Canada was the most backward of all Canada. For this state of affairs the English-speaking minority were chiefly responsible. They managed to get a law passed providing for a public educational system that alarmed the



religious and racial sensibilities of the great majority of the people. A scheme rather than a system, it was designed to force the English language down their throats and was headed by an Englishman--the protestant Bishop of Quebec. It was a tragedy that public education was first presented to the French Canadians in this suspicious guise; and there was another tragedy a few years later, when the racial minority, who controlled the government, blocked the efforts of the assembly to establish public schools under local control. This experience confirmed the suspicions already aroused.

Our great-great-grandparents, Jean-Baptiste Perreault and Elizabeth Houle had a very large family, consisting of 14 children, who were all born at Ste. Croix. Their first child was a son, Jean-Baptiste, named for his father, who was born on May 31, 1818. Next came another son, Francois-Xavier, born on February 20, 1821, but who died on July 2, 1821. He was followed by our great-gandfather, Germain, who was born on May 9, 1822. Next was a fourth son, Augustin, born on July 25, 1824, followed by a fifth son, Narcisse, born on August 27, 1826. Jean-Baptiste and Elizabeth's first daughter was Marie-Sophie, who was born on November 9, 1827. She was followed by a second daughter, Marie-Esther, born on October 26, 1829, and then a third daughter, Adelaide, born on March 7, 1831. Next in line came a son, Louis-Lucipe, born April 13, 1833, followed by another son, Joseph-Balthazard, born November 30, 1834. Next was a daughter, Marie-Elizabeth, born January 29, 1836, and then an unknown child born in 1837, followed by a daughter, Marie-Henriette, born February 15, 1841, but who died at Ste. Croix on July 14, 1841.

The English-speaking residents of Quebec and Montreal had long worked for an assembly, expecting to control it; but they were alarmed when they got it, for it was accompanied by the separation of Upper Canada, which placed them in a hopeless minority in the Lower Canadian chamber. Their fear of being crushed by the overwhelming weight of the French majority, caused them to now denounce popular government and to rally behind the ruling group of men of their own blood. They wanted to anglecize the French, to make them learn English. They wanted to check the powerful influence of the religious organization of the French, the Roman Catholic church. They knew that the French assembly would lay the main burden of taxes on commerce, which was largely in their own hands, whereas they wanted the weight to fall on the owners of the land; the French. Were not these the majority of other people, and would not commerce enrich the province? Finally, back of all this lay the feeling that the interests of the conquering race should be supreme.

Meanwhile, the French, to whom representative government was something utterly strange, were slow to realize that they possessed the assembly. Nearly fifteen years elapsed before they awoke. But by then their assembly was blocked by the upper chamber, and the government was in the hands of men who were hostile to their language, their religion, and their economic interests and would treat them like a conquered people.

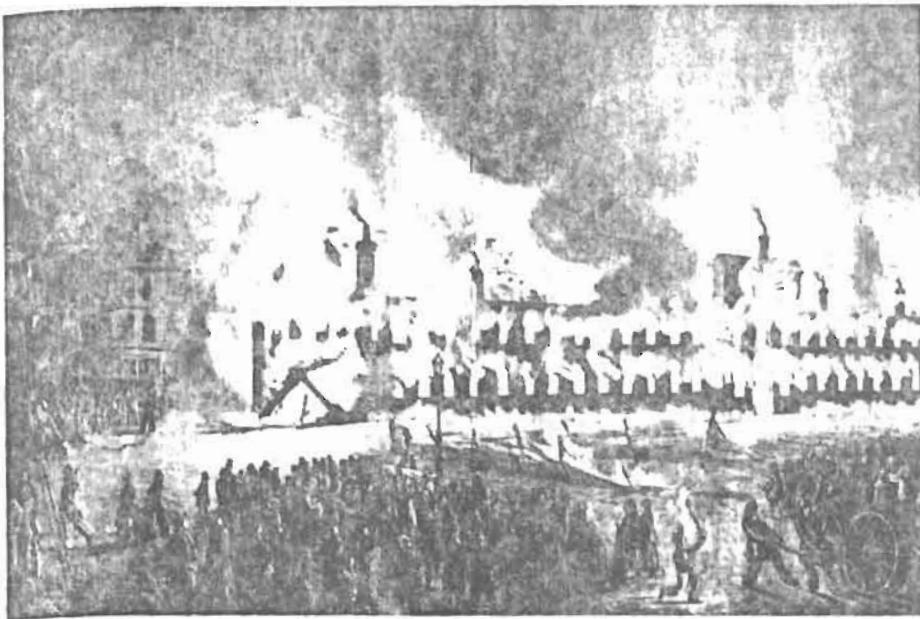
Thus, the two races were pitted against each other by the



WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE, FIERY SCOT, WAS PERSECUTED INTO BEING THE POPULAR CHAMPION OF UPPER CANADA (CH. 10).



LOUIS JOSEPH PAPINEAU, FRENCH CANADIAN LEADER, FILLED THE CORRESPONDING ROLE IN LOWER CANADA (CH. 10).



BURNING OF THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE AT MONTREAL IN THE TORY RIOTS, APRIL 25, 1849 (CH. 10).

system of government. Driven by mutual fear, they closed in a bitter struggle, each fighting for self-preservation. The assembly would not cooperate and the machinery of the government was out of gear.

Governor after governor was sent out to wrestle with the ugly situation. However, they were largely unsuccessful, and the situation grew worse until, in 1832, it became almost explosive. Troops were required to suppress election riots in Montreal. Joseph Papineau was the champion of his race, and in 1837, he called for rebellion, which was generally not supported, and he was forced to flee to the United States. Finally though, more and more English-speaking politicians came to realize that responsible government was not possible unless it was shared equally by the two races.

Quebec is not actually a reliably productive agricultural region due to minimal daytime temperatures. Wheat production in particular eventually became doomed to failure. This was the one cash crop that farmers relied on to meet their economic obligations. But because fertilization and rotation of crops were unknown, the soil was soon starved. To make matters worse, crops were commonly infested with pests and blight. From 1827 to 1844, there was a 70 percent drop in Quebec's output of wheat. Tending to the crops and farm animals had always required dawn to dusk labor, but during that time, the reward was little more than subsistence. As a result, an ever-increasing event began to take place on the local parish steps--the sheriff's sale of foreclosed farm property. This unfortunate situation served to escalate the already begun exodus of French Canadians to the United States in search of work in the textile mills of New England.

Our great-great-grandfather, Jean-Baptiste Perreault died at Warwick, Quebec, on June 9, 1853. His sister, Marie-Ursule Martel, also died at Warwick on April 19, 1848. His other sister, Marie-Magdelaine Martel, died at Ste. Croix on August 18, 1852, and his brother, Augustin, died on September 7, 1859 at St. Flavien.

The children of Jean-Baptiste Perreault and Elizabeth Houle married as follows:

Jean-Baptiste to Léocadie Pothier - January 15, 1847 at Ste. F. Kindsey (Jean-Baptiste not included in listing of children)

Sophie to Narcisse Beliveau - April 1, 1845 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Our great-grandfather, Germain, to Locadie Durand - February 23, 1846 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Adelaide to François Hamel - April 9, 1850 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Augustin to Sophie Mailhot - June 17, 1850 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Augustin to Odélie Durand - November 6, 1855 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Narcisse to Caroline Desrochers - January 13, 1851 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Louis-Eleusippe to Eloise Lemay - August 7, 1855 at St. Norbert, Arthabaska

Louis-Eleusippe to Adeline Montmarquet - May 4, 1891 at S. V. P. Montreal

Joseph-Balthazar to Delina Boisvert - August 3, 1858 at Ste. Croix

Deaths of the other children of our great-great-grandparents, Jean-Baptiste and Elizabeth Perreault, occurred as follows:

Marie-Esther	January 16, 1848 at Warwick
Adelaide	June 29, 1854 at Warwick
Narcisse	June 10, 1856 at Longueuil
Marie-Henriette	June 15, 1857 at Warwick
Louis-Lucipe	May 13, 1894 at Notre Dame, Montreal
Marie-Sophie	November 19, 1894 at Warwick
Joseph-Balthazard	April 15, 1913 at Lachine

Our great-grandparents, Germain Perreault and Léocadie Durand, had their first child, a son, Joseph Alfred, born on February 24, 1847 at Warwick but who died on February 8, 1850. A second child, a daughter, Marie-Ethichian, was born at Warwick on September 19, 1848. A second son, Germain, was born at Warwick on July 24, 1850; and on June 2, 1852, Léocadie had twin sons, our grandfather, Alfred Joseph, and his twin brother, Jean-Baptiste, born at Warwick. On April 27, 1855, Germain and Léocadie had their last child, a daughter, Marie-Julie.

Marie-Julie married Theophile Guillemette on August 25, 1873 at Warwick. Jean-Baptiste married Elmiere Martel at Warwick on April 27, 1874 and later married Virginie Martin at Lewiston, Maine on October 23, 1899. He had six children with his first wife and four children with his second wife. Germain married Hermeline Guillemette at Arthabaska on January 11, 1882, and they had two sons.

Our grandmother, Rose de Lima Moreau, daughter of Pierre Moreau and Emérence Lambert, was born at Warwick on May 30, 1855.

During the latter part of the last century, following a great economic depression in Canada, a large number of Québécois left their villages and farms in Canada to emigrate to the United States, especially to New England, for work in the textile mills.

Evidently our grandparents, along with others from their families, decided to also emigrate to the United States in search of a better and more stable life. Our grandfather, Alfred Joseph Perreault, emigrated to Maine in 1869 at age 17, according to the census records, where he later became a naturalized citizen of the

United States. He probably went to Lewiston to work in the textile mills there. Our grandmother, Rose de Lima Moreau, and others from her family, apparently emigrated to Maine in 1872, where they also found work in the textile mills at Lewiston. A large community of French Canadians was established at Lewiston, Maine and called "Le Petit Canada". However, some time later after their marriage in Lewiston in 1875, our grandparents, along with some others including some Moreaus, decided to move to Wisconsin. The decision to move could have been prompted by the fact that a mild recession in the textile industry occurred beginning in 1873.

In the beginning, our family was well established in the military, along with our relatives in the Verchères family. The sons of Jacques and of his sons, Joseph, Jacques and Pierre, and those of François Jarret de Verchères and his sons, out of necessity in those times, had to serve in the military to defend their homes, their villages and towns, and their homeland. After the conquest, I would speculate that for the most part, our ancestors became farmers. Our ancestor, Augustin, and his wife, Angélique, left the ancestral home on the Ile D'Orleans sometime after their marriage and went to St. Cuthbert, which is located approximately 20 miles southwest of Trois Rivières. Our great-great-grandfather, Jean-Baptiste, and his wife, Elizabeth Houle, were married at Ste. Croix and lived there for some time before moving, probably first to Arthabaska after 1841 and then to Warwick. Our great-grandfather, Germain, and his wife, Léocadie Durand, were married at St. Norbert's in Arthabaska and must have moved later to Warwick, where he died on March 11, 1899.

Our grandfather's twin brother, Jean-Baptiste, also eventually went to Lewiston, Maine, where he married Virginie Martin on October 23, 1899, but he returned to Warwick some time later, where he died on March 12, 1922. His other brother, Germain, died at Warwick on April 6, 1935.

At the time of the British conquest, there were 60,000 to 65,000 French in Quebec. Now there are 9 million French in Canada and 13 million in the United States, all descended from those 60 to 65 thousand. Those in Quebec, Canada, have basically retained the language and some of the French traditions, but many of those in the United States have given up the language and the old traditions as a result of social pressures in the communities in which they live. To some, this is a sad situation, but to others it seems a natural adaptation to a modern lifestyle.

According to the census records, our grandfather could speak, read and write in English. In addition, he became an American citizen. I believe that when he left Canada to begin a new life in the United States, he did it with the firm intent to put the old ways behind him and start a new life in the "American" way. He evidently encouraged his children to be "American". I base this belief partly on the fact that at one point in my life I asked my father to help me to learn to speak French, such as he could; he answered my request by firmly stating: "You are an American and as Americans, we speak English and not French. You should never have any reason to learn to speak French." He did,



however, try to teach my sister and I the old French song, "Alouette". Also, when he met French Canadian friends, they always greeted each other and spoke, at least a few words, in French.

Now I, for one, wish that I could speak fluently in French, since my work at Marplex Products in Rhinelanders has placed me in close contact with a number of Canadian French people who work at the Swecan Company at Lanouaie, Quebec. Many of them speak both French and English and I find myself envying them.

I can understand the feelings of all concerned in regard to the old traditions of language, religion and culture, but as long as we remember (Je me souviens--"I remember"--the French Québécois slogan), this important heritage shall never be truly lost.

## Chapter VI

### The Americans and the New Canadians 1875 to Present

Alfred Joseph Perreault and Rose de Lima Moreau were married in Lewiston, Maine at the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul on October 4, 1875.

If my memory is correct, Grandmother told me that they remained in Maine for about one more year and then they, together with four or five other French Canadian families, came to Wisconsin. This was probably in late 1876 or early in 1877. The Peter Moreau family is listed in the 1885 and 1895 census as living in Turtle Lake. He was no doubt a relative of our grandmother.

Apparently when they arrived in Wisconsin, they settled at Turtle Lake where they bought a small farm about two miles south of town. Also at this time in Wisconsin, the lumbering industry was expanding into northern Wisconsin, and we know that our grandfather did work in the sawmills from time to time. The writer remembers that someone indicated that he became a saw filer eventually, although our cousin Gertude Nelton thinks he was most likely a laborer. We do know that our grandparents moved around quite often with their family, and the writer's father talked about living in Prentice and Rhinelander and according to the local records, he was born at Hazelhurst. Apparently, many Canadian French families came to Wisconsin at this time to work in the lumber industry.

We recall our grandmother telling that she gave birth to twelve children, of whom six lived to maturity and the other six were stillborn or died in infancy. Our cousin Gertrude Nelton thought the first four died at birth. This is possible, but when you consider the date of their marriage and that the first surviving child, a son, Alfred, was born in mid-1881, it seems more likely that there were three who died in the period from October 4, 1875 to about August, 1880. Another birth-death could have occurred in the period between the birth of Laura in early 1885 and Melinda in August, 1888 and another between the births of Melinda and Philip in January, 1893 and another after the birth of Matilda (Tillie) in 1895. This would account for the twelve and, since our grandmother was at the age of 45 in 1900, this probably brought her child-bearing years to a close. No records of those who died in infancy have been found thus far. The writer recalls being told there was another boy child named Philip, born prior to his father, who died as an infant.

As for the children who lived to maturity, the first one, a



son named Alfred Joseph (Fred), was born at Turtle Lake on May 28, 1881. He was followed about two years later by a daughter, Lucy Mary, also born at Turtle Lake on June 13, 1883 and then a second daughter, Laura, born on February 13, 1885 at Turtle Lake. A third daughter, Melinda, was born at Turtle Lake on August 20, 1888. The writer's father and second son was born at Hazelhurst on January 23, 1893, and the last child, a daughter, Matilda, was apparently born at Turtle Lake on April 12, 1895.

Some time around 1900, our grandparents evidently sold their farm in Turtle Lake and moved to Rhinelander with their family. Gertrude Nelson believes that they bought or rented a double-type house which later was shared with their daughter, Laura, and her husband, Mike Dunn, and their children. Oldest son, Fred, also lived with them for a time. Our grandfather probably worked in one of the many sawmills located in Rhinelander at that time, and we understand that our grandparents took in roomers. In 1905, they had a total of five roomers in addition to children Laura, Melinda, Philip and Matilda.

Daughter Lucy was the first to marry. She married Albert Baril on June 18, 1901 at 8:00 A. M. at the Catholic church parsonage in Rhinelander with Reverend Father Schmitz performing the ceremony. That evening a wedding dance was given at the new Grand Opera House with a large number of friends of the newly married couple in attendance. Albert was the son of Philippe and Elizabeth Baril of St. Johns, Canada and until shortly before the wedding, was one of the proprietors of the Fashion Restaurant in Rhinelander. Lucy and Albert lived in Rhinelander until 1914, when they emigrated to Bonnyville, Alberta, Canada. They became parents of ten children as follows:

1. Arthur F. - born April 24, 1902 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin
2. Philippe J. - born November 19, 1903 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin
3. Clyde - born July 4, 1906 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin
4. Irvin J. - born January 2, 1908 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin
5. Fayne - born January 7, 1909 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin,
6. Dwayne E. - born November 2, 1910 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin
7. Lucille Ruth - born December 7, 1912 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin
8. Eunice - born July 15, 1915 in Bonnyville, Alberta
9. Lyle - born January 26, 1916 in Bonnyville Alberta
10. Gertrude Iona - born September 28, 1921 in Bonnyville, Alberta

Albert was reported to be an excellent cook, and he more than likely taught Fred Perreault how to cook in those early days in Rhinelander. When Albert and Lucy moved to Bonnyville, Alberta with their family in 1914, they left their son Philippe in Rhinelander, as he had died in 1910. Upon their arrival in Bonnyville, they settled on a homestead six miles east of Bonnyville. For many years, Albert Baril followed Emile Baril's lumber camps where he was employed as chief cook. In addition, he was also employed in railroad construction in Moose Jaw and Big River, Saskatchewan. Lucy was killed in an auto accident on October 2, 1932 and was buried in St. Louis Cemetery, R. C. in

Bonnyville, Alberta. In 1940, Albert married a second time to Marie Soucy, and in 1947, the couple retired and settled near Fort Kent. Albert Baril passed away on March 20, 1960.

Some notations from a Rhinelander newspaper, "The Vindicator":

May 14, 1902 - John Rhodes sold to Alfred Perrault (Jr.) Lot 13, Block 8, South Park Addition.

May 19, 1904 - Alfred Perrault (Jr.) sold to Alfred Perrault (Sr.) Lot 13, Block 8, South Park Addition for the sum of \$25.00

June 9, 1904 - Alfred Perrault sold to Elizabeth Blaisdell, Lot 13, Block 8, South Park Addition for the sum of \$100.00.

Eldest son, Alfred (Fred) was the second of the children to marry. He married Gertrude Evelyn Conway on September 26, 1905 at Minneapolis, Minnesota. They then returned to Rhinelander where their daughter, Gertrude Marie, was born on July 4, 1906. Fred was also an excellent cook, and amongst the places he worked were the logging camps where he was employed as a "bull cook". The writer's father, Philip, and Fred's younger brother, often remembered the days when he was old enough to help in Fred's kitchen at a logging camp as a "cookee". Fred eventually returned to Turtle Lake with his family where he bought a small farm and an old hotel in town. In 1918 the old hotel Fred had purchased in Turtle Lake was severely damaged by fire. Also in the year of 1918, Fred's wife, Gertrude, died. Fred took his daughter, Gertrude, and went to live on the farm after the hotel fire and the death of his wife. Meantime, he began the construction of a new hotel, which was completed about 1920. In 1921 our grandparents also returned to Turtle Lake and went to live at the farm Fred had purchased. On July 3, 1922, Fred married a second time to Mary Margeret O'Brien at Turtle Lake. On Feb. 11, 1924, Mary bore Fred a son who was given the name Alfred Joseph, after both his father and grandfather, but who would always be known as "A. J." Later Fred bought a property on one of the local lakes which was called the Hotel Annex, but apparently it never did live up to expectations.

The writer remembers trips to Turtle Lake to visit. Most were made on the old Soo Line passenger trains which left Rhinelander very early in the morning. Upon arrival we would be met by Fred and taken to the hotel where we were welcomed by Grandpa and Grandma, Fred's wife, Mary, daughter, Gertrude, and son, A. J. The food was absolutely great, and we would eat at a long table in the hotel dining area. A. J. and I would go out to sleep in an undamaged room in the old hotel. I was nine years old when Grandpa died on September 10, 1933. After his death, Grandma lived in a little house behind the hotel where the priest came each day to give her communion at the small altar located in one corner. She was always sweet and loving and never could speak much English; when she talked, it was in French with much gesturing. Once a year at slaughter time, Grandma would make the best blood sausage I have ever eaten. I can remember other special gifts--a cocker spaniel puppy whom we named Tippy, and rabbits and other things. Also must mention the "melt in your

mouth", rare steaks Fred would often prepare for an evening meal.

Daughter Laura was the third to marry. She married Michael Edward Dunn on June 26, 1906 in Rhinelander. Mike Dunn worked for a railroad, first as a brakeman and later as a conductor. Laura and Mike evidently lived in the same double house as our grandparents for some time where our grandmother assisted with the care of their children. Laura bore Mike Dunn three children before her unfortunate death. The first of these children was Eunice Mary, born on April 17, 1907, followed by Linus Edward on June 18, 1908 and David Edward on December 7, 1909. All three children may have been born in Rhinelander, as the birth records of Eunice and Linus have been found. However, there is some question about David. One source indicates he was born at Minneapolis, Minnesota. This is a possibility, and, if true, it may have been because Laura went there for medical or other reason on a temporary basis. Laura died on April 11, 1910 in Rhinelander of tuberculosis. It was a tragic loss for the young husband and the three infant children.

Melinda was the fourth child to marry. She married Steven Gilbert Forsyth in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on October 11, 1909. Gilbert, or Gil, as he was called, came from Oxbridge, Ontario and was a barber by trade and later would have his own barber shop in Rhinelander. Shortly after their wedding, Melinda and Gilbert moved to Rhinelander where, on January 5, 1911, they became the parents of a daughter, Seneth Helen. Gil and Melinda were both active in the Masonic Order, with Gil in the Masons and Melinda in the Eastern Star. Melinda was also a wonderful cook, and the writer and his wife still remember the fine meals we had at Melinda's house and in particular the fried panfish. Melinda was the writer's godmother and selected his first or second name of Duane.

Philip, the second son, became the fifth of the children to marry when he married Edna Mae Panabaker on November 19, 1919 in Rhinelander. She was the adopted daughter of Louis and Anna Panabaker of Rhinelander and worked in the County Clerk's office at the Courthouse. The young couple made their home with the Panabakers. Phil was a barber like his brother-in-law, Gil Forsyth and did have his own shop for awhile. Otherwise he worked for others, including Gil in the later years. Phil and Mae had their first child, a son, Duane, who was born in Rhinelander on March 23, 1924. He was followed almost five years later by a daughter, Dona Mae, born in Rhinelander on January 13, 1929.

Matilda (Tillie), the youngest of the six children, was the last to marry, and she married Harvey H. Hanson on October 3, 1925 in Turtle Lake. Tillie and Harvey lived in Turtle Lake for a number of years, and there Tillie gave birth to their only child, a daughter, Joyce Blanche, on November 3, 1931. Some time later Tillie and Harvey and their daughter moved to Rhinelander to a house across the street near the house where the writer lived. Harvey opened a jewelry store on Davenport Street in downtown Rhinelander, which he and Tillie operated for many years. Harvey, at that time, was active in dirt track racing and owned his own race car. Later he purchased an airplane which he enjoyed flying

for a number of years. The writer quite often babysat for his younger cousin, Joyce, in the 1930's.

On December 7, 1941, the United States was drawn into World War II when Japan launched a surprise attack on the American Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor and other bases near it on Oahu Island, Hawaii. A. J. Perrault would serve with the U. S. Army in the Pacific area, and Duane Perrault served with the U. S. Marine Corps, also in the Pacific area.

The first of the grandchildren of Alfred Joseph Perreault and Rose de Lima Moreau to marry was Gertrude Marie Perrault, who married Martin Wick on February 17, 1927 in Turtle Lake, Wisconsin. Gertrude bore two children with Martin Wick; the first, a daughter, Beverly Jean, born on May 2, 1928 at Cumberland, Wisconsin and the second, another daughter, Cynthia Ann, born on December 15, 1932, also at Cumberland. Gertrude divorced Martin Wick in 1933 and went back to live with her father, Fred, and his wife, Mary, in Turtle Lake. She was living there with her two children when our grandfather Alfred died on September 10, 1933. Gertrude was married a second time to Earl Nelton on June 29, 1938 at Brookings, South Dakota. Earl adopted the two daughters by her previous marriage and, on May 5, 1939, she bore Earl a son, Peter, born at Brookings, South Dakota.

Fayne Baril was the second grandchild to marry. She married Jean-Baptiste Laporte on October 29, 1928 at Bonnyville, Alberta. Fayne and Jean-Baptiste had four children. The first was a son, Jean Louis, born on September 23, 1931 at Bonnyville, Alberta. Next was a daughter, Vivian Delores, born on April 16, 1933 at Bonnyville, Alberta. She was followed by a second son, Robert Aime, born on November 28, 1938 at Bonnyville, Alberta. A third son, Albert Aime, was born on September 18, 1945 at Bonnyville, Alberta.

The third grandchild to marry was Irvin J. Baril who married Lucienne Hetu in November, 1933 at Bonnyville, Alberta. Irvin and Lucienne had two children, the first, a daughter, Lucy, born on August 29, 1934 at Bonnyville, Alberta and another daughter, Aline, born on August 14, 1936 at Edmonton, Alberta. Irvin married a second time to Leance Boisjoli in July, 1944 at Edmonton, Alberta. Irvin and Leance also had two children, a daughter, Cecile, born on July 12, 1942 at Bonnyville, Alberta, and a second daughter, Louise, born May 10, 1946 also at Bonnyville, Alberta.

The fourth grandchild to marry was Arthur F. Baril who married Gabrielle Hetu on July 23, 1934 at Bonnyville, Alberta. Arthur and Gabrielle had four children, a daughter, Diane, born October 23, 1936 at Bonnyville, Alberta, a son, Arthur, born December 31, 1938 at Edson, Alberta; a second son, Philip, born July 19, 1940 at Bonnyville, Alberta; and a second daughter, Denise, born February 2, 1942 at Edson, Alberta.

The fifth grandchild to marry was Lucille Ruth Baril who married Theodore A. Lambert also on July 23, 1934 at Bonnyville, Alberta. Lucille and Ted had eight children consisting of two



sons and six daughters as follows:

Rita, born July 2, 1935 at Bonnyville, Alberta  
Irene, born March 11, 1938 at Bonnyville, Alberta  
Paul, born September 26, 1939 at Bonnyville, Alberta  
Jeanne, born January 5, 1941 at Bonnyville, Alberta  
Ellen, born April 1, 1942 at Bonnyville, Alberta  
Suzanne, born May 7, 1946 at Bonnyville, Alberta  
Theodore, Jr., born May 2, 1951 at St. Paul, Alberta  
Yolande, born December 23, 1953 at Bonnyville, Alberta

The sixth grandchild to marry was Eunice Baril, who married Gedeon Gauthier on April 14, 1936 at Bonnyville, Alberta. Eunice and Gedeon had two sons, the first, now the Reverend Clement, born on August 9, 1936 at Bonnyville, Alberta, and the second, Rolande born May 1, 1943 at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The seventh grandchild to marry was Seneth Helen Forsyth, who married William M. Durkin on November 26, 1938 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. Seneth and William had two children. The first child, a son, Gilbert Forsyth, was born October 23, 1939 in Cleveland, Ohio, and the second child, a daughter, Linda Forsyth, was born January 5, 1941 also at Cleveland, Ohio.

The eighth grandchild to marry was Lyle Baril, who married Elsie Hanlon in 1944, probably in Edmonton, Alberta. Lyle and Elsie had two children, a son, Gerard, born in 1946; and a daughter, Sharon, born in 1948. Lyle and Elsie later divorced.

The ninth grandchild to marry was Gertrude Iona Baril, who married Metro Phillipchuk on March 20, 1946 at Edmonton, Alberta. Gertrude, known as Trudy, and Metro had three children, all born at Edmonton, Alberta. A son, Ronald Allen, was the first born on March 8, 1947, followed by a daughter, Janet Rita, born on August 18, 1953, and then a second daughter, Susan Louise, born on September 6, 1956.

The tenth grandchild to marry was Alfred Joseph (A. J.) Perrault, who married Catherine Irene Davison on July 6, 1946 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. A. J. and Catherine had five children, all of whom were born at Turtle Lake, Wisconsin, as follows:

Michael Lee, born January 4, 1947  
Jeffrey Thomas, born January 16, 1949  
Catherine Lynn, born October 16, 1953  
Mary Patricia, born April 10, 1958  
Peter James, born September 17, 1959

The eleventh grandchild to marry was Dona Mae Perrault, who married Clyde F. Fish on January 17, 1947 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin. Dona and Clyde had two children; the first, a daughter, Chari Dennise, born on August 13, 1948 at Rhinelander, Wisconsin and the second, a son, Clyde Duane, born on September 5, 1949 in Rhinelander, Wisconsin.

The twelfth grandchild to marry was Philip Duane Perrault, who married Mary Anna Plucinski Boros on November 22, 1947, in

Chicago, Illinois. Marian, as she is called, was a widow at the time of their marriage and had a daughter by her first marriage, Janice Lynn Boros, who is very dear to both Marian and Duane. Duane and Marian did not have children of their own because of physical problems.

The thirteenth grandchild to marry, that the writer has knowledge of, was Joyce Blanche Hanson, who married Mack E. Madzinski III on June 14, 1952 at Rhinelander, Wisconsin. Joyce and Mack had six children; the first, a daughter, Carrie Lee, was born on June 6, 1953 at Pensacola, Florida. She was followed by a second daughter, Kim Elaine, who was born on October 19, 1954 at Chicago, Illinois. A third daughter, Mary Christy, was born at Green Bay, Wisconsin on August 28, 1957. A fourth daughter, Kathryn Louise, was born on August 20, 1960 at Green Bay, Wisconsin. After a ten year period had elapsed, Joyce and Mack were blessed once again with their fifth daughter, Cayce Lynn, born at Green Bay, Wisconsin on December 9, 1971. Their sixth and last child was a son, Mack Edward Madzinski IV, who was born on February 8, 1974, also at Green Bay, Wisconsin. Joyce and Mack later moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida with their family, where they currently reside.

Unfortunately, the writer has found only limited information regarding the children of Laura Perrault and Mike Dunn. We have the birthdates of the three children, and we have also that Eunice Mary Dunn married Edward Gilmore Lyons, but that is the extent of the information to date on this family group.

Also, the writer is certain that some of the Baril family saw service in the Canadian Armed Forces in World War II, but to date we have not explored these facts.

Our grandmother, Rose de Lima, died while living at the house of her daughter, Matilda (Tillie) Hanson on May 3, 1952, just twenty-seven days short of her ninety-seventh birthday. She is buried at Turtle Lake.

Grandmother's sister was Matilda LaLonde and lived in Chicago, Illinois. She was probably the wife of Joseph P. LaLonde, and they were most likely the parents of Matilda Mary LaLonde, who married Laura Perrault's former husband, Michael E. Dunn, on September 2, 1912. This would account for Mike Dunn's marrying Laura's "cousin" as has always been told in our family. Joseph P. LaLonde died on January 17, 1953. We do not know at this point when his wife, Matilda LaLonde, died.

Others who have died amongst the children and grandchildren, and the dates of their deaths if known are:

Philippe J. Baril - October 25, 1910  
Clyde Baril - 1924  
Dwayne E. Baril - 1931  
Alfred Joseph (Fred) Perrault - December 27, 1952  
Philip Joseph Perrault - June 26, 1963  
Lyle Baril - January 26, 1966 or 1970  
Lucille Ruth Baril Lambert - November 29, 1967

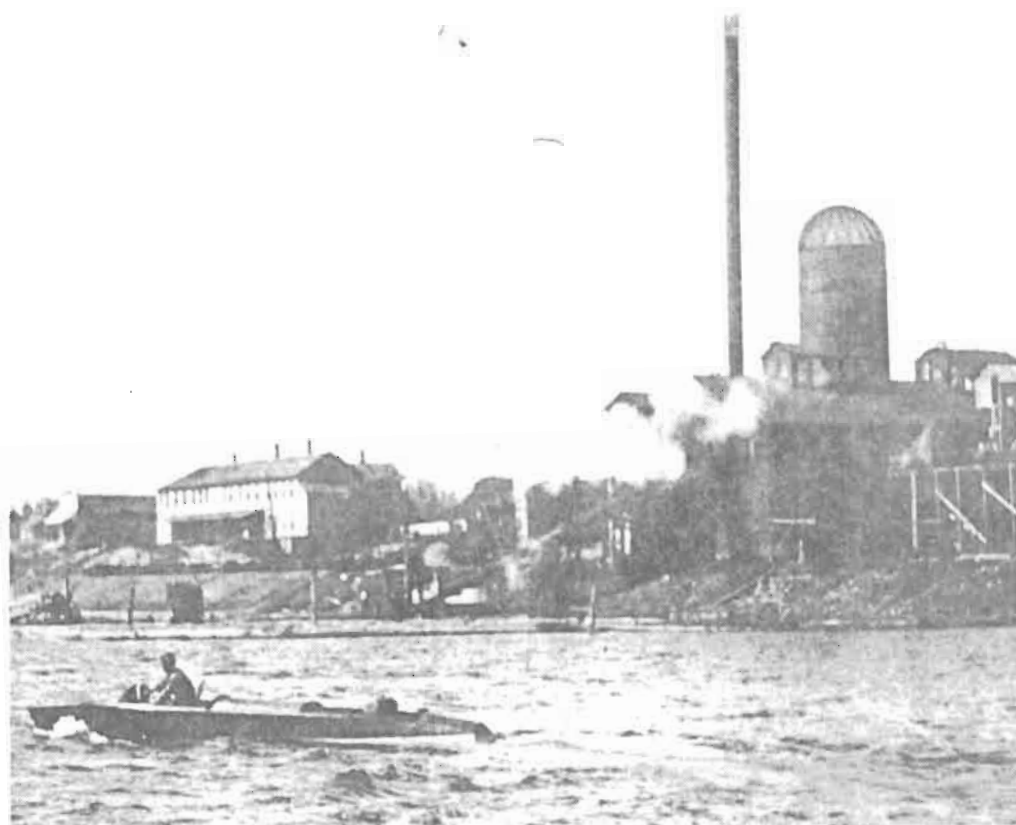


Melinda Margaret Perrault Forsyth - November 12, 1972  
Arthur F. Baril - January 6, 1975  
Linus E. Dunn - January 13, 1975  
Irvin J. Baril - August 6, 1975

In the interest of getting this booklet typed and printed, the writer will not carry the information further, as all sources have not been heard from to date. Perhaps some of our relatives will wish to expand on what the writer has put down in their own fashion and in greater detail as it relates to their own family.

In closing, the writer wishes to state that his efforts in gathering information regarding our ancestor, relatives and our more immediate families has been most interesting and rewarding and wishes to extend his thanks to all who have assisted his efforts. Also, a special thanks to Joy and Bill Vancos for the placing of this information in their computer and the print-out supplied.

Some of you may wonder why the writer refers to himself sometimes as Duane Philip Perrault and other times as Philip Duane Perrault. I have always used the name Duane Philip Perrault and believed that to be correct, since my parents never disagreed. However, a few years ago, when it was necessary to get a copy of my birth certificate, I found that my "birth" name was Philip Duane Perrault.



### *Old Mill Is History*

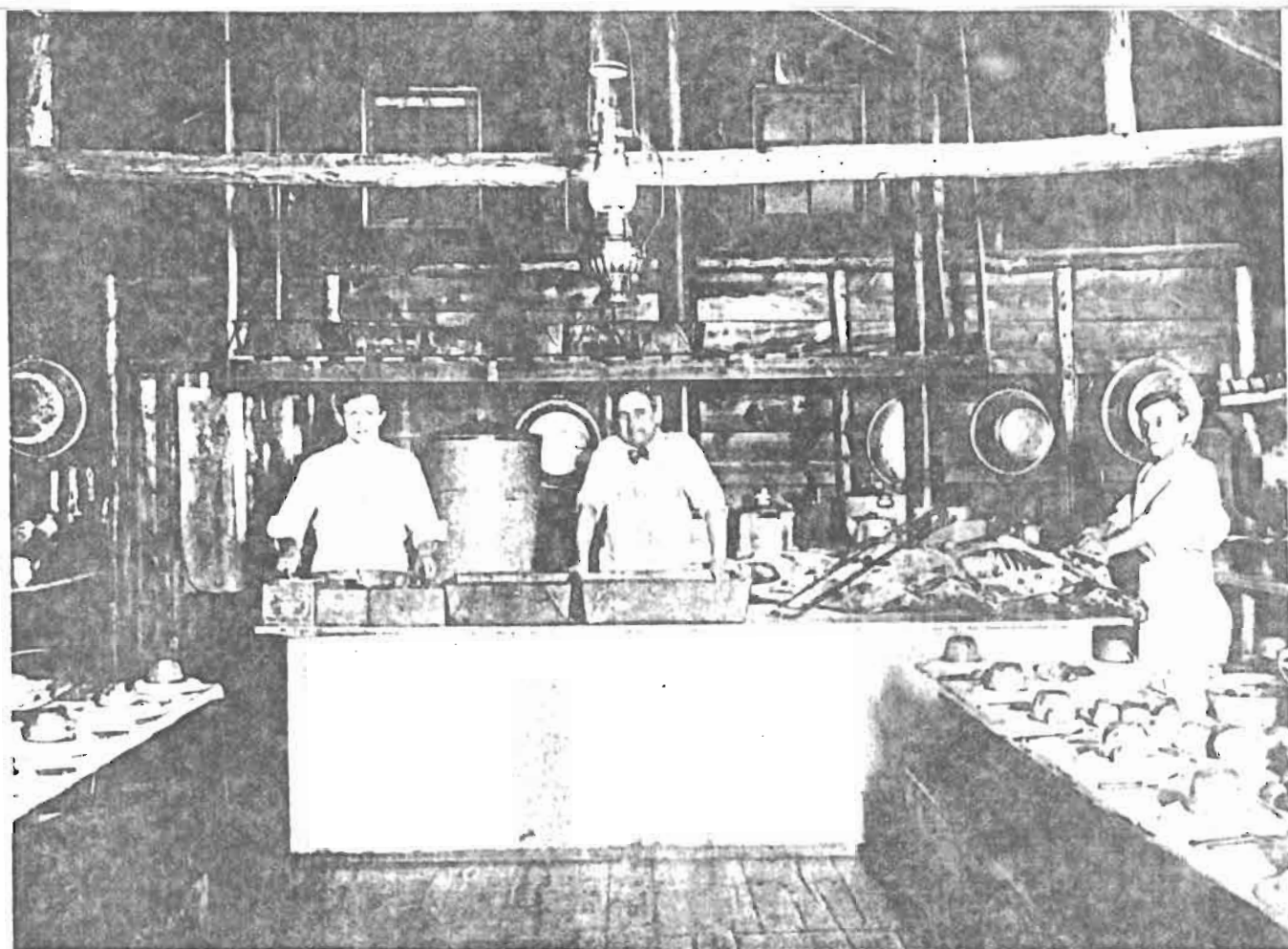
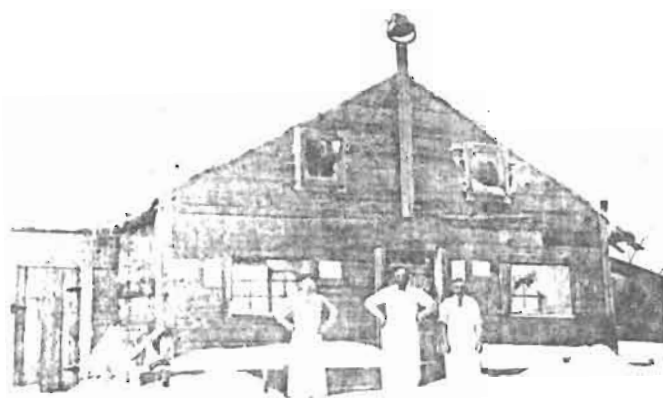
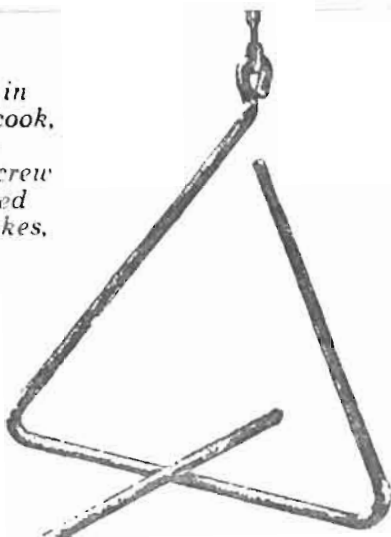
One of the largest lumber mills of the logging era was the Yawkey Bissell Mill located on Lake Katherine at Hazelhurst. The entire Lakeland area was alive with loggers and lumbermen just before the turn of the century. All traces of the mill are

now gone and the Hazelhurst area has turned to a new industry, tourism. The community serves thousands of vacationers each year. (Photo Courtesy of Perkins Studio.)



Last Sunday's Our Town featured a color postcard picture of downtown Rhinelander dated 1915. This week, an earlier postcard issued before that was submitted for publication. Merchants Bank is the tall brick building on the left.

*The most important man in my camp was the camp cook, and assisting him was an honor. He often sent the crew out in the morning fortified with a breakfast of pancakes, bacon grease, molasses, sausage, and prunes.*





## ***Brown Street from Anderson***

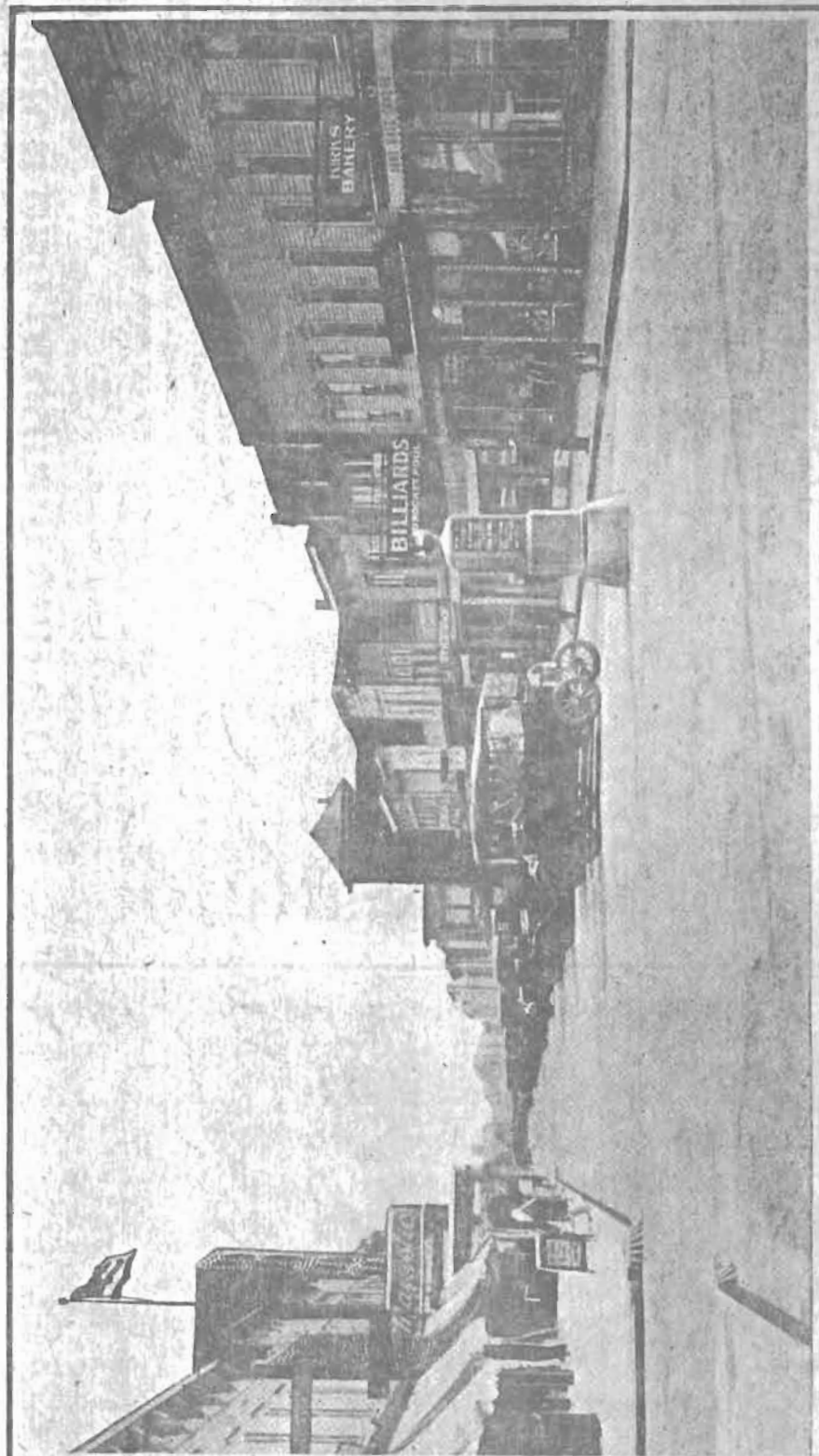
This was Brown Street, looking north from Anderson, prior to World War I.



## ***Looking North on Brown***

Shortly after the turn of the century, Brown Street looked this way. The view, north from Davenport, shows the old

Merchant's State Bank building at the extreme left.



Kenneth Flory of 124 Hillside in Rhinelander brought this 1915 color postcard of Rhinelander into our office. Obviously, this card was not part of a hoax to depict our town as having a streetcar as some did.