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The Le Neuf Family: State of Knowledge

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Part I of III

On 11 June 1636, seven members of the Le Neuf family (see table 1, p. 156)² disembarked at Quebec:

1. The mother, Jeanne Le Marchand, widow of Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérissou;
2. The eldest son, Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérissou, born around 1601;
3. Michel's only daughter, Anne du Hérissou, born about 1631 or 1632;
4. The youngest son, Jacques Le Neuf, sieur de la Poterie, born around 1606;
5. Jacques' wife, Marguerite Le Gardeur;³
6. Their first child, Marie Anne Le Neuf, born around 1632;
7. And their youngest daughter, Marie Le Neuf, born about 1611 or 1612, single at the time of her arrival, but married six months later to Jean Godefroy, sieur de Linctot, by contract of 15 December 1636 at Trois-Rivières.

Since the publication of the Jetté's *Dictionnaire* and Trudel's *Catalogue*, new facts have been revealed on the genealogical history of the Le Neuf family that sheds light on the three following questions:

1. Is Anne du Hérissou the legitimate, illegitimate, or adopted daughter of Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérissou?

¹ This article was first published as "Les Le Neuf: état des connaissances," *Mémoires de la Société généalogique canadienne-française* 51 (Autumn 2000): 209-227. It will be printed in three parts in this journal. The authors would like to thank the SGCF for permission to reprint this article in English. We would also like to thank Thomas C. Rivard who paid for the article to be translated from French to English. We would like to thank the anonymous translator who did the first draft of the translation. Lastly, we thank Gail F. Moreau-DesHarnais and Robert A. Lonsway for proof reading an earlier version of this translation.

In the translation of original documents, no effort was made to follow modern capitalization and punctuation rules, but abbreviations were expanded. Some technical French terms have been left in the text, but they are italicized and their meaning given on their first mention. Lastly, the blazons, the technical description of arms, have been left in French. Regarding various titles, please note that "sieur" is a French term that would be close to how mister was used in the English colonies. It was a mark of distinction and in some legal documents it is even applied to non-nobles. It can not be translated into sir, which would falsely indicate knighthood among English speakers. It is often used interchangeably with "seigneur." A seigneur is the lord of an estate. The French sieur and seigneur have been retained in this translation. However, "écuyer" has been translated to esquire. It was the lowest title used by the French to indicate nobility. "Damoiselle" has been translated into damsel, but "dame," meaning lady, has been retained.

² René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec, des origines à 1730* (Montréal: Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1983), pp. 348, 509, 713, and 718. Marcel Trudel, *Catalogue des Immigrants 1632-1662* (Montréal: Hurtubise Publishers HMH, 1983), pp. 49, 60, and 61. Madeleine Le Neuf, married to Jean Le Poutrel, sieur de Coulombiers on 24 November 1622 in the parish of St-Jean in Caen, stayed in France. The approximate birth dates of the Le Neuf family are calculated using the 1667 census of New France.

³ Marguerite Le Gardeur, wife of Jacques Le Neuf, was accompanied by other members of her family: her mother, Catherine de Corday, widow of René Le Gardeur, sieur de Tilly; her younger brother, Charles Le Gardeur, sieur de Tilly; and her eldest brother, Pierre Le Gardeur, sieur de Repentigny, who was accompanied by his wife, Marie Favery, and his five children.

2. Who are the ancestors of Mathieu Le Neuf?
3. Who are the ancestors of Jeanne Le Marchand?

Anne du Hérison, Legitimate, Illegitimate, or Adopted Daughter of Michel Le Neuf, Sieur du Hérison?

The first and most important document establishing the paternity of Anne du Hérison is her marriage contract with Antoine Desrosiers, dated 24 November 1647, before the notary Flour Boujonnier. The original of this contract has disappeared, but the genealogist Archange Godbout had in his possession a typed transcription [Quebec National Archives, *Fonds Archange Godbout*, Desrosiers Family, microfilm 154.4, image 932-933]. Guillaume Pepin, in a declaration dated 15 September 1691 before the notary Sévérin Aneau, also made reference to this contract:

...was personally present Master Guillaume pepin living in Trois rivieres Upon the request of anne duherisson widow of the deceased antoine desroziere resident of champlain he made a declaration regarding the marriage contract between the said deceased antoine desroziere and the said anne duherisson his widow on the twenty fourth of november sixteen hundred and forty seven [1647]...

This declaration recapitulates largely word for word the original marriage contract, including the mention of the “five hundred pounds paternal gift.” It also specifies that “the said Guillaume Pepin has declared being present at the drafting of the said marriage contract made in the house of the said sieur du herisson” and “that the draft remained in the possession of the deceased sieur du herisson, and it was destroyed in the burning of his house.” The importance of this document in identifying the paternity of Anne du Hérison justifies that it be quoted in its entirety.

Marriage contract of Antoine Desrosiers and Anne du Hérison (24 November 1647):

*A marriage agreement that with the pleasure of God will be made and completed in the presence of our mother the Holy Apostolic and Roman Catholic Church, between Antoine Desrosiers, native of the Bourg de Renaison in the land of Lyons in France and **Anne Duhérison, native of the Bourg de Thury in Normandy**, both present, residing in this settlement of Trois Rivières, in the presence of their relatives and their friends, promised respectively to marry one another through the sacrament of marriage, in the interest of the said agreement, the **sieur Duhérison**, in the presence of the above-mentioned relatives and good friends **has promised to give in the name of the said young woman to the said Desrosiers, and when the said marriage is completed and accomplished the sum of five hundred livres of silver, two good sets of clothes including those she has now, a mattress with a bolster, two covers and twelve sheets, six table clothes, three dozens napkins, twelve dishes, twelve plates and a pot, all of pewter, a pregnant heifer to be selected out of three, with a sow also pregnant, with the assurance of the said sieur Du Hérison that all the above are acceptable and are satisfactory in all its contents, it has also been agreed by the said Desrosiers in the interest of his said wife in the event that he dies before his wife without leaving any heirs, that she will remain in possession of all his moveable and immovable belongings and generally all other things that may belong to him, giving her title to everything without her being able to be disinherited by any person for any of these goods, in addition the said sieur Duhérison in the interest of the said gift made to the future bride leaves to the said Desrosier all the movables by him given to the said bride, only reserving for himself the sum of five hundred livres given as a paternal gift in fulfillment of the said agreement in the case that Anne Duhérison should die before him without heirs, in witness thereof, the two parties have affixed their signature in the presence of all the undersigned relatives and good friends, on this twenty-fourth day of November sixteen hundred and forty seven [1647].***

LeNeuf

mark x of the said Desrosiers

	<i>mark x of the said Anne Duhérisson</i>
<i>Lapoterie Leneuf</i>	<i>A. Duchesne</i>
<i>Hertel</i>	<i>Normanville</i>
<i>Boucher</i>	<i>Jean Amiot</i>
<i>C. Pouterel</i>	<i>mark x of Bertrand Fafart</i>
<i>Pierre Boucher</i>	<i>mark x of Guillaume Isabel</i>
<i>Pierre Lefebvre</i>	
<i>M. Le Gardeur</i>	<i>Boujonnier</i>

The marriage contract of Anne du Hérison is clear on at least one point: the bride is really the daughter of Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison, as the latter has given a “paternal gift.” The problem is that neither on this marriage contract nor on any other documents is it mentioned whether she is his legitimate, illegitimate, or adopted daughter. The doubt regarding her filiation arises from the four following facts:

- (1) The daughter of Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison, is nearly always called “Anne du Hérison,” contrary to the custom where she should be called “Anne Le Neuf” or “Anne Le Neuf du Hérison,” as in the case of her aunt, Marie Le Neuf, and her first cousin, Marie Anne Le Neuf. In fact, Anne du Hérison is mentioned about fifteen times in the church records. However, she is only called Anne Le Neuf on two occasions, the baptism of her son, Joseph Desrosiers, on 29 July 1655, in the parish of the Immaculate Conception of Trois-Rivières, and at the baptism of her son, Jean Desrosiers, on 30 September 1657, at the same place.
- (2) Anne du Hérison does not marry a noble or a bourgeois, like the other girls in the Le Neuf family, but a simple habitant, Antoine Desrosiers.
- (3) The names of her father and mother are not mentioned in her marriage contract. However, Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison, in whose home the event takes place, is the principal witness, moreover, he gives a “paternal gift” of 500 *livres*, without expressly saying that he is her father.
- (4) Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison, makes his will, not in favor of his only daughter, Anne du Hérison, but the first time in favor of his brother, Jacques Le Neuf, sieur de la Poterie [act of 4 July 1640 before the notary Martial Piraube], then the second time in favor of his nephew, Michel Le Neuf of la Vallière [act of 19 February 1664 before the notary Sévérin Ameau].

These facts suggest that she is not the legitimate daughter of Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison. Is she his illegitimate daughter or adopted daughter? The three following facts provide circumstantial evidence that she is his illegitimate daughter and not his adopted daughter.

- (1) Anne du Hérison was born at Thury-Harcourt (as revealed in the marriage contract) about 1631 or 1632, being about four or five years old before the departure of her father for New France. At the time of her birth, Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison, was a bachelor about 30 years old, it is difficult to imagine that he would adopt a child without a wife to raise that child.
- (2) The discretion around the fatherhood of Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison, in the marriage contract of his daughter, Anne du Hérison, is typical⁴ of the customs in those days in the case of

⁴ Unfortunately, the systematic study of this phenomena remains to be done. In any case, the number of marriages of children of noble or bourgeois paternity are not really numerous in New-France because there are no more than 70,000 inhabitants at the end of the French régime. There is another similar case: Marie Renée Chartier, probably the illegitimate daughter of René Louis Chartier de Lothinière, married to Joseph Arcand on 3 November 1718 in the parish of Notre-Dame in Quebec. Their marriage contract, dated 1 November 1718 before the notary Jean

illegitimate paternity for a noble or bourgeois: the father does not explicitly acknowledge his paternity, but he and his legitimate family honor, with their presence and their gifts, the child who is, after all, of the same blood, even if they refuse to acknowledge it in writing. On the contrary, if the child is adopted, taken "as a pupil," the foster parents are proud to claim the relationship. Furthermore, Michel Le Neuf is the godfather of the eldest child of Anne du Hérissou, her daughter, Anne Desrosiers, baptized on 16 June 1650 at the parish of the Immaculate Conception of Trois-Rivières, and he is present at the signing of the marriage contract of his goddaughter with Alexandre Rault, on 19 January 1664 before the notary Sévérin Aneau.

(3) Lastly, the fact that Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérissou, excluded his daughter Anne du Hérissou from his will, after providing a decent marriage settlement for her, confirms that he distinguished between his natural and biological paternity, which he recognized in these facts, and his legal paternity, which would be by marriage of the parents or by adoption.

Thus, these facts prove that Anne du Hérissou is the illegitimate daughter of Michel le Neuf, sieur du Hérissou.

Who Are the Ancestors of Mathieu Le Neuf?

At the request of John P. DuLong, Jeanne-Marie Cazin carried out research on the Le Neufs in the Calvados Departmental Archives at Caen. There she discovered the record of the publication of the marriage banns for Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérissou, and Jeanne Le Marchand. This act is recorded in the Caen Protestant Church register, and was made public by John P. DuLong.⁵

The sundays of the 21[st] and 28th days of november and fifth day of december 1599. The announcement of the promises of marriage between Mathieu Le Neuf sieur du Hérissou living at Saint Sauveur de Caen son of the deceased Jean Le Neuf and damsel Marguerite Le Gardeur, while living a bourgeois of Saint Sauveur de Thury on one part and damsel Jeanne Le Marchand daughter of the late Master Gervais Le Marchand sieur de la Belloniere et de la Roque lieutenant of monsieur the bailiff of Condé sur Noireau and damsel Venote de St Germain, her father and mother of the parish and village of the said Condé on the other part...

Furthermore, the baptismal certificates of three of their children are recorded in the same register:

- Josué, baptized on 22 June 1603, whose godfather is Jean Le Neuf.
- Jacques, baptized on 7 November 1604 (who is apparently the future sieur de la Poterie).

Étienne Dubreuil, is concluded in the presence of several members of the Chartier de Lothinière clan, however the spouse is never explicitly mentioned as the daughter of any of them.

⁵ John P. DuLong, "The Family Secrets of the Le Neuf Origins in France," *Lost in Canada?*, 17:2 (Spring 1993): 58-71. John DuLong underlines the undeniable interest of the historian to learn that the Le Neuf family became protestants at the turn of the seventeenth century. The Mormons have microfilmed the records of the Protestant Church of Caen, they are at the Family History Library under the classification *France, Calvados, Caen Protestant Church, 1560-1657*, with the following microfilm numbers: 0658417 and 0658418; the records of 1599 are on reel 0658418.

- Madeleine, baptized on 4 February 1607, whose godfather is, for the second time, Jean Le Neuf (she will become the wife of Jean Le Poutrel, sieur des Coulombiers).

Thus, at the end of the sixteenth century, Jean Le Neuf and Marguerite Le Gardeur resided at Saint-Sauveur de Thury, while Gervais Le Marchand and Venote de St Germain were living at Condé-sur-Noireau. It is, therefore, at Thury (today Thury-Harcourt) that we have to look for the Le Neufs' ancestors, and at Condé-sur-Noireau for those of the Le Marchand. Unfortunately, the June 1944 Allied bombing destroyed part of the Calvados Departmental Archives at Caen. The losses notably include the parish records of Saint-Sauveur of Thury-Harcourt, those of Condé-sur-Noireau (the surviving registers only commence in 1736) as well as the tabellion [notarial] records of Condé-sur-Noireau; only the tabellion records of Thury were spared from destruction. All the same, here is what is known of the Le Neuf ancestry (see table 1). What is known regarding the Le Marchand ancestry will be discussed later.

On one hand, Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson, had at least one brother named Michel (like his eldest son, incidentally) as proved by a mortgage receipt, dated 5 December 1595 "... from the honorable gentlemen Mathieu and Michel Le Neuf, brothers, bourgeois of Caen ... to Jehan Le Petit, sieur des Nots, bourgeois of Thury" [Calvados Departmental Archives, tabellion records of Thury-Harcourt, file 8E 3594, folio 149].⁶

On the other hand, Jean Le Neuf, the godfather of two of the children of Mathieu Le Neuf and Jeanne Le Marchand, Josué and Madeleine, may be their paternal uncle, as their ancestor Jean Le Neuf died before 1599. The combination of the two documents below leads to the belief that he was a half-brother of Mathieu Le Neuf.

(1) In April 1613 at the Protestant Church of Caen, there was an announcement of the promise of marriage between "Jean Le Neuf, sieur de Vaux, son of the late Jean Le Neuf and Suzanne Blanchart, residing at Thury, and Jeanne Jemblin, daughter of Jacques [Jemblin] and Marie Gaugain, of the Saint Sauveur district in Caen." Jean Le Neuf, sieur de Vaux, could have been born from a second marriage of Jean Le Neuf, widower of Marguerite le Gardeur, to Suzanne Blanchart.⁷

(2) On 11 July 1619, "Jean Le Neuf, sieur de Vaux, residing in Caen, entrusts to Jeanne Le Marchand, widow of Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson, the guardianship of his minor children" [Calvados Departmental Archives, tabellion records of Thury-Harcourt, file 8E 3599]. Jean Le Neuf, sieur de Vaux, could be the brother-in-law of Jeanne Le Marchand. Whatever the case may be, the identity of the parents of Jean Le Neuf and Marguerite Le Gardeur is still unknown.

Furthermore, on 5 May 1673:

... noble persons Master Pierre Le Neuf, Priest, sieur de Courtonne, and François Le Neuf, Esquire, sieur de Montenay, brothers, residing in this city of Caen, the parish of Saint Julien have certified and testified [...] that Jacques Le Neuf, Esquire, sieur de la Potterie, residing in the

⁶ It should be mentioned that the authors of this study did not read personally the documents found in the tabellion records of Thury. The information is found in three letters from Alain Heude to Robert A. Lonsway dated 20 November 1985, 19 March 1986, and 19 June 1986. The authors understand that there remains much to explore in the tabellion records of Thury: a tip to interested parties!

⁷ An important correction involving this marriage was recently published. See René Jetté, "Du neuf sur les Le Neuf," *Mémoires de la Société généalogique canadienne-française* 53 (Summer 2002):143-144.

*village of Trois Rivières in New France, island of Newfoundland and Cadys [Acadia], and previously residing in this said city of Caen, is from the same family and bears their same name and coat-of-arms.*⁸

Also, a receipt dated 22 October 1669, in the presence of Romain Becquet, royal notary in Québec, shows that on 14 January 1636, as witnessed by Mathieu de Lalonde and Michel Le Sueur, royal tabellions of Caen, Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson, his brother Jacques Le Neuf, sieur de la Poterie, as well as their brother-in-law Jean Pouterel, sieur de Colombier, borrowed a certain amount of money with a surety from the brothers Jean Le Neuf, sieur de Montenay, and Antoine Le Neuf, sieur de Courtonne, himself father of François Le Neuf, sieur de Montenay and Pierre Le Neuf, sieur de Courtonne, above mentioned (see the translation of this document on p. 157 and table 2, p. 158).

The genealogy of the Le Neuf of Montenay and Courtonne is documented from Richard Le Neuf, husband of Jeanne Mannoury, dame de Vaucongrin, married prior to 6 June 1451 and whose descendants lived in Thury and later in Caen.⁹ The dilemma is that there is no document that shows *how* the Le Neufs of New France are connected to the noble Le Neufs of France!

(1) We had to wait for the recent discovery of the marriage announcement of Mathieu Le Neuf and Jeanne Le Marchand to know the names of the parents of Mathieu Le Neuf, that is, Jean Le Neuf and Marguerite Le Gardeur, who very likely were married around 1570/1575, or maybe even earlier.

(2) Jean Le Neuf, husband of Marguerite Le Gardeur, is not listed among known descendants of Richard Le Neuf documented by d'Hozier as having lived during the sixteenth century (see table 2).

(3) Jean Le Neuf, husband of Marguerite Le Gardeur, cannot be the son of Jean Le Neuf and Jeanne Belot, as they had only two sons, as proved by the marriage contract of their son Jean Le Neuf to Cardine de la Longny. He also cannot be the son of Jean Le Neuf and Cardine de la Longny, as they had only three sons, as proved by the will between the children, as well as the marriage contract of their son Georges Le Neuf and Jacqueline de May. Lastly, he cannot be the son of Pierre Le Neuf and Catherine Le Boucher, because they only had two sons, as proved by the marriage contract between Pierre Le Neuf and Marie de la Roque (see table 2). Certainly, Jean Le Neuf, husband of Marguerite Le Gardeur, could have been disinherited by his father, then

⁸ Pierre-Georges Roy, *Lettres de noblesse, généalogies, érection de comtés et baronnies insinuées par le Conseil Souverain de la Nouvelle-France* (Beauceville, l'Éclaireur, 1920), vol. 1, p. 57-65; p. 65.

⁹ L. P. d'Hozier, *Armorial général ou registres de la noblesse de France*, 2nd ed. (Paris, 1868-1878), vol. 9, register V, part 2, pp. 861-868. This printed genealogy relies mostly on the Bibliothèque Nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf" folios 51-302. Here is an explanation of how the brothers François Le Neuf, sieur de Montenay, and Pierre le Neuf, sieur de Courtonne, descend from Richard Le Neuf (also see table 2):

- I. Richard le Neuf and Jeannette Mannoury, dame de Vaucongrin, married prior to 6 June 1451;
- II. Jean Le Neuf and Jeanne Belot married around 1490;
- III. Pierre Le Neuf, seigneur of Montenay, and Catherine Le Boucher, married 12 July 1550;
- IV. Pierre Le Neuf, seigneur of Montenay and de Courtonne, and Marie de la Roque, married 29 November 1579;
- V. Antoine Le Neuf, seigneur of Courtonne, and Marguerite du Hautlondel, married 24 January 1633;
- VI. François Le Neuf, seigneur of Sourdeval, later of Montenay, and Pierre Le Neuf, seigneur of Courtonne.

ignored by his family for having converted to Protestantism. The problem is that even in the seventeenth century, the Le Neuf de Montenay family did business with the Canadian descendants of Jean Le Neuf, husband of Marguerite Le Gardeur, and even went so far as to acknowledge a distant relationship.

(4) It is useful to point out that the drafted acts regarding the Le Neuf gathered by d'Hozier describe them ordinarily as "esquire." By contrast, Jean Le Neuf, husband of Marguerite Le Gardeur, is only a "bourgeois of Thury" [promise of marriage announcement of Mathieu Le Neuf, 21 November 1599, act previously cited]. Moreover, his sons, Mathieu le Neuf and Michel Le Neuf, are only "bourgeois of Caen" [receipt 5 December 1595, act previously cited]. So, the recent ancestors of the Canadian Le Neufs were not nobles. Perhaps they never belonged to the nobility, but it could also be that they were derogated. John P. DuLong discusses this issue in his above-mentioned article ["The Family Secrets of the Le Neuf Origins in France"].

Indeed, after their arrival in Canada, the Le Neuf posed as nobles alongside their allies, the Le Gardeurs who were nobles. That no one ever contested their nobility on this side of the ocean bears eloquent witness to the major role they played in the implantation of French civilization in the Saint Lawrence River valley. It is necessary to see, however, that the attitude of the Canadians towards them had no influence on their real status back in France.

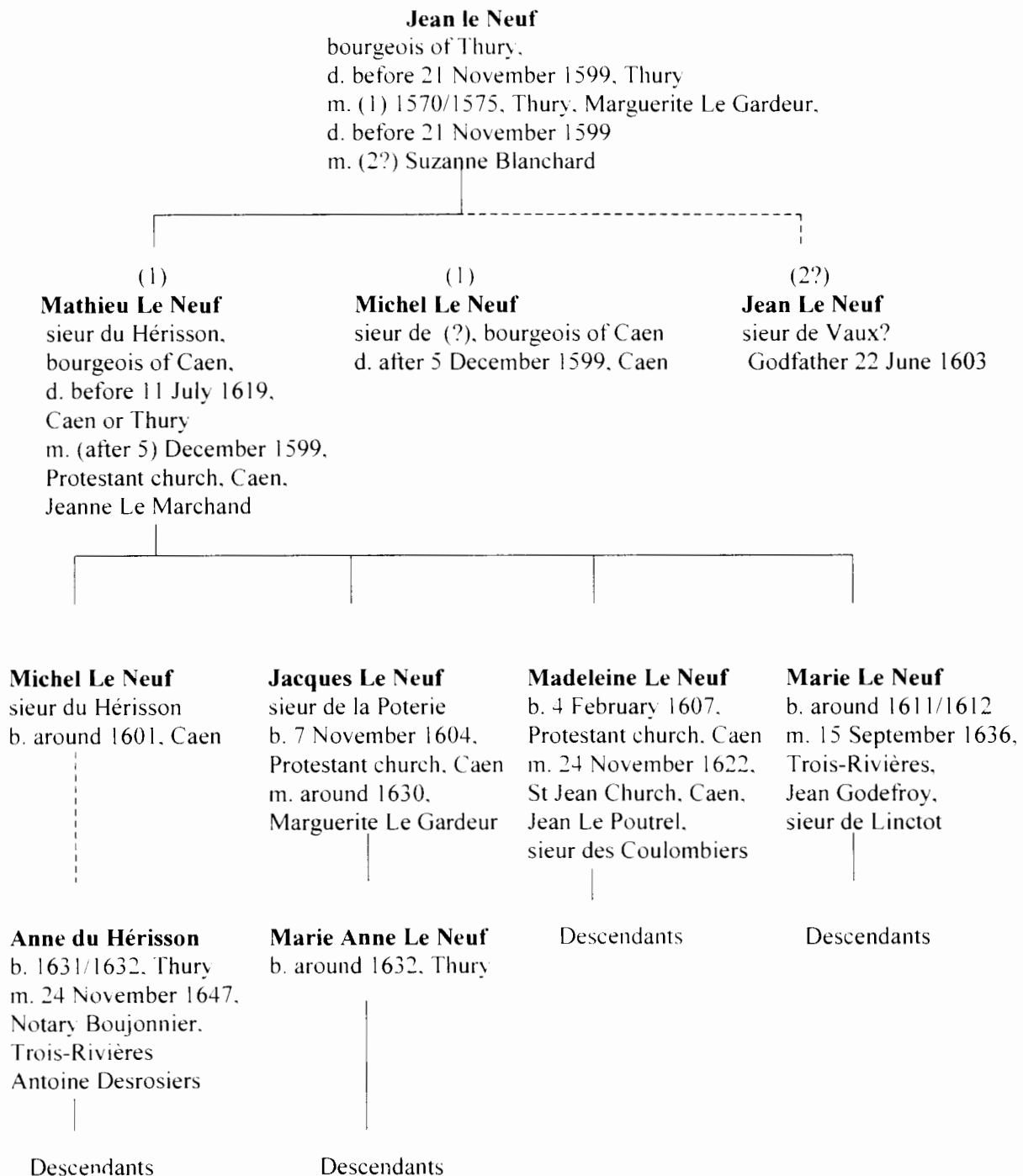
So, if the Le Neufs of New France are really related to the Le Neuf nobles of France, as willingly affirmed by their French cousins in 1673, this relationship is without doubt very distant.¹⁰ The origin of this relationship may even be prior to Richard Le Neuf, first documented ancestor of the Le Neuf nobles.¹¹

The answer to this question may be found in the unexplored acts of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries conserved in the tabellion records of Thury and Caen.

¹⁰ The update to be published soon in the *Mémoires* calls into question the conclusion that the relationship between the French and Canadian Le Neufs must be distant.

¹¹ D'Hozier cites a few Le Neufs, prior to Richard: "The proof of the antiquity of the name and military services of this family, by an extract of the military muster of Bertrand du Guesclin, Constable of France, in which *Geoffroy* Le Neuf is listed among the Squires on 1 August 1371. An old document of the family says that a certain *Raoul* le Neuf, Esquire, living in 1382, came from England and had married Damsel Antoinette de Maillot, mother of *Hugues* Le Neuf, Esquire, living in 1414, who had married Damsel Marie de Tournebu, and had two children (according to this extract), Richard Le Neuf, author of the first degree with known titles [founder of the documented family], and Raoul Le Neuf, Priest & Protonotary of the Apostolic Holy See." [L. P. D'Hozier, *Armorial général ou registres de la noblesse de France*, 2nd ed. (Paris, 1868-1878), vol 9, register V, part 2 p. 861.] Are "our" Le Neufs genuine descendants from Geoffroy or Raoul?

Table 1: Family of Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson



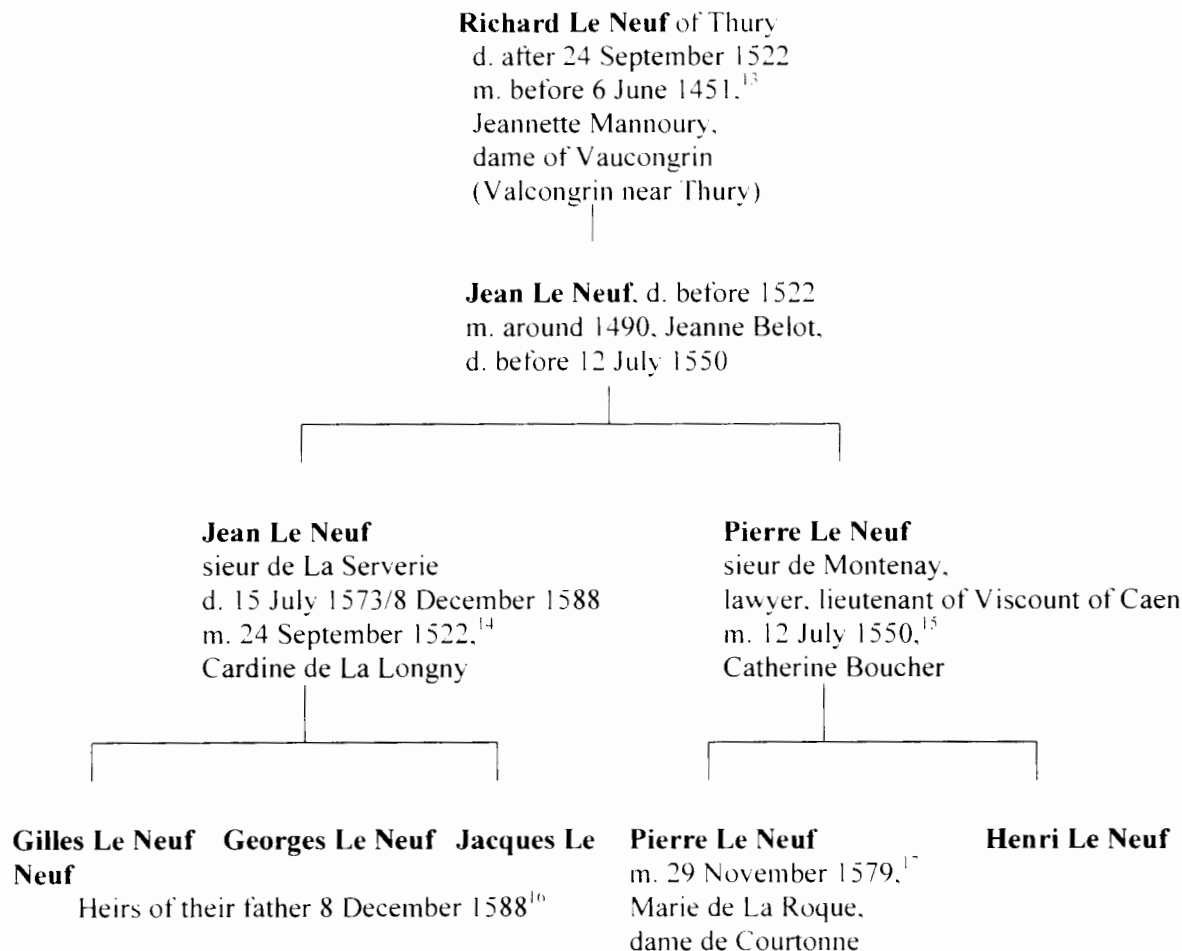
**Receipt of Jean Baptiste Peuvret de Mesnu to Jacques Le Neuf de la Poterie,
22 October 1669, Romain Becquet, notary¹²**

Before R. Becquet Royal Notary was present in his person Master Jean Baptiste Peuvret sieur de Mesnu and de Gaudarville, court clerk and secretary of the Sovereign Council of this land in the name of and with the power of attorney of Master François Le Neuf esquire sieur de Montenay Royal Councilor Lieutenant general in the election of Caen and of Pierre Le Neuf esquire Sieur de Courtonne brothers passed before Thomas Le Sueur et Jean Bougon royal notaries and tabellions in the village of Caen the third february one thousand six hundred [“glyc” is a corruption for MVT meaning one thousand six hundred] sixty seven [1667], exhibited and put in the hands of the said notary in order to validate the present legal letter, in which said Sieur de Mesnu has acknowledged having had and received for the sieurs de Montenay et de Courtonne, from Jacques Le Neuf esquire Sieur de la potterie who is present, a bill of exchange for the sum of eight hundred and forty Livres drawn by Nicolas dupont esquire sieur de Neufville On the Reverend father Paul Ragueneau of the Society of Jesus bursar for the foreign Missions residing at the College of Clermont St. Jacques street in Paris payable to the said Sieurs de Montenay and de Courtonne on the fifteenth day of february next, from which and of which the said bill of exchange The said Sieur de Mesnu was satisfied for the said sum of eight hundred and forty Livres, of which the said Sieur de la potterie is jointly indebted with Michel le Neuf esquire Sieur du herison, his brother and Jean Pouterel Sieur du Colombier, to the Sieurs de Montenay and de Courtonne, In their standing as the heirs of Jean le Neuf while living esquire Sieur de Montenay their uncle, and of the late Antoine le Neuf esquire Sieur de Courtonne their father, The said sum the remainder of the four thousand two hundred livres, which the sieurs du herison, de la potterie and le poutrel would have the guarantee of the said late Sieurs de Montenay and de Courtonne taken in settlement of three hundred livres of yearly revenue [?] of the late guillaume de frisure esquire Sieur de St. Germain de Mathieu by contract passed before Mathieu de lalonde and Michel le Sueur royal tabellions of the said Caen, the fourteenth January one thousand six hundred thirty six [1636], and the said legal representative clears the debt of The said sieur de la potterie. And all the others And by doing so the said sieur legal representative has now delivered to the said Sieur de la potterie the said contract of settlement upon dated, And the other legal papers Mentioned in the power of attorney, promising that the Sieurs de Montenay and de Courtonne would make a release settlement contract, promising and obliging, and made and passed at the Québec office of the said Notary The year one thousand six hundred sixty nine [1669] the twenty second day of october, afternoon, in the presence of Jean baptiste gosset and of Adrien Isabelle residents of Québec [witnesses] [?] who have signed these patents with the sieurs de Mesnu, de la potterie, et notary following the ordinance. Proven in white, free of erasures, promising and of null worth.

Signatures: Peuvret, Jq Leneuf de la poterie, Isabelle, Becquet Nore Royal, Gosset

¹² This document was transcribed by Eric Dubois and is available in French on his Internet site at http://www.inrs-telecom.quebec.ca/users/eric/genealogy/Leneuf_Becquet_691022.html

Table 2: Descendants of Richard Le Neuf



¹³ 6 June 1451: Lease of feudal land of Vaucongrin by "Richard Le Neuf esquire residing in Thury and Damsel Jehannette Mannoury his wife," to whom the said land "belonged from the succession of deceased Jehan Mannoury her father" (Bibliothèque nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf," folio 55).

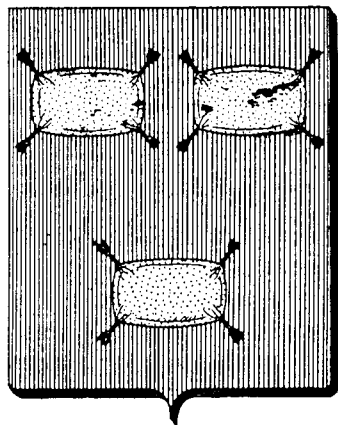
¹⁴ On 24 September 1522: "marriage between Jehan Le Neuf Esquire sieur de la Serverye son of the late nobleman Jean Le Neuf and Damsel Jeanne Belot his father and mother of the first part and Damsel Cardine de la Longny [...] in the interest of this marriage Richard Le Neuf Esquire at this occasion gives to the said Jean Le Neuf his grandson [...] to look after the education of his brother Pierre Le Neuf, presently a minor" (Bibliothèque nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf," folio 56).

¹⁵ On 12 July 1550: "marriage of the Nobleman Master Pierre Le Neuf advocate of the lay Court of Caen, son and heir of the deceased Jean Le Neuf Esquire and the deceased Damsel Jeanne Belot, and Damsel Catherine le Boucher" (Bibliothèque nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf," folio 222).

¹⁶ On 8 December 1588: partition between "Noblemen Gilles, Georges and Jacques Le Neuf brothers children and heirs of the late Jean Le Neuf, sieur de la Serverye of the village of Thury" (Bibliothèque nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf," folio 59). These brothers are also mentioned in the marriage contract dated 15 July 1573 that states "nobleman George Le Neuf, sieur de la Vallée, son and partly heir of Jehan Le Neuf Esquire sieur de La Serverye, present, and Damsel Cardine de la Longny, his father and

To be continued ...

LENEUF DE LA POTHERIE

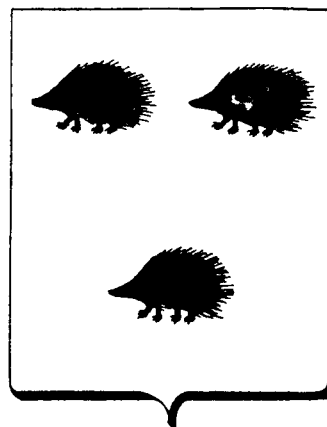


De gueules, à trois coussinets d'or, les houppes posées en sautoir.

(Chamillard, Rech. de la nobl. Généralité de Caen, 20).

Coats of arms from
Armorial du Canada Français,
E.-Z. Massicotte et Régis Roy.
*Noblesse française et noblesse canadienne –
Baronnets canadiens-français – Lieutenants-
Gouverneurs de la province de Québec.*
Deuxième Série. Montréal : Librairie Beauchemin
Limitée, 1918.

LE NEUF DU HÉRISSEON



D'argent, à trois hérissons de sable.

(Genouillac, Rec. d'armoiries, 250).

mother, et Damsel Jacqueline de May [...] in the presence, among others, of Gilles Le Neuf and Jacques Le Neuf, brothers of the groom" (Bibliothèque nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf," folio 135).

¹⁷ On 29 November 1579: "marriage of Pierre Le Neuf, esquire, advocate, eldest son of Master Pierre Le Neuf, Esquire and Lieutenant of the Viscount of Caen, and of the Damsel Catherine, daughter of Master Jean le Boucher [...] with Damsel Marie, daughter of nobleman Roch de la Roque, sieur de Courtonne [...] being in the interest of the said marriage the said Lieutenant promises to share the co-ownership of his estates with his son the groom and also with Henry Le Neuf Esquire his other son" (Bibliothèque nationale, manuscrit français no. 30693, *Carrés d'Hozier*, vol. 464, dossier "Le Neuf," folio 233).

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The Le Neuf Family: State of Knowledge

René Jetté, Roland-Yves Gagné, John Patrick DuLong, and Paul Leportier
Part II of III

[Editor's note: Part I appeared in *Michigan's Habitant Heritage* [MHH], Vol. 23, #4, October 2002, pp. 149-159.]

Who Are the Ancestors of Jeanne Le Marchand?

What do we know of the ancestors of Jeanne Le Marchand, wife of Mathieu le Neuf? We now know her paternal ancestry, the Le Marchands (see table 3), and her maternal ancestry, the St-Germains (see table 4). She would even be a descendant of Charlemagne, if we are to believe the consulted documents (see table 5). Table 6 illustrates the relationship between the Austrian Empress Elizabeth ("Sissi") and the world famous singer, Céline Dion, through the Saint-Germains. In the notes of tables 3, 4, and 5 we distinguish the degree of confidence attributed to the information sources using two different expressions. The expression "proof of the father and mother of" means a filiation is proven by a cited document or the summary of a document in a consulted source. The expression "names of the father and mother of" means a filiation *found in a printed work*, the affirmation of which is lacking an original document. As for the generations in table 5 beyond generation XIV, they rely on the classic works of Anselme, Brandenburg, and Werner, works considered reliable.

Table 3: Paternal Ancestry of Jeanne Le Marchand, Wife of Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérison

Generation I: Le Marchand or Le Marchant,¹⁸ *Jeanne*,¹⁹ – married soon after the promise of marriage announcement on 5 December 1599 in the Protestant church of Caen (Calvados) France – Le Neuf,²⁰ sieur du *Hérison*, *Mathieu*.

Source: Register of the Protestant church of Caen (Calvados) cited in DuLong, *op. cit.*, pp. 64-65.

Generation II: Le Marchand or Le Marchant, sieur de *La Bellonière*, du *Bocage*, and de *La Roque*, *Gervais*,²¹ lieutenant of the bailey of Condé-sur-Noireau, partitioned [his father's estate] with his elder

¹⁸ Le Marchand, generality of Caen, Normandy. Arms: "D'azur à la croix fleurdéliée d'or, cantonnée de 4 trèfles renversés de même" (Bibliothèque nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2658, "Marchand," folio 2).

¹⁹ The proof of the father and mother of Jeanne Le Marchand is found in her promise to marry.

²⁰ Le Neuf, Normandy. Arms: "De gueules, à trois coussinets d'or, les houppes posées en sautoir." Du Hérison arms: "D'argent, à trois hérissons de sable." (Edouard Zotique Massicotte and Régis Roy, *Armorial du Canada Français*, (Montreal: Librairie Beauchemin, 1918), vol. 2, pp. 24 and 113). [See page 159 of *MHH*, Vol. 23, October 2002.]

²¹ The proof of the father and the mother of Gervais Le Marchand is found in the marriage contract abstracted by Chérin. In which is written: "Gervais Le Marchant, esquire," son of "Mathurin Le Marchant, sieur de La Houssaie and du Petit Samoi" and "Marguerite Blanchard" was, "married on 27 April 1570 to Stevenotte de St Germain daughter of Olivier de St Germain sieur du Post, and in this contract he is called sieur de la Belloniere and du Bocage." Elsewhere, as proven in the files of Chérin, La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier confuse Gervais Le Marchand, seigneur of La Bellonière, and his uncle, Gervais Le Marchand, seigneur of Feuguerolles, son of Guillaume Le Marchand and Catherine Radulph, as the same person. The latter was married to Anne Boulon,

brother Jean Le Marchand, seigneur of Feuguerolles, by act dated 14 September 1569 [Chérin]; on 18 November 1569, "Gervais Le Marchand, bachelor of Law, bailiff of Condé," held the *aveu* [recognition]²² of a fief at Croissilles [Bénet], died before 19 February 1587, very likely at Condé-sur-Noireau (Calvados) – married by contract dated 27 April 1570 [Chérin] – with de Saint-Germain du Post, *Stévenotte* or *Venotte*, daughter of Olivier de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Françoise de Breul, died after 21 November 1599, very likely at Condé-sur-Noireau (Calvados), appointed legal guardian of their minor children by act dated 19 February 1587.

Sources: Bibliothèque nationale, *Cabinet d'Hozier*, manuscrit français no. 30693. Bibliothèque nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2658, "Marchand," folio 2, and dossier 2662, "Le Marchant."²³ Gilles-André de la Roque, *Histoire généalogique de la Maison d'Harcourt* (Paris, 1662), book XI, pp. 1172 and 1176. Paul LePortier, "Le Marchand (Normandie)," *Revue généalogique normande* no. 64 (January-March 1998): 58. Paul Barré, "Famille de Saint-Germain (Normandie)," *Héraldique et généalogie* no. 153 (October-December 1999): 344-345. Armand Bénet, *Inventaire des archives antérieures à 1790 de la ville de Condé-sur-Noireau (Calvados)*, manuscript, 1904, 90 pages, LDS Family History Library, microfilm no. 0547085, item 4.²⁴

widow of Jean Blanchard, father and mother of Marguerite Blanchard, wife of Mathurin Le Marchand (generation III).

²² An *aveu* is a recognition made by a vassal that acknowledges his suzerain. It is often combined as *aveu et dénombrement*. The *dénombrement* was a detailed description of the fief. Marcel Marion, *Dictionnaire des Institutions de la France aux XVII^e et XVIII^e siècles* (Paris: Éditions A. & J. Picard, 1993), p. 30.

²³ It is necessary to differentiate between the two separate files for the Le Marchand family at the Bibliothèque Nationale. The files in *Cabinet d'Hozier* are abstracts of acts, but the files of *Collection Chérin* are two genealogical tables which may have been drawn up from the same documents as those shown to d'Hozier. The exception is the marriage contract of Gervais Le Marchand and Stévenotte de Saint-Germain (generation II), unknown to d'Hozier, but abstracted by Chérin. The abstracts of the acts kept in the *Cabinet d'Hozier* are cited for each generation. Here, for your information, is the text of the genealogical table kept in the file 2662 of the Collection Chérin regarding the lineage between Gervais Le Marchant (generation II) and the founder, Jean Le Marchand (generation VI).

- I. "Jean Le Marchand was ennobled by King Louis the eleventh by letters given at Bourges in the month of January 1466 with the help of 200 *ecus* [gold coins] he paid on 21 October 1467, and the letters were registered with the *chambre des comptes* [accounting office] the same day and year."
- II. "Ferrand le marchand seigneur d'Ippeville married on 12 December 1475 Anne de la Haie daughter of Jean de la Haie sieur d'*escauleville*, this contract is fake."
- III. "Guillaume le marchand postulant [applicant or candidate] in the lay Court where he apparently had the title of attorney to which he substituted the title of *postulant* believing it to be more honorable in the year 1506. Married on 17 January 1505 Catherine Radulf, daughter of Thomas Radulf and Guillemine Germain."
- IV. "Mathurin le Marchant, referred to as Esquire in an appointment dated 30 October 1550 sieur de La Houssaie and du Petit Samoi in 1554. Married the eleventh August 1538 Marguerite Blanchard daughter of Jean Blanchard sieur de Mibenest and Anne Boulon who then remarried to Gervais Le Marchant in 1537."
- V. "Gervais le Marchant esquire partitioned [an inheritance] with his brother on 14 August 1569. The inscription on this partition is false. He married on 27 April 1570 Stevenotte de Saint-Germain daughter of Olivier de St Germain sieur du Post, and in this contract he was called the sieur de La Bellonire and du Bocage, she [Stevenotte] was appointed legal guardian of their minor children by an act dated 19 February 1587."

²⁴ The inventory of Bénet has very few documents prior to 1600; in fact, most of the documents are related to the eighteenth century and even a great number from the beginning of the French Revolution (1789-1790). From pages 24 to 77, the author makes an inventory of the GG series, Civil State. This inventory starts with the "Register of

Generation III: Le Marchand, seigneur of *La Houssaye* and du *Petit Samoi*, *Mathurin*.²⁵ on 12 December 1541, in an act of exchange between nobleman Jean de La Lande, sieur d'Ouilli, and Mathurin Le Marchant, sieur du Petit Samoi, son of Guillaume le Marchant, sieur de Sotteville [d'Hozier, folio 278], deceased before 14 August 1569 (date of the partition between his sons) – married by contract dated 11 August 1538 before ... – Blanchard, *Marguerite*, daughter of the deceased Jean Blanchard, sieur de Mibenest, and Anne Boulon, who was remarried in 1537 to Gervais Le Marchand (son of Guillaume Le Marchand and Catherine Radulph).²⁶

Sources: Bibliothèque Nationale, *Cabinet d'Hozier*, manuscrit français no. 30693. Bibliothèque Nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2658, "Marchand" folio 2 and dossier 2662, "Le Marchand." Leportier 1998, *op. cit.* François-Alexandre de La Chenaye-Desbois and [Jacques?] de Badier, *Dictionnaire de la noblesse, contenant les généalogies, l'histoire et la chronologie des familles nobles de France*, 3rd ed., 19 vols. (Paris: Schlesinger, 1863-1876); reprint ed. (Paris: Berger-Levrault, 1980) vol. 10, "Marchant de Caligny (Le)," column 168.

Generation IV: Le Marchand, Lord of *Sotteville*, *Guillaume* ²⁷ "postulant [applicant or candidate] in the lay Court where he apparently had the title of attorney to which he substituted the title of *postulant* believing it to be more honorable in the year 1506." [Chérin] – married by contract dated 17 January 1505 before the notaries Jean Grésille and Jean Lefebvre, at Condé-sur-Noireau – Radulph or Radulf, *Catherine*, daughter of Thomas Radulph, sieur de Cailly, and Guillemine Germain.²⁸ first marriage with Michel Chanu, esquire [D'Hozier].

baptisms of Saint-Martin and Saint-Sauveur of Condé-sur-Noireau" of which the oldest registered acts are from 1613. The author does not limit himself to just inventorying the various books. He also cites or summarizes various official documents, in particular those it seems, that he found interesting, which mention eminent persons. From page 77 to the end, he does an inventory of documents pertaining to the seigneurie of Condé and the lands attached to it.

²⁵ The proof of the father and mother of Mathurin Le Marchand is found in the marriage contract abstracted by d'Hozier. He mentions the "contract of marriage dated 11 August 1538 of the nobleman Mathurin Le Marchant, sieur de la Houssaie, son and heir of the late Guillaume Le Marchant, esquire, sieur de la Houssaie, and Catherine Radul, with Marguerite Blanchard, daughter and heiress of the late Jean Blanchard esquire sieur de Mibenest and Anne de Boulon." On the top right side, he adds "false" [folio 281]. Nevertheless, the proof of his father is found in the exchange agreement dated 12 December 1541 [folio 278].

²⁶ The proof of the father and mother of Marguerite Blanchard is found in her marriage contract abstracted by d'Hozier and by Chérin.

²⁷ The proof of the father and mother of Guillaume Le Marchand is found in his marriage contract abstracted by d'Hozier and later by Chérin. D'Hozier mentions "contract of marriage dated 17 January 1505 between Guillaume Le Marchant sieur de Soteville son of the deceased Ferrant le Marchant esquire sieur de Soteville, with Catherine Radul, daughter of the deceased Thomas Radul, esquire sieur de Cailly and of Guillemine Germain." He adds "false and well imitated" [folio 244].

²⁸ The proof of the father and mother of Catherine Radulph is found in her marriage contract, abstracted by d'Hozier and later by Chérin. However, La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier do not mention the father and mother of the bride in either the account on "Marchand de Caligny (Le)" or in the account on "Radulph." In addition, according to Paul Leportier, Thomas Radulph, sieur de Cailly, and Guillemine Germain (who he calls "de Saint-Germain") would rather be the parents of her father, Arthur Radulph, whose wife's name is not known. In any case, the ancestry of Thomas Radulph, sieur de Cailly, is found in La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier.

Sources: Bibliothèque Nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2662, "Le Marchant." Bibliothèque Nationale, *Cabinet d'Hozier*, manuscrit français no. 30639, folio 244. Leportier 1988, *op.cit.* Christian Jamin, "La famille Le Marchant des Ligneriers" *Revue généalogique normande*, no. 38 (April-June 1991): 99. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.* "Marchant de Caligny (Le)," columns 167-168, and "Radulph," column 686.

Generation V: Le Marchand, seigneur de *Sotteville*, and d'*Apperville* [d'Hozier] or d'*Ippeville* [Chérin], *Ferrand*,²⁹ mentioned in an act of 26 March 1478 "Master Regnault le Marchant priest and Ferrault le Marchant esquire brothers [,] eldest children and principle heirs of the deceased Jehan le Marchant while living esquire and seigneur de Sotteville" [d'Hozier, folio 242]; deceased before 17 January 1505 (marriage of his son, Guillaume) – married by contract dated 5 February 1475, at St-Martin de Thorigny [Jamin: LePortier and Pithois] – with de la Haye, *Anne*, daughter of Jean de La Haie, seigneur d'Escauleville, and of N....³⁰

Sources: Bibliothèque Nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2662, "Le Marchant." Bibliothèque Nationale, *Cabinet d'Hozier*, manuscrit français no. 30639. Leportier 1998, *op. cit.* Jamin, *op. cit.* Paul Leportier and Claude Pithois, "Famille de la Haye (Basse Normandie)," *Héraldique et généalogie*, no. 143 (April-June 1997): 127-131, p. 129. La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, pp. 1068-1069. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, "Marchant de Caligny (Le)," column 167, and "Creully," column 496. Paul Leportier, "de Creully," *Héraldique et généalogie*, no. 110 (March 1989): 85.

Generation VI: Le Marchand, seigneur de *Sotteville*, *Jean*,³¹ ennobled by Louis XI, King of France, "by letters given at Bourges in month of January 1466 in consideration of 200 *ecus* [gold coins] he paid on 21 October 1467." These letters of nobility were registered the same day at the *Cour des Comptes* [accounting office] [Chérin].³² He died before 26 March 1478 [d'Hozier, folio 242] – married around 1440/1450 – N....

²⁹ The proof of the father of Ferrand Le Marchand is found in an act dated 26 March 1478, reported by d'Hozier in which he qualifies the document with a (oh surprise!) "very good." The proof is also found in an agreement, dated 12 December 1475, between Ferrand Le Marchand, seigneur "d'Apperville," and Jean de la Haie, seigneur d'Escauleville, which concerns the "marriage contract of the said Ferrant le Marchant with the Damsel daughter of the said Jean de la Haie." This agreement is reported by d'Hozier, who, however, considered this act "as fake as all the others." [folio 241]. Chérin also knew of this act, which he mistakenly qualified as a marriage contract. In contrast, Ferrand Le Marchand's mother is not known. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, followed by Jamin, as well as Leportier and Pithois, assert that her name is Agnès de Creully (or Creully) and that she is the daughter of Thomas de Creully and of Jeanne de Thère. In addition, Jamin, as well as Leportier and Pithois, affirm knowing the date of her marriage contract. In contrast, La Roque does not mention Agnès de Creully among the children of her presumed father. Moreover, neither d'Hozier nor Chérin mention any wife for Jean Le Marchand, father of Ferrand Le Marchand.

³⁰ The proof of the father of Anne de La Haye is found in the previously cited agreement dated 12 December 1475. The name of her mother is unknown. The names of the father and mother of Jean de La Haye, seigneur d'Escauleville are also unknown. According to Leportier and Pithois, "Pierre de La Haye is *perhaps* the father of: Jean de La Haye, Seigneur d'Escauleville, from whom issued Anne de La Haye, heiress of Sotteville." Sotteville belonged to her presumed great-grandfather, Jean de La Haye, then to his eldest son, Guillaume. The ancestry of Pierre de La Haye, possible father of Jean de La Haye, is found in Leportier and Pithois.

³¹ The names of the father and mother of Jean le Marchand are not known.

³² Chérin can not be clearer: Jean Le Marchand purchased his nobility. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier fabricate a story when they write that he was ennobled for his "services and merits of arms" and that "he served for the first time [...] against the English, under Joan of Arc, at the siege of Orleans," and so on.

Sources: Bibliothèque Nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2662. "Le Marchant." Bibliothèque Nationale, *Cabinet d'Hozier*, manuscrit français no. 30639. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, "Marchand de Caligny (Le)." Leportier 1998, *op. cit.* Jamin, *op. cit.*

**Table 4: Maternal Ancestry of Jeanne Le Marchand,
Wife of Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson**

Generation I: Le Marchand or Le Marchant, *Jeanne*,³³ – married soon after the promise of marriage announcement on 5 December 1599 in the Protestant church of Caen (Calvados) France – Le Neuf, sieur du *Hérisson*, *Mathieu*.

Source: Register of the Protestant church of Caen (Calvados) cited in DuLong, *op. cit.*, pp. 64-65.

Generation II: de St-Germain³⁴ du *Post*, *Stévenotte or Venotte*,³⁵ deceased after 21 November 1599, probably at Condé-sur-Noireau (Calvados), appointed legal guardian of their minor children by act dated 19 February 1587 – married by contract dated 21 April 1570 [Chérin] – Le Marchand or Le Marchant, sieur de *La Bellonière* and de *La Roque*, *Gervais*, son of Mathurin Le Marchand, seigneur de La Houssaye and du Petit Samoi, and Marguerite Blanchard, lieutenant of the bailey of Condé-sur-Noireau, partitioned [his father's estate] with his elder brother, Jean Le Marchand, seigneur of Feuguerolles, by act dated 14 September 1569 [Chérin]; on 18 November 1569 "Gervais Le Marchand, bachelor in law, bailiff of Condé" held the recognition of a fief at Croisilles [Bénet], deceased before 19 February 1587, probably at Condé-sur-Noireau (Calvados).

Sources: Bibliothèque Nationale, *Collection Chérin*, dossier 2658. "Marchand," folio 2, and dossier 2662. "Le Marchant." Gilles-André de La Roque, *Histoire généalogique de la famille d'Harcourt* (Paris, 1662), book XI, pp. 1172 and 1176. Paul Leportier, "Le Marchand (Normandie)," *Revue généalogique normande*, no. 64 (January-March 1998): 58. Paul Barré, "Famille de St-Germain, Normandie," *Héraldique et généalogie*, no. 153 (October-December 1999): 344-345. Armand Bénet, *Inventaire des archives antérieures à 1790 de la ville de Condé-sur-Noireau (Calvados)*, manuscript, 1904, 90 pages, LDS Family History Library microfilm no. 0547085, item 4.

Generation III: de Saint-Germain, sieur du *Post*, *Olivier*,³⁶ 1552: "Ollyvier de Saint-Germain, for the fief du Port [sic], assize [judicial inquest] at Ussy" [Travers, no. 1388, p. 219] – married around 1540 (their daughter Stévenotte was married in 1570) – de Breul or Breuil, *Françoise*.³⁷

³³ The proof of the father and mother of Jeanne Le Marchand is found in her promise to marry.

³⁴ Saint-Germain, Normandy, Arms: "De gueules, à une fleur de lys d'argent" [La Roque, p. 1172].

³⁵ The proof of the father of Stévenotte de Saint-Germain is found in her marriage contract abstracted by Chérin. He writes that "Gervais le Marchant, esquire" "married on 27 April 1570 Stevenotte de St Germain daughter of Olivier de St Germain, sieur du Post." The name of her mother is found in La Roque (see the note relative to the filiation of Olivier de Saint-Germain, generation III): it points out that Françoise de Breul is the only known wife of Olivier de Saint-Germain. In addition, Stévenotte de Saint-Germain had a namesake aunt, daughter of François de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Hélène de Corday (generation IV) married by contract dated 7 October 1532 to François de Mannoury [Paul Leportier, "de Mannoury," *Héraldique et généalogie* (1998): 232].

³⁶ The proof the father and mother of Olivier de St-Germain is found in La Roque (La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier repeat La Roque). In fact, La Roque attributes the following filiations to Jacques de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, who had to prove his nobility in 1598. La Roque states specifically that this "filiation is proved by contracts

Sources: La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, p. 1176. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, vol. 1, "Argences," columns 758-759. Barré, *op. cit.*, p. 345. Emile Travers, ed., *Rôle du ban et de l'arrière-ban du bailliage de Caen en 1552* (Rouen: A. Lestriguant; and Paris: A. Picard et fils, 1901), 399 pages.

Generation IV: de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, François,³⁸ mentioned in 1505: decree of the Exchequer [tax or revenue] Court of Normandy in Rouen concerning Jean de St-Germain, Pierre de Brieux, seigneur de Mons, and "François de Saint Germain eldest son of Oliuier de Saint Germain" [La Roque] – married around 1500/1510 (their daughter Stévenotte was married in 1532³⁹ and their son Olivier around 1540) – de Corday, Héléne, perhaps the daughter of Guillaume de Corday and Isabeau d'Esneval.⁴⁰

made at S. Silvin in 1508, at Pont d'Ouilly, 12 March 1512, at Vrigny 16 April 1518, at Thury 22 February 1509, at Tournebu 28 June 1524, at Thury 24 February 1555, by an *aveu* dated 17 February 1538, by a mandate dated 13 May 1596 obtained at Falaise," etc.

- I. François de St-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Héléne de Corday.
- II. Olivier de St-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Françoise de Breul.
- III. Jacques de St-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Jeanne de Vauville, married by contract 1 October 1624 at Thorigny.

In addition, on 12 May 1617, at the parish of Saint-Sauveur de Condé-sur-Noireau, was baptized Jacques Le Marchand, son of Jacques Le Marchand, sieur de La Mesrouzières [Bénet, *op. cit.*, p 27]. He was the son of Gervais Le Marchand and of Venotte of Saint-Germain. Moreover, the baptism took place in the presence of Catherine Le Herisy "widow of M. [Monsieur] de La Bellonière." But Catherine Le Héricy, daughter of Jacques Le Héricy, was married by contract dated 28 December 1593 to Mathurin Le Marchand, sieur de La Bellonière, son of Gervais Le Marchand and of Venotte of Saint-Germain [Chérin, dossier 2662]. Lastly, the godfather of the baptized child was "Jacques de Saint-Germain, sieur du Post and other lands." It is obvious that this Jacques de Saint-Germain, sieur du Post, was that same person who married Jeanne de Vauville, by contract dated 1 October 1624 in Thorigny. This baptismal certificate indirectly confirms that Venotte de Saint-Germain was a Saint-Germain du Post. The Saint-Germain du Post family is ignored by Chamillart (Guy Chamillart, *Généralité de Caen, Recherche de la noblesse faite par ordre du Roi (Louis XIV) en 1666 et années suivantes* (Caen: Henri Delesque, 1887), pp. 127-128).

³⁷ The names of the father and mother of Françoise de Breuil are unknown.

³⁸ The proof of the father of François de Saint-Germain is found in the 1505 document reported by La Roque. In addition, the marriage of Jean de Corday, son of Guillaume de Corday and Isabeau d'Esneval, is known through the contract dated 15 November 1502, with Héléne de Saint-Germain, daughter of Olivier de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post and of Jeanne de Rouellée [Pâris, *op. cit.*, p. 22-23]. Furthermore, in 1480, Guillaume de Corday was part of the family council that was destined to name a guardian for the minor children of Olivier de Saint-Germain [Pâris *op. cit.*, p. 64]. Since François de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Héléne de Corday must have probably been married in the same time as the above mentioned couple, that is, around 1500-1510, she [Héléne] might be the sister of Jean de Corday, and he [François] might be the brother of Héléne de Saint-Germain. Consequently, François de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, known as the son of Olivier of Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, would also be the son of Jeanne de Roullé, his only known spouse. As for Héléne de Corday, she might be the daughter of Guillaume de Corday and of Isabeau d'Esneval.

³⁹ On 7 October 1532: marriage contract between François de Mannoury, seigneur de Fontaine-le-Pin, and Stévenotte de Saint-Germain, daughter of François de St Germain, seigneur du Post, and of Héléne de Corday [Paul Leportier, "de Mannoury," *Héraldique et généalogie*, no. 148 (1998): 232]. ***

⁴⁰ Neither La Roque, nor La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, nor Pâris name the father and mother of Héléne de Corday. She is *perhaps* the daughter of Guillaume de Corday and Isabeau d'Esneval (see the previous note concerning the filiation of her husband). The *ascendance* of Guillaume de Corday is found in Pâris. As for his wife, Isabeau d'Esneval, married by contract on 16 November 1483, Pâris restricted himself to calling her "daughter of

Sources: La Roque, *op. cit.*, livre XI, pp. 1173-1174. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, vol. I, "Argences," columns 758-759. Barré, *op. cit.*, p. 345. Bertrand Pâris, *La famille de Corday* (Mayenne: Editions régionales de l'Ouest, 1994), 356 pages, pp. 21-23. Baron d'Esneval, "Les seigneurs de Pavilly, barons d'Esneval, vidames de Normandie," *Revue catholique de Normandie*, 27:5 (1918): 193-207; 27:6 (1918): 270-277; and 28:1 (1919): 25-30.

Generation V: de Saint Germain, seigneur *du Post, Olivier*,⁴¹ mentioned on 14 June 1460,⁴² in 1474, and in 1484 [La Roque]; legal guardian of his minor children, on ... 1480 [Pâris], deceased between 1487 and 1505,⁴³ – married around 1460/1470 – de Rouellé, *Jeanne*.⁴⁴

the Seigneur de Saint-Mards" [p.21]. Fortunately, the d'Esnevals, whose coat-of-arms are "Pallé d'or et d'azur de six pièces au chef de gueules," possessed a genealogical monograph edited by the baron d'Esneval and published in 1918 and 1919. Isabeau d'Esneval, married to Guillaume de Corday on 16 November 1483, is *not named*. However, the only d'Esneval, seigneur de Saint-Mards, who could be her father was Robert d'Esneval, seigneur de Saint-Maclou, Saint-Mards, and Campigny, deceased before 1474 "leaving several minor children" [Esneval 1919, *op. cit.*, p. 30]. If this is indeed the case, then here is the ascendance of Isabeau d'Esneval (generation V

- V. Isabeau d'Esneval and Guillaume de Corday, married 16 November 1483.
- VI. Robert d'Esneval, sieur de Saint-Maclou, Saint-Mards, and Campigny, deceased before 1474 [Esneval 1919 *op. cit.*, p. 30]. Note: It seems there is a generation missing between these two Roberts.
- VII. Robert (called Robin or Robinet) d'Esneval, seigneur de Bourdainville, by donation from his father, and seigneur de Saint-Maclou, Saint-Mards, and Tourville "which must have come from his mother" and Jeanne le Bigot, dame [lady] de Formoville, de Campigny, and de Malou (daughter of Jean le Bigot, seigneur of the same lands and Marshal of Normandy) married 1380 [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, pp. 271 and 273-274].
- VIII. Robert V, baron d'Esneval, 21 years old in 1363, deceased before 1381 and N... [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, pp. 206 and 270-271].
- IX. Robert d'Esneval, seigneur de Verdun, deceased before his father, and Béatrice de Wavrin (daughter of Robert de Wavrin, sire [sic] of Wavrin and seigneur de Verdun), married before 1346 [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, p. 205].
- X. Robert IV, baron d'Esneval and seigneur de Pavilly, deceased between 1360 and 1363, and Marguerite de Crèvecoeur (daughter of Jean IV, seigneur de Crèvecoeur, and Blanche de Saveuse) [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, pp. 203-205]. [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. VII, p. 111].
- XI. Guillaume II, baron d'Esneval and seigneur de Pavilly, deceased in 1319, and Ide de Rosny (daughter of Guy II de Mauvoisin, seigneur de Rosny, and of Isabelle de Mello) [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, pp. 201-202]. [Schwennicke 1980, vol. XIII, table 131 "Mauvoisin."].
- XII. Robert III, baron d'Esneval, deceased 14 December 1316, and Marguerite de Pavilly, dame de Pavilly, deceased 27 January 1304 [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, pp. 183 and 198-200].
- XIII. Guillaume I, baron d'Esneval, deceased before 1275, and Philippe de Montfort, (daughter of Philippe de Montfort, seigneur de Castres, and of Marie of Antioch, dame de Thoron, daughter of Rupin, prince of Antioch, and Helvise de Chypre [Cyprus]) [Esneval 1918, *op. cit.*, p. 198] [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. VI, pp. 79-80]. **Please note this is a correction from the French version of this article.**

If Jeanne Le Marchand is indeed a descendant of Isabeau d'Esneval, then she would also be a descendant of Charlemagne, through the Rosny lineage (generation XI) and of the Montfort lineage (generation XIII).

⁴¹ There is no direct proof for Olivier de Saint-Germain's father's name, although it is likely that it was Jean de Saint-Germain. In fact, La Roque does not name him. Just the same, Olivier Saint-Germain's father might be this Jean de Saint-Germain because he was living in the *sergenterie* [sergeant's fief] of Thury, and he "proved ancient nobility" in 1463 [La Roque, *op. cit.*, livre XI, p. 1176. Unless, of course, he was instead the elder brother of Olivier. As for Barré, he pretends, without any proof, that Olivier de Saint-Germain's father was "Jean II d'Argences, seigneur de St-Germain-l'Angot." On the other hand, the proof of the mother of Olivier de Saint-

Sources: La Roque, *op. cit.*, livre XI, p. 1173-1180. Barré, *op. cit.*, p. 345. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, vol. 1, "Argences," columns 758-760. Armand Bénét, *Inventaire sommaire des archives départementales antérieures à 1790*, Calvados, archives civiles, série E, Tome premier: Duché d'Harcourt (Caen: Henri Delesques, 1905), p. 270.

Germain is found in two documents summarized by La Roque and mentioned below: she was N... de La Poterie. These documents also prove that Olivier de Saint-Germain was the younger brother of Jean de Saint-Germain, seigneur de Saint-Germain-Langot and de Saint-Laurent-en-Caux (Barré makes the mistake of marrying N... de La Poterie to Jean de Saint-Germain, brother of Olivier, rather than to their father).

Year 1474: Decree of the Exchequer Court of Normandy in Rouen regarding the case for the ownership of the seigneurie of Saint-Laurent-en-Caux, between Jean and Olivier de Saint-Germain, esquires, brothers, heirs of Sire Thomas de La Poterie, priest, their uncle, and Jean de Brioux, esquire: adjudication of Saint-Laurent-en-Caux in favor of the sieurs de Saint-Germain. The case had been going on since 12 December 1464 [La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, pp. 1173-1174].

Year 1484: Decree of the Exchequer Court of Normandy in Rouen regarding Jean de Saint-Germain, esquire, of Saint-Germain-Langot, eldest heir of Sire Robert de La Poterie, priest, and Olivier de Saint-Germain, esquire, seigneur du Post [La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, p. 1173].

In addition, the following document also suggests that N... de La Poterie was really Jeanne de La Poterie and that she was remarried to Jean de Pierres.

17 November 1459: Decree of the Exchequer Court of Normandy in Rouen between (among others) the heirs of Jean de Pierres, esquire, seigneur d'Iort, Olivier de St-Germain, esquire, attorney for damsel Jeanne de La Poterie, widow of the said deceased Jean de Pierres [La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, p. 1173].

Lastly, Jean de Saint-Germain, seigneur de Saint-Germain-Langot and de Saint-Laurent-en-Caux, and elder brother of Olivier de Saint-Germain, is the father of Michel de Saint-Germain, seigneur of the same places and husband of Stévenotte Le Veneur [La Roque, La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier].

On the one hand, Marie, eldest daughter and heiress of Michel de Saint-Germain, was, among others, dame de *La Nocherie* [La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, column 760]. But, according to La Roque, this branch of the Saint-Germains became heirs of the La Poteries, who descended from Mathieu de La Poterie, and who held the fiefs depending on the honor [manors] of Montfort and others of same standing at Gunarville, and of Jean de La Poterie, seigneur de La Nocherie, by letters of the king, given 28 January 1433 [La Roque, p. 1178]. The devolution of the domain of La Nocherie therefore confirms that Olivier de Saint-Germain's mother was N... de La Poterie.

On the other hand, it is with Stévenotte Le Veneur, that the name of Stévenotte entered into the family of Saint-Germain du Post. As a matter of fact, Stévenotte Le Veneur may have been the godmother of Stévenotte de Saint-Germain, daughter of François de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post and of Hélène de Corday, as François de Saint-Germain, seigneur du Post, was the first cousin of Michel de Saint-Germain, husband of Stévenotte le Veneur.

⁴² On 19 June 1460: "Inheritance remaining in the domain of the seigneurie by lack of heirs: in the name of Jean de Brioux, esquire, for and in the name of Guillaume de Brioux [his father?], and Olivier de Saint-Germain, esquire, for the fief of Meslay" [Bénét, *op. cit.*, file E.368, p. 270].

⁴³ In 1487: Decree of the Exchequer Court of Normandy in Rouen regarding Jean de Saint-Germain, esquire, seigneur de Saint-Germain, and Olivier de Saint-Germain, esquire, seigneur du Post [La Roque, p. 1173]. In 1505: Decree of the Exchequer Court of Normandy in Rouen regarding Jean de Saint-Germain, Pierre de Brioux, seigneur de Mons, and "François de Saint-Germain, eldest son of Olivier de Saint-Germain" [La Roque, p. 1173].

⁴⁴ The names of Jeanne de Rouellé's father and mother are unknown.

Generation VI: de Saint-Germain *N...* or *Jean*.⁴⁵ – married around 1440/1450. – de La Poterie. *Jeanne*.⁴⁶ deceased after 1459 (remarried before 1459 to Jean de Pierres, seigneur d'Iort).

Sources: La Roque, *op. cit.*, livre XI, pp. 1173, 1174, 1178, and 1179. La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, vol. I, "Argences," columns 758-760. Barré, *op. cit.*, 344-345. A. Surville, "Le Fief de la Nocherie," *Le Pays Bas-Normand*, 3rd bulletin (1910): 230-232.

To be continued ...

⁴⁵ The names of the father and mother of *N...* or *Jean* de Saint-Germain are unknown. According to La Roque (followed by La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier), the ancestor of this branch of the Saint-Germain family is Jean d'Argences, who rendered an *aveu* to King Charles V, on 27 March 1371, for "half a fief established in the parish of Saint-Germain-le-Vasson." He specifies that this fief was the reason for this family being given the surname of Saint-Germain; likewise with the fief of Langot for the Saint-Germain-Langot branch of the family. He adds that Jean de Saint-Germain, esquire, Jean Patry, esquire, seigneur de Culay, and Guillaume de Brioux, esquire, are all named as co-heirs in the fief of Martigny in the *aveu* that was rendered to the king on 14 February 1414, by Richard de Tournebu, Knight, for his barony of La Motte[-Cesny] [La Roque, p. 1174]. Barré, without any proof, makes this Jean d'Argences the father of a Jean II d'Argences who, according to him, would be the father of the brothers, Jean and Olivier de Saint-Germain (generation V).

⁴⁶ The proof of the father of Jeanne de La Poterie is found in the fact that the Saint-Germains inherited, among other properties of the house of La Poterie, the seigneurie of La Nocherie, which belonged to Jean de La Poterie in 1433 (see the note relating to the filiation of Olivier de Saint-Germain, generation V). In addition, the names of her father and mother are found in Surville. He specifies that the seigneurie of La Nocherie belonged to Robert de La Poterie, curate of Lignon, who divided his properties between his nephews Jean de Saint-Germain, Olivier de Saint-Germain, and Jean de Brioux in 1474.

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The Le Neuf Family: State of Knowledge

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Part III of III

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Table 5: Ancestry of Jeanne Le Marchand, Wife of Mathieu le Neuf, Sieur du Hérisson, to Charlemagne

- I. Jeanne Le Marchand and Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson, married soon after the promise of marriage announcement, 5 December 1599, Protestant church of Caen (Calvados) [see tables 3 and 4].
- II. Stévenotte de St Germain and Gervais Le Marchand, sieur de La Bellonière, married by contract dated 21 April 1570 [see tables 3 and 4].
- III. Olivier de St Germain, sieur du Post, and Françoise de Breul, married around 1540 [see table 4].
- IV. François de St Germain, sieur du Post, and Hélène de Corday, married around 1500/1510 [see table 4].
- V. Olivier de St Germain, sieur du Post, and Jeanne de Rouellé, married around 1460/1470 [see table 4].
- VI. Jeanne de La Poterie and (Jean) de St-Germain, married around 1440/1450 [see table 4].
- VII. Jean de La Poterie, seigneur de La Nocherie,¹ and Pierrette de Roussel, married around 1410/1420 [La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, pp. 1178-1179] [Surville 1910, *op. cit.*, p. 232] [A. Surville, "Généalogie de la famille de Roussel," *Le pays Bas-Normand*, 1st bulletin (1911): 9-15] [Jean Durand de Saint-Front, "Armorial," *Le pays Bas-Normand*, new series, no. 4 (1968): 40] [La Roque, *op. cit.*, book XI, p. 1179].
- VIII. Almaric de La Poterie² and Philippote de Lignon, married around 1380/1390 [Surville 1910, *op. cit.*, p. 232] [Jean Durand de Saint-Front, *op. cit.*, p. 40] [Abbé Gourdel, *Le centre du Houlme* (1905), p. 219].

¹ La Nocherie, commune of St-Bömer, canton of Domfront (Orne). On 28 January 1433, he obtained by letters of the king, "sufferance for one year" to show faith and homage due for the seigneurie of La Nocherie, "as it came and fell to him as an inheritance from his deceased grandfather" [La Roque p. 1179]. Consequently, even if the names of the father and mother of Jean de La Poterie are unknown, the letters of 1433, which specify the mode of devolution of the seigneurie of La Nocherie, furnish proof of his ancestors. In addition, the names of the father and the mother of Perrette de Roussel are found in Surville: she would be the daughter of Juliot de Roussel, sieur de Bréel, and of Charlotte du Moustier [Surville 1911, p. 11]. However, according to Durand de Saint-Front, the genealogy of Roussel published by Surville "mixes with no proof [the Roussels of St-Bömer] with the Roussels of the County of Mortain [and] with the Rousées de La Nocherie. [...] This genealogy has to be completely re-verified, prior to 1450."

² There is no proof of the father and mother of Jean de La Poterie (generation VII); only the ancestors can be traced, as mentioned in the previous note. Nevertheless, it could be Almaric de La Poterie, husband of Philippote de

- IX. Perrette Rousée, dame de La Nocherie³ and Jean de La Poterie,⁴ married around 1350/1360 [Surville 1910, *op. cit.*, pp. 231-232] [A. Surville, "Histoire féodale de Saint-Bômer," *Le pays Bas-Normand*, 2nd bulletin (1911): 88-89] [Paul LePortier, "La famille de Vassy," *Héraldique et généalogie*, no. 142 (January-March 1997): 28-31, p. 29].
- X. Jeanne de Vassy⁵ and Robert Rousée,⁶ seigneur de La Nocherie, married around 1330 [Surville 1910, *op. cit.*, pp. 230-231] [Durand de Saint-Front, *op. cit.*, p. 40] [LePortier 1997, *op. cit.*, p. 29] [Compléments aux quartiers des enfants de Pierre Favier," *Revue généalogique normande*, no. 63 (July-September 1997): 325-331, p. 328].
- XI. Isabelle Tesson and Roland III de Vassy, seigneur de La Forêt-Auvray, married before the feast of St-Maur 1312 [LePortier 1997, *op. cit.*, p. 29] ["Compléments," *op. cit.*, p. 328] [La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, vol. XIX, "Vassy," p. 526].
- XII. Jean II Tesson, seigneur de Subligny, and Thomasse N...., married around 1280/1290 [LePortier 1997, *op. cit.*, p. 29] ["Compléments," *op. cit.*, p. 328] [La Chenaye-Desbois and Badier, *op. cit.*, vol. XIX, "Vassy," p. 526].
- XIII. Jean I Tesson, seigneur de Subligny, and N...., married around 1250/1260 ["Compléments," *op. cit.*, p. 328].

Lignon, married before 22 January 1397, date when she shared with her elder sister, Colette, the inheritance of their father, Olivier de Lignon [document reported by Abbé Gourdel]. This paternity is likely, as it would explain how the seigneurie of Lignon and the given name of Olivier fell into the patrimony of the St-Germain family. As a matter of fact, La Roque writes that "the seigneurie of Lignon to which succeeded the house of Sainte-Marie, followed by that of [the house of] La Poterie, and finally the seigneurs of St-Germain-Langot, was formerly possessed by those [the seigneurs] of Lignon." However, he does not explicitly affirm that the St-Germains are descendants of Olivier de Lignon.

³ The proof of the father and mother of Perrette Rousée is found in the fact that she inherited La Nocherie, the same seigneurie inherited, in turn, by her grandson, Jean de La Poterie (generation VII). In fact, on 22 June 1404, "Jehan de La Poterie, esquire, seigneur de La Nocherie, because of Perrette Rousée, his wife" renders an *aveu* of the fief of La Nocherie to the Count of Alençon [Surville 1911, p. 88]. The name of the mother of Perrette Rousée is found in LePortier 1997.

⁴ The name of the father of Jean de La Poterie is found in Surville: he is the son of Mathieu de La Poterie [Surville 1910], without a doubt the one mentioned by La Roque (see the note concerning the paternity of Olivier de St-Germain, generation V).

⁵ According to Durand de Saint-Front, the name of the father of Jeanne de Vassy would be Guyon de Vassy, seigneur de la Forêt-Auvray. In contrast, according to LePortier 1997 and the "Compléments," the names of the father and the mother of Jeanne de Vassy would instead be Roland III de Vassy, seigneur de la Forêt-Auvray, and Isabelle Tesson. Just the same, all are in agreement on the approximate year of her marriage to Robert Rousée: around 1330. In fact, the three genealogists get their information from the same source: a genealogical manuscript about the Vassy family preserved at the Archives départementales de la Manche, the author of which is Durand de Saint-Front [*sic*] who affirms that Jeanne de Vassy, spouse of Robert Rousée, is the *sister*, and not the daughter, of Guyot de Vassy. It appears that Durand de Saint-Front may have been the victim of an unfortunate distraction while drafting the notice concerning the Rousée family in his armorial.

⁶ The names of the father and mother of Robert Rousée are unknown. However, at least, we know that he was the seigneur de La Nocherie between 1346 and 1375, dates of documents in which he appeared in this capacity.

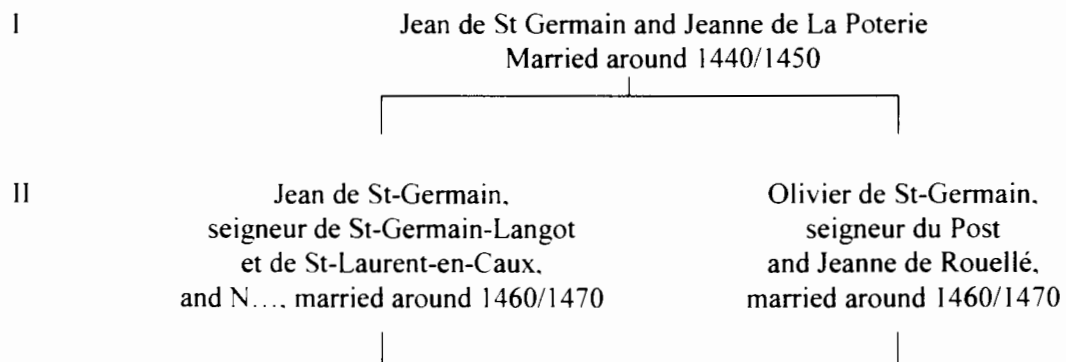
- XIV. Pétronille de Montfort, dame de Rambouillet, and Raoul Paynel (who took the name of Tesson),⁷ married around 1239 [Jacques Polonovski and Paul LePortier, "La famille Paynel," *Revue généalogique normande*, no. 47 (July-September 1993): 256-259, p. 257] [Père Anselme, *Histoire généalogique et chronologique de la Maison royale de France...*, continued by M. du Fourny and augmented by Père Ange and Père Simplicien, Augustins Déchaussés, 3rd rev. ed., 9 vols. (Paris, 1726-1733); reprint ed., 9 vols. (Paris: Éditions du Palais Royal printers, 1967), vol. VI, p. 75] ["Complements" *op. cit.*, p. 328].
- XV. Guy de Montfort, comte de Bigorre, title gained through his wife, and Pétronille de Comminges, comtesse de Bigorre, marriage contract November 1216 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. VI, p. 75 (Montfort) and vol. II, p. 631 (Comminges)] [G. E. Cockayne and others, *The Complete Peerage*, 13 vols. (London, United Kingdom, 1910-1959), "Leicester," vol. VII, pp. 540-549, n. h].
- XVI. Alix de Montmorency and Simon V, seigneur de Montfort and comte de Leicester, married before 1190 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. VI, p. 75 (Montfort) and vol. III, p. 569 (Montmorency)] [Cockayne, *op. cit.*, pp. 537-549] [Erich Brandenburg, *Die Nachkommen Karls des Grossen* (Frankfurt am Mein (Germany), 1935, reprint 1964, xii-122 pages), Zentralstelle für deutsche Personen – und Familiengeschichte, coll. "Genealogie und Landesgeschichte," vol. 10: "Caroli Magni Progenies," no. 1, XIV 524].
- XVII. Laurence de Hainaut and Bouchard V, sire de Montmorency,⁸ married 1173 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. III, p. 569 (Montmorency) and vol. II, p. 776 (Hainaut)] [Cockayne, *op. cit.*, p. 540] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, XIII 328 and XIII 340].
- XVIII. Baudouin IV, comte de Hainaut, and Alix de Namur, married around 1130 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. II, pp. 775-776 (Hainaut)] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, XII 242 and XII 290].
- XIX. Baudouin III, comte de Hainaut, and Yolande de Gueldre, married around 1107 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. II, pp. 774-775 (Hainaut)] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, XII 150].
- XX. Baudouin II, comte de Hainaut, and Ide de Louvain, married 1084 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. II, pp. 773-774 (Hainaut)] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, XI 102].
- XXI. Baudouin VI, comte de Flandres et de Hainaut (as Baudouin I), and Richilde, widow of Hermann, comte de Hainaut, married around 1055 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. II, p. 717 (Flandres) and p. 773 (Hainaut)] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, X 59].
- XXII. Adèle de France and Baudouin V, comte de Flandres, married 1028 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. I, p. 72 (France) and vol. II, p. 716 (Flandres)] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, IX 51 and XI 245].

⁷ The names of the father and the mother of Raoul Paynel, who later changed his surname to Tesson, are mentioned in Polonovski and LePortier, as well as in the "Compléments ...": he is the son of Guillaume Paynel, seigneur du Grippon and de Subligny, married in 1214 to Pétronille Tesson, dame de Percy and de La Roche-Tesson. He took the name of his mother and he was probably seigneur de Subligny and de La Roche-Tesson. His ancestry is found in Polonovski and LePortier. Anselme names the husband of Pétronille de Montfort as "Raoul de la Roche-Tesson."

⁸ As for Bouchard V, sire de Montmorency, he is the son of Mathieu I, sire de Montmorency and of Aline or Alice, illegitimate daughter of Henry I, King of England, himself the son of William I, the Conqueror, duc de Normandie and King of England [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. III, p. 569 (Montmorency)] [Cockayne, *op. cit.*, vol. XI, appendix D: "Henry I's Illegitimate Children," p. 117].

- XXIII. Robert II, roi de France, and Constance de Provence, married 1003/1005 [Anselme, *op. cit.*, vol. I, pp. 71-72 (France)] [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, X 137].
- XXIV. Hugh Capet, roi de France, and Adelaïde N...., married summer 968 [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, IX 101] [Karl Ferdinand Werner, "Die Nachkommen Karls des Grossen bis um das Jahr 1000", *Karl der Grosse: Lebenswerk und Nachleben*, vol. IV: Das Nachleben (Düsseldorf: Wolfgang Braufels & Percy Ernst Schramm, 1967), pp. 403-482 and genealogical table VIII 11, p. 476].
- XXV. Hughes le Grand, duc de France, and Hedwige de Saxe, married either on 9 May or 14 September 938 at Mayence or Ingelheim [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table VII 9, pp. 462-463].
- XXVI. Béatrice de Vermandois and Robert I^{er}, roi de France, married around 895 [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, VI 3 note] [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table VI 4, p. 458].
- XXVII. Héribert I^{er}, comte de Vermandois, and N... [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, V 3] [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table V 3, p. 455].
- XXVIII. Pépin, comte dans la région de Paris, and N... [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, IV 1] [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table IV 1, p. 458].
- XXIX. Bernard, roi d'Italie, and Cunégonde N..., married around 815 [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, III 1] [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table III 2, p. 455].
- XXX. Pépin I^{er}, roi d'Italie, and N..., married around 795 [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, II 1] [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table II 5, p. 443].
- XXXI. Charles I^{er} dit Charlemagne, roi des Francs et empereur d'Occident, and Hildegarde N..., married 771 [Brandenburg, *op. cit.*, I 1] [Werner, *op. cit.*, genealogical table I 1, p. 442].

**Table 6: Relationship between Elizabeth, Empress of Austria,
and Céline Dion⁹**



⁹For American readers perhaps an explanation of the fascination in Sissi among French-Canadians is necessary. The life of Empress Elizabeth of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, who was nicknamed Sissi, was portrayed in a movie trilogy starring Romy Schneider ("Sissi," 1955; "Sissi—Die junge Kaiserin," 1956; and "Sissi—Schicksalsjahre einer Kaiserin," 1957). Though made in German, a version with French subtitles was popular in Québec.

III	<p>Michel de St-Germain, seigneur de St-Germain-Langot et de St-Laurent-en-Caux, and Stévenotte Le Veneur, married around 1500/1510</p>	<p>François de St-Germain, seigneur du Post, and Héléne de Corday, married around 1500/1510</p>
IV	<p>Marie de St-Germain, dame de St Laurent-en-Caux, and Guy d'Harcourt, baron de Beauffou, marriage contract 26 June 1546</p>	<p>Olivier de St-Germain, Seigneur du Post, and Françoise de Breul, married around 1540</p>
V	<p>Pierre d'Harcourt, marquis de Beuvron, and Guyonne de Matignon, marriage contract 30 November 1578</p>	<p>Stévenotte de St-Germain, and Gervais Le Marchand, seigneur de La Bellonière et de La Roque, marriage contract 21 April 1570</p>
VI	<p>François II d'Harcourt, marquis de Beuvron, and Renée d'Épinay de St-Luc, marriage contract 27 June 1626</p>	<p>Jeanne Le Marchand and Mathieu Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson, married 5 December 1599, Protestant Church, Caen</p>
VII	<p>François III d'Harcourt, marquis de Beuvron and Catherine Le Tellier de Tourneville, marriage contract 27 April 1648</p>	<p>Michel Le Neuf, sieur du Hérisson, and N...</p>
VIII	<p>Henri d'Harcourt, duc d'Harcourt and Marie Anne Claude Brulart, marriage 31 January 1687</p>	<p>Anne du Hérisson and Antoine Desrosiers, marriage contract 24 November 1647, notary Boujonnier</p>
IX	<p>François d'Harcourt, duc d'Harcourt, and Marie Madeleine Le Tellier de Barbezieux, marriage 31 May 1717</p>	<p>Jean Desrosiers and Françoise Dandonneau, marriage 20 January 1682, La Visitation de Champlain (Champlain)</p>
X	<p>Françoise Claire d'Harcourt and Emmanuel Dieudonné, marquis de Hautefort, marriage 4 August 1738</p>	<p>Michel Desrosiers and Marie Jeanne Moreau, marriage 28 May 1716, St-Germain de Rimouski (Rimouski)</p>

XI	Adélaïde Julie de Hautefort and Louis Joseph Augustin de Mailly, marquis de Nesle, marriage 4 April 1765	Louis Desrosiers and Geneviève Desprès, marriage 1754, St-Germain de Rimouski (Rimouski)
XII	Anne Adélaïde Julie de Mailly and Louis Marie Eugène de Ligne, prince d'Arenberg, marriage 30 June 1788, Paris	Jean Desrosiers and Marie Joséphe Dubé, marriage 23 June 1800, Notre-Dame-de-Liesse de Rivière-Ouelle (Kamouraska)
XIII	Amélie Louise Julie de Ligne d'Arenberg and Pie Auguste duke in Bavaria, marriage 26 May 1807	Marguerite Desrosiers and François Pelletier, marriage 24 September 1827, St-Germain de Rimouski (Rimouski)
XIV	Maximilian, duke in Bavaria, and Ludovica, princess of Bavaria, marriage 9 September 1828	Aimable Pelletier and Céline Hudon dit Beaulieu, marriage 25 February 1868, Ste-Anne-des-Monts (Gaspé)
XV	Elizabeth "Sissi," princess in Bavaria, and Franz Joseph Ist, emperor of Austro-Hungarian Empire, marriage 24 April 1854	Alma Pelletier and Norbert Barriault, marriage 2 September 1903, Ste-Anne-des-Monts (Gaspé)
XVI		Ernestine Barriault and Charles Dion, marriage 25 April 1922, St-Édouard-des-Méchins (Matane)
XVII		Adhémar Dion and Thérèse Tanguay, marriage 20 June 1945, St-Zéphirin-de-La-Tuque (St-Maurice)
XVII		Céline Dion

Sources for the Elizabeth, Empress of Austria, branch.

Generations I and II: table 4, generations V and VI; generations II to IV: Gilles-André de la Roque, *Histoire généalogique de la Maison d'Harcourt* (Paris, 1662), livre XI, pp. 1171-1183; Armand Bénét, *Inventaire sommaire des archives départementales antérieures à 1790, Calvados, archives civiles, série*

E. Tome premier: *Duché d'Harcourt* (Caen: Henri Delesques, 1905) p. 290; Père Anselme, *Histoire généalogique et chronologique de la Maison royale de France...*, continued by M. du Fourny and augmented by Père Ange and Père Simplicien, Augustins Dçhaussés, 3rd rev. ed., 9 vols. (Paris, 1726-1733); reprint ed., 9 vols. (Paris: Éditions du Palais Royal printers, 1967), "Le Veneur," vol. VIII, p. 258. Generations IV to X: Anselme, *op. cit.*, "Harcourt," vol. V, p. 154; Detlev Schwennicke, *Europäische Stammtafeln*, 21 vols. to date (Marburg (Germany): J.A. Stargardt Verlag, 1978-2002), vol. X, 1986, tables 132-133 (Harcourt). Generations X to XIII: M. Potier de Courcy, *Histoire généalogique et chronologique de la maison royale de France...* (Paris, (France), 1879), vol. IX, part II, pp. 533-534 (Hautefort), 884-885 (Mailly), and 738 (Ligne-Arenberg). Generations XIII to XV: Schwennicke, *op. cit.*, vol. I, table 33 (Bavaria).

Sources for the Céline Dion branch.

Generations I and VI: table 4, generations I and VI. Generations VI to X: René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730* (Montréal, Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, pp. 348 (Desrosiers) and 713 (Le Neuf); Generations X to XVII: marriage acts.

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Editor's note: **Generation IX: Jean Desrosiers and Françoise Dandonneau.** Jean Desrosiers dit Dutremble was buried on 24 February 1704 in Champlain [Jetté, p. 348]. Marie-Françoise Dandonneau married Henri Bélisle dit Lamarre, the first known surgeon in Detroit, on 26 November 1705 in Champlain. *Francois dandoneau* is first documented in Detroit, as the wife of Sieur Belisle, *chirurgien au fort pontchartrain du detroit*, on 26 July 1707 when she signed as godmother to Joseph, the son of Hurons. *Marie-fransoisse dandoneau* signed as the godmother to François, the son of *Nipisings*, on 11 October 1707. Françoise Dandonneau, widow of Jean Desrosiers dit Dutremble and wife of Henri Bélisle, was buried on 9 May 1711 in Detroit. [Jetté, p.79]. It is very possible she brought her children, at least the youngest ones [underlined], with her to Detroit: Jean-Baptiste, Michel, Joseph-Marie, Jacques, Louis, Marie-Madeleine-Angélique [sometimes *Marie-Angélique*, *Angélique-Cécile* or even *Madeleine* (*Mémoires de la Société Généalogique Française-Canadienne*, #211, Volume 48, #1, printemps 1997, pp. 37-39] Catherine-Josèphe, Antoine and Bonaventure. Some of the sons of Marie-Françoise Dandonneau and Jean Desrosiers were involved in the fur trade. Joseph Desrosiers dit Dutremble, from Champlain, was hired to go to Fort Pontchartrain on 25 September 1710 in a contract by Adhémar. Jean-Baptiste Desrosiers dit Dutremble was also involved in the fur trade. In a contract by Adhémar on 1 October 1709 Alexis Germain was hired by Jean Baptiste Desrosiers Dutremble to take a canoe filled with merchandise from Montréal to Détroit for M. de Videmont [*sic*], an officer at the fort. On 22 March 1717 Louis Desrosiers dit Dutremble, along with Baltazard Dubord and François *Disis*, in a contract by Adhémar, were hired by Paul Guillet to go to Michilimackinac. On 24 May 1723, in Sorel, Louis married Thérèse Fafard, daughter of Louis Fafard dit Delorme, who may have gone to Detroit in the July 1704 convoy, and Ursule Jacob. On 21 May 1717 Jacques Desrosiers, in a contract by Adhémar, hired Joseph Lefebvre to go to Detroit. He was buried on 30 May 1725 in Kaskaskia [Jetté, p. 348]. On 22 May 1725, in Montréal, Antoine Desrosiers married Marie-Anne Saint-Yves, daughter of Jacques Saint-Yves, who had been in Detroit in 1710, and Jacqueline Chartier. Below are two of the signatures used by Marie-Françoise Dandonneau at Fort Pontchartrain.

: François Dandonneau *marie-fransoisse
 dandonneau*