

[Editor's note: Instead of using footnotes in the following article, the numbers following specific quotations will refer to reference notes at the end of the article.]

**Captives of the French and Indian Wars**  
**Part 1 Captured From New England**  
Susan Melanie Colby (wklement3@attbi.com)

Have you ever found English names in your French-Canadian tree or seen the brief, sad epitaph, "*tué(e) par Iroquois*", beside an ancestor's burial date? Perhaps, you've seen a notation on a birth certificate like this one, "*l'enfant est dit posthume parce que l'on supposait le père massacré par les One-youths.*" (1), indicating the new baby's father was presumed dead because he had been taken by the *One-youths* (Mohawks). These few words, entered so simply into the records of our ancestors, belie the painful, dramatic realities of pioneer life. I have seen all of them in my own family history --innocent victims from both sides of the wars. Part 1 of this series will tell the story of some New England captives and Part 2 will cover the flip side -- some captive ancestors from New France.

My maternal uncle, Leon Nadon, of Ottawa, Canada, worked with the genealogist, Gabriel Drouin, for many years on our Nadon/Giroux family genealogy (2). About fifty years ago my uncle wrote this eloquent letter to my mother:

"Between 1689 and 1708, when the French-Canadians, allied with the Abenakis and Algonquins, fought the colonists of New England, who had the support of the Iroquois, they conducted a series of raids upon Schenectady, Portland, Dover, Wells, Salmon Falls and Deerfield, (Massachusetts). Many prisoners were taken. For instance, eighty were captured at Schenectady, New York, in February 1690; fifty at Salmon Falls, New Hampshire, in 1692; and so on down the line until 1704, when the raid upon Deerfield netted one hundred and fifty captives. Approximately twelve hundred New Englanders were brought to Canada as prisoners of the war following the raids. Though the majority of these English captives were subsequently released and returned home, a relatively large number chose to remain voluntarily in this country, where they became naturalized French citizens marrying into French-Canadian families and ultimately losing their racial identity. For instance, one of my ancestress [*sic*], Elizabeth Price, was a captive of the Deerfield raid in 1704. In fact, I am actually working on her history and her progeny down to my generation. The Otis, Williams, Stebbins, Sawyers and many others who renounced their Puritan names and became the parents of mischievous Jean-Baptistes and Josephines. One Puritan deacon of the church at Deerfield, played the unconscious role of becoming the great-grandfather of Canada's first Catholic Archbishop. Deacon Thomas French was the great-grandfather of Mgr. Joseph Octave Plessis, archbishop of Québec. It is strange to find the Canadian records of the seventeenth century studded with such names as *un petit Anglois* (a small English child) or *une petite Anglaise* (a small English lass). Stranger still is to see these simple names coupled alongside those of renowned warriors and historic personages, who not only figured brightly in the annals of New France, but who once shared at Fontainebleau the pleasures of the sprightly court of Louis Fourteenth." (3)

I came to share Uncle Leon's fascination with our **Elizabeth Price (Praise, Praise, Preis)**. With the help of my cousin, Janice Weisz, and another Price descendant, FCHSM member, Bill Kreis (4), and the books listed in the bibliography at the end of this article, I was able to find more information about her and the Deerfield Raid of 1704. And Elizabeth keeps astonishing me; recently, I learned from yet another Price descendant, Kevin Latendresse of Maine, that Elizabeth Price descended from William Shakespeare's first cousin! (5)

How exciting it was finally to visit historic Deerfield myself in July 2001. Many 19<sup>th</sup> century, as well as a few 18<sup>th</sup> century, buildings have been lovingly preserved. One gets the feeling of stepping back in time while

walking its peaceful streets. On the second floor of the museum one can find plaques to the raid victims and their families. They also have a fine research library. I enjoyed my day there with my mother and with friends, Mary Bennett and Nancy Cronan of Massachusetts, who also have French-Canadian ancestry. Mary had recently learned that she too descends from a Deerfield captive, Thankful Stebbins, a girl of thirteen who marched north with my ancestor, Elizabeth Price, age twenty, in that sad winter of 1704. In a way, we felt like we were bringing them back home after nearly three hundred years away.

### **Elizabeth Price and her Family**

Elizabeth's mother's people, the Webbs, came to New England in 1629. The first Webb to come to the New World was Alexander Webb II, William Shakespeare's first cousin. With Alexander were his four sons, one of whom was Elizabeth's great-grandfather, Richard Webb. It was in Boston in 1640 that Elizabeth's grandmother, Anne Bassett, married John Webb. The family moved back and forth between Boston and Hartford for the next fourteen years. It was during one of their stays at the latter, in 1646, that Elizabeth's mother, Sarah Webb, was born. Then, in 1654, the Webbs and their seven children became original settlers of the frontier town of Northampton (Massachusetts) where John worked as an innkeeper, speculator in real estate and trader in furs. (6)

Sarah Webb held no strong religious views. She listed herself as "Independent". Her life story echoes the hardships of frontier life. Her first marriage was to Zachariah Field on December 17, 1668 in Deerfield. (From this union, by the way, descended the founder of Marshall Field department store). (7) This young couple had three children before tragedy struck -- Zachariah died in 1674 at the age of thirty. (Because, to date, I have not been able to clarify the information on the Fields' children, I am not sure of their names.) Three years later, the young widow married Robert Price, a soldier, who listed himself as "Episcopalian".

Robert Price had served in King Philip's War under Captain Turner in the Falls Fight above Deerfield and was listed as a freeman in Northampton in 1678. (8) This new family settled down in Northampton. Elizabeth, the third of their five children, was born August 23, 1683. (Sarah, b. 1678; Mary, b. 1681; Samuel, b. 1686; and John, b. 1689, were her brothers and sisters.) About five years later, Robert moved his family to Deerfield. Originally called Pocumtuck, this town had been wiped out in the Indian War of 1675 (King Philip's War), only to be resurrected ten years later as Deerfield. Its luck, however, did not change. It was raided six times in the 1690s (King William's War). This was followed by five rare, peaceful years from 1697 to 1702 and then war again (War of the Spanish Succession). (9)

The Prices arrived in Deerfield with few prospects. They had just one share of land when most folks had ten or twenty. (10) Deerfield itself, with a population of only 291 souls in 1704, was one of the poorest towns in Massachusetts, so poor it had been excused from paying any taxes. Along with poverty came the constant worry of attack. It needed all the revenue it could muster to shore up its own defenses.

By 1704, Elizabeth Price's older sister, Mary, had married Samuel Smead (March 17, 1699) in Deerfield, and she was the mother of two little children. Her younger brother, Samuel Price, age 18, was a soldier there like his father. Elizabeth had just married. Her marriage was highly unusual -- unheard of in all of New England at the time. (11) On December 6, 1703, just two months before the raid, she had married a Christianized Indian, Andrew Stevens. Sheldon refers to him as "Andrew Stevens ye Indian", of whom nothing more is known, save that he was killed in the assault of February 29<sup>th</sup>. (12) Although unheard of in this culture, somehow this match was acceptable to the community. Elizabeth and Andrew were married by Pastor Williams and allowed to remain part of the Deerfield community. (13)

### **The Raid on Deerfield in 1704 (14)**

There had been omens. Two Deerfield men had been captured and marched to Canada in October of 1703. Afterwards, the town had been allocated funds to fortify its defenses and to support more soldiers.

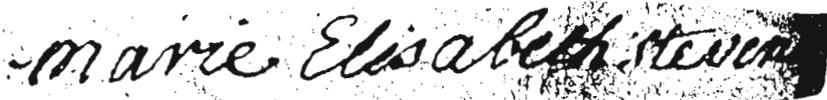
Other New England towns had been struck in mid-February as well. Yet Deerfield was not prepared for the events to follow. It was in the early morning hours of February 29, 1704 that Deerfield was attacked by about 50 Frenchmen and 200 of their Indian allies. It was an easy mark. The snowdrifts were so high that the French and Indians could climb right up them to mount the palisades, and there was no one on watch that night to alert the town. The attack was swift and deadly. Not only was Andrew Stevens killed, but also Elizabeth's mother, Sarah, and her sister, Mary Price Smead and Mary's two little children, Sarah (age 4) and William (age 2). Mary and her mother-in-law and her children had been smothered by smoke as they hid in the cellar of the Smead house. Elizabeth's father was probably with the other soldiers, and he survived. Otherwise, all Elizabeth had left was her 18-year-old brother, Samuel, who was taken captive with her.

Elizabeth and Samuel and about 107 others then made the long trek to Montréal as captives of the Christianized Abenakis. The brother and sister must have leaned on each other, physically as well as emotionally, during this long, sad, winter's march in snows three-feet deep. About 21 died on the way. Some were killed when they couldn't keep up. Yet compassion was shown as well -- Indians carried some of the children too tired to walk.

The survivors were taken to Québec after about eight weeks on the march. There the Indians sold many of them to the French, while others were kept by their captors. They were not abused but were adopted into French and Indian families; both groups had need of more citizens to replace the many who had died. It was understood that, eventually, many would be traded back to New England for French captives. Elizabeth was lucky; she was sent to live with the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre-Dame in Montréal. (15) Elizabeth must have found some comfort within the peaceful convent walls, for just one year later, she converted to Catholicism and rejected any chance of returning home. Here is the account of her baptism, written by the priest, Father Meriel:

"On Saturday, 25 April, 1705, was baptized by me, priest undersigned, in the chapel of the Sisters of the Congregation with the permission of Monsieur François le Vachon de Belmont *Grand Vicaire de mon Seigneur* the bishop of Québec, an English woman named Elizabeth who had previously abjured the Calvinistic heresy, who was born at Northampton in New England the (13) 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1683, of the marriage of Robert Price, Episcopal and the late Sara Webb, independent and widow of Andre Stevens, having been taken at Deerfield in New England the (29 February) 11 March 1704 and brought to Canada, is living with the Sisters of the Congregation at Ville-Marie. Her godfather was Monsieur Pierre Le Ber, her godmother Damoiselle Elizabeth Le Moyne, daughter of Monsieur Charles Le Moyne...*Baron de Longueuil, Cavalier de l'Ordre de Saint Louis et capitaine d'une compagnie de Détachement de la Marine.* Which Damoiselle has added the name of Marie to that of Elizabeth." (16)

Elizabeth signed the register as **Marie Elisabeth Stevens** (17) She must have been highly regarded to have such important sponsors, including the daughter of Charles Le Moyne, who had been saved from Indians himself in 1651 by another of my ancestors, Jacques Archambault. (18)



### Marriage and Family

On February 3 of the following year [1706], at the age of 22, Elizabeth Price was married to Jean-François Fourneau dit Brindamour, age 27, a soldier in the Company of Beaucourt [Jean-Maurice-Josué Dubois-Berthelot, sieur de Beaucour] and master shoemaker from St-Michel parish, Limoges, Limousin. Jean was the son of Jacques Fourneau and Marguerite Genillac (Gevillac, Janailat) of Limoges. It is interesting to note that the wedding guest list included several of her fellow captives:

**Samuel Williams** -- the 17-year-old son of the famous minister at Deerfield, John Williams. Samuel was returned to his people with his father and three of his siblings on 21 November 1706. Samuel too had expressed an interest in converting, greatly worrying his father. [Editor's note: In fact, Samuel was baptized at Notre-Dame-de-Montréal on Monday, 21 December 1705. At that time he signed his baptism and abjuration of the "Independant" religion. Photocopy.]

**Hannah Parsons** -- taken from York (Maine) along with her sister Mercy; Hannah returned to Boston later in 1706.

**Mary Esther Sayrs** (Sayward?) -- perhaps the Esther Sayward taken from York (Maine) in 1692 along with Mary Sayward who became a nun.

**Christine Otis** -- brought with her mother to Canada and married to the carpenter, Louis Le Beau or Bau on 12 June 1707 at Notre-Dame-de-Montréal.

**Catherine Denkyn** (AKA **Hannah Dunkin or Duncan**) --Baptized in Montréal on 22 March 1693, married to Claude Cliché in 1709.

Fascinating, isn't it, how the human heart adjusts. The trauma of the deaths and disruptions were overcome and they carried on with the hard life dealt them, making a new life in a foreign culture and celebrating its landmarks -- like the marriage of a fellow friend and captive.

In May of 1710, Elizabeth and Samuel, still living in Montréal, were among the 84 captives who became naturalized citizens of France when:

Louis, fourteenth of his name, gave at Versailles in the grandest manner his gracious permission to these and other boys and girls, men and women, to live and die in New France or elsewhere in his possessions. (19)

By then Elizabeth was the mother of three children:

1. **Marie-Elizabeth dit Louise Fourneau**, born November 5, 1706, nine months and two days after the marriage;
2. **Jeanne Fourneau**, born February 6, 1708; married December 1, 1730 in Montréal| Pierre-Paul Bourgeat dit Provençal from Toulon in Provence.
3. **Marie-Madeleine**, born October 30, 1709; buried December 28, 1726.

Four additional children were born of this marriage:

4. **Marguerite**, born September 18, 1711; married Pierre Casse dit St-Aubin. (20)
5. **Anne**, born July 31, 1713; married Antoine Hus, a Parisian soldier, on July 18, 1733 in Montréal.
6. **Pierre-Jean**, born April 8, 1715.
7. **Marie-Josèphe**, October 22, 1716 and died on the 23rd.

I descend from the first child, Elizabeth, named for her mother, but called Louise. She married Noel Migneron, the son of Pierre Migneron and Marie-Anne Charron, on July 4, 1725 at Terrebonne. Unfortunately, Elizabeth Price did not live long enough to attend her daughter's wedding. She died young, at just 33 years of age, shortly after the birth and death of her seventh child, Marie-Josèphe. Elizabeth was buried November 4, 1716 in Montréal, recorded as "Marie Elizabeth Praise". Left with six children under the age of ten, Jean Fourneau remarried on May 2, 1718 to Marie Lat, widow of Léon Girard. (21) They had no children.

## Samuel Makes a Decision

And what became of Elizabeth's brother, Samuel? Coleman (22) tells us he must have been baptized by 1710, since he witnessed a wedding that year using his baptismal name, Louis. He also became a naturalized French citizen that year. He apprenticed as a shoemaker under his brother-in-law, Jean Fourneau, a master shoemaker, and he probably lived with Elizabeth and Jean. He was still in Canada as late as the fall of 1711, standing as godfather that year to Elizabeth's fourth child, Marguerite Fourneau dit Brindamour.

Samuel must have had a change of heart not long afterwards, however, (perhaps in 1712 when peace was declared) for he left it all behind and returned to New England. We know he married a Dorothy Fox of Glastonbury, Connecticut in April of 1714, and they had six children there. He returned to Northampton in 1737 to claim lands awarded him in his father's name for Robert Price's service in the Falls Fight. (23) Robert Price himself had passed away in Deerfield in 1715. Did father and son ever meet again to share their grief and joy? We may never know.

In all, 59 of the 88 surviving captives returned home. Elizabeth, captured at age 20, was one of the oldest to stay. Some of the girls, including my Elizabeth Price, and the sisters, Abigail and Thankful Stebbins (among others), married Frenchmen. I recently learned of another Deerfield girl, Marie-Madeleine (Sarah) Allen, (24) who was raised in the home of Jean Quenet. In 1710, she married Guillaume Lalonde, the brother of my ancestor, Jean-Baptiste Lalonde. At least four other girls, Mary Harris, Mercy Carter, Joanna Kellogg and Eunice Williams (AKA Marguerite Arosen), married Indians. Eunice was so content with her Indian family that no amount of persuasion by her father, Pastor John Williams, could entice her to leave them and return to Massachusetts. She was immortalized in John Demos' excellent book, *The Unredeemed Captive*.

## An Intriguing Mystery

One of my favorite pioneer ancestor couples is Olivier Charbonneau and Marguerite Garnier. I descend from three of their children: Anne, Joseph and Elisabeth. Michel Charbonneau, a brother of theirs, married Marguerite Denoyon in 1692. It was her brother, Jacques Denoyon, a sergeant in the colony troops, who married the Deerfield captive mentioned above, Abigail-Marguerite Stebbins. [Editor's note: Jacques Denoyon signed to go to Detroit on 28 July 1704.]

Abigail-Marguerite Stebbins was taken to Québec in 1704 along with her parents, John Stebbins, Jr., and Dorothy Alexander Stebbins, and her five brothers and sisters: John, III, Samuel, Thankful, Ebenezer, and Joseph Stebbins; but Abigail was not a captive. When she was living in New England, she was already the bride of the French-Canadian, Jacques Denoyon (aka James Denio). How could this be? I don't really understand it myself, nor do any of the authors I've read.

Alice Baker (25) described Jacques Denoyon as "one of the three Canadian Bush-rangers unaccountably living in Deerfield at the time of the attack". Demos (26) described him as a "Canadian trader". It seems that in 1700, Jacques, then age 36, had petitioned to be allowed to live in the English colonies. This was during the peace of 1697-1702, and so it is not too surprising that his petition was granted. He then settled in Deerfield and married Abigail on February 14, 1704, just two weeks before the raid! Records of her eventual baptism in Québec describe Jacques as "now Sergeant of Mr. De Tonti's Company", and Abigail (now called Marguerite) as "having come with her husband to Canada, residing with him in Boucherville" (27). In 1710, her sister, Thankful Stebbins (now called "Louise Thérèse"), was also granted citizenship along with her brother, Joseph Stebbins, now called "Jacques Charles". Their parents, John and Dorothy, and their brother, John III, returned to New England. It is uncertain what became of Samuel and Ebenezer. (28)

Curious story, isn't it? Why did Jacques Denoyon (a first generation Canadian Catholic) choose to live in the English Protestant colonies, even after war was declared in 1702? If he did so as a traitor to New France, why was he accepted back so readily -- living in Boucherville, home of the most respected veterans of New France? One wonders if he was a spy and if he helped the French plan the raid. If so, his marriage to Abigail must have been very strained since several of her relatives were killed, and her family lost everything in the raid. Yet, her sister and brother also chose to stay in Montréal. [Editor's note: According to Jetté, p. 336, the last child of Jacques Denoyon and Abigail-Marguerite Stebbins, Marie-Anne, was born on 17 February 1726 in Deerfield, Massachusetts but baptized on 5 November 1726 in Boucherville. The family, or at least Abigail, had returned to Deerfield for a short time.]

Their story would have inspired William Shakespeare. Like *Romeo and Juliet*, theirs was a love surviving the hatreds of their warring countrymen. It may be that Jacques had gained such respect by his exploits that he was admired by all sides. He was the first to navigate the great Lake Superior and to get as far as Manitoba. (29) Perhaps the answer is that this was an exceptional man, held by no boundaries -- physical or cultural.

There are a great many descendants in both Canada and the United States of Jacques and Abigail and also of the other Stebbins children who stayed in Québec. One son of Jacques Denoyon and Abigail Stebbins, Jacques René Denoyon, Jr. was raised in New England by his English grandparents. He used the name Aaron Denio and the numerous American Denio families descend from him. (30)

For more information on Historic Deerfield, visit their web site at [www.historic-deerfield.org](http://www.historic-deerfield.org) They have a new site for descendants of Deerfield Raid captives, and plans are being made now for the observance of the three hundredth anniversary of the raid -- February 29, 2004.

Susan Melanie Colby  
4 November 2001

\*\*\*\*\*

### End Notes

1. Baptismal record for Claude Payet (Payette), baptized 9 January 1691, seven months after his father, Pierre Payet (Payette) was taken prisoner following "The Battle of Coulée Grou". Pierre did return home in 1693.
2. Gabriel Drouin, 1947.
3. Joseph-Leon-Aurele Nadon, b. June 19, 1903 & d. June 28, 1984 Ottawa, Canada; from a letter in the author's possession which he sent to his sister, Jeannette Rose Nadon Colby, the author's mother.
4. *Descendants of John Bassett*, a genealogical summary provided by Bill Kreis, a descendant of Elizabeth Price's daughter, Marguerite Fournieu who married Pierre Casse dit St-Aubin.
5. *Descendants of Sir Henry Webb*, a genealogical summary provided to me by Kevin Latendresse, descendant of Elizabeth Price's daughter, Marie Anne Fournieu, who married Antoine Hus of Paris on July 18, 1733. Data from web site: <<http://jimwebb.rootsweb.com/webb/pafh07.htm#5693>>
6. *Descendants of John Bassett*. Personal communication from Bill Kreis. <wkreis@compucon-mi.com>
7. From a plaque at Deerfield Museum dedicated to the Field/Webb family by Marshall Field.
8. *New England Historical and Genealogical Registry*, 1994, v.3, p. 484.

9. From the names of these wars we can see how years of bloodshed in the New World were extensions of some of the ancient hostilities of European rivals.
10. George Sheldon. ***A History of Deerfield Massachusetts***. 2 vols. (Deerfield, Mass. 1895-96; repr. 1983), p. 208.
11. Sheldon, p. 265: "the only case I have seen in Massachusetts of intermarriage between the races."
12. Sheldon, p. 292.
13. How I would love to learn his story, but no one has ever been able to discover more about him to date.
14. This account is taken from John Demos. ***The Unredeemed Captive***. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., N.Y., 1994.
15. The order founded by my many-greats-aunt, Sainte Marguerite Bourgeoys, who had died four years before Elizabeth's arrival. (I descend from her niece, Louise Sommilard). The Mother Superior in 1704 was many-greats-aunt, Marie Barbier, sister of Adrienne Barbier, the wife of Etienne Trudeau, patriarch of all the Trudeaus of North America.
16. Facsimile of the marriage record reproduced in C. Alice Baker. ***True Stories of New England Captives***; translation provided by Emma Lewis Coleman in ***New England Captives Carried to Canada, Between 1677 and 1760***. Vol. II:p.114.
17. She may not have been literate; Baker, 1897: p.207, says her signature "looks as if her hand were held and the letters traced by another".
18. Jacques Archambault did New France a great service by saving Le Moyne, a brave leader of men who was raised to the nobility in 1676; he was the founder of Longueuil. Robert Prévost, ***Généalogie Portraits de familles pionnières***. Vol. 1, Libre Expression: Montréal, 1993, p. 16.
19. Coleman: Vol. I, pp. 125-128. Lists all those naturalized in May of 1710. She states that she copied the names from *Lettres de naturalité* in the Canadian Archives, omitting those known to belong outside of New England. [Editor's note: The complete list of names in the 1710 naturalization can also be found on pages 119-121 in ***Inventaire des insinuations du Conseil Souverain de la Nouvelle-France*** by Pierre-Georges Roy, published by L' Eclairer in 1921. This is material from the Archives de la province de Québec. In this record, on page 121, Elizabeth was listed as "*Elizabeth Priser, anglaise, mariée à Jean Fournavan, établi à Villemarie, et ayant deux enfants*".]
20. FCHSM member, Bill Kreis descends from this marriage. Pierre Casse dit St-Aubin, son of Jean Casse and Marie-Louise Gauthier, was baptized May 2, 1709 in Detroit. Pierre Casse died January 8, 1794, and Marguerite died July 12, 1791, both in Detroit.
21. René Jetté. ***Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730***. p. 436.
22. Coleman, Vol. 2, p. 116.
23. Sheldon, p. 160.
24. Thomas J. Laforest. ***Our French-Canadian Ancestors***. Vol. 3, Chapter 13, p. 117.

25. Baker, p. 259.

26. Demos, p. 24.

27. Baker, p. 208.

28. Personal communication with Captain Rod Stebbins, Stebbins Ancestral Society: Thankful Stebbins, b. 5 Sept. 1691 at Deerfield, d. 11 July 1729 at Chambly, Québec. She married Adrien LeGrain dit La Vallé on 4 Feb. 1711 at St. Antoine de Pade de Longueuil, Chambly, Québec. Joseph Stebbins b. 12 April 1699 at Deerfield; d. 23 April 1753 at St. Mathais Rouville, Chambly, Québec. He married Marie-Marguerite Sanssouci on 8 Nov. 1734 at Fort Chambly, Québec. Captain Rod Stebbins says Samuel and Ebenezer are unaccounted for but Baker on p. 201 says: "John Stebbins, his wife Dorothy and their two sons, John and Samuel, came back. Abigail and her husband, her sister, Thankful, and her brothers, Ebenezer and Joseph, remained in Canada; so did Elizabeth Price Stevens". Sheldon (p. 309) indicates the parents and older boys, John and Samuel, as returned, but Ebenezer, Joseph and Thankful as not returning to Deerfield. Another child is often misidentified as a child of John Stebbins and Dorothy Alexander. She is known variously as Marie Elizabeth Stebbins, Abigail Stebbins, Abigail Nims, Ebigail Elizabeth Nims, Elizabeth Stebbins. Her real name was Abigail Elizabeth Nims, b. 11 June 1700 at Deerfield; d. 3 Jan. 1746/47 at Oka, Deux Montagnes, Québec. She was also a captive. When her father was killed on the march by Indians, she was taken in by John and Dorothy Stebbins as their own. She married Ignace dit Shoentakouani Raizenne on 29 July 1715 at Oka, Deux Montagnes, Québec.

29. Raymond Douville and Jacques-Donat Casanova. ***Daily Life in Early Canada from Champlain to Montcalm***. Macmillan Company, New York: 1968, p. 142.

30. Personal communication with Captain Rod Stebbins. "Aaron Denio was baptized as Jacques René Denoyon on 26 December 1704 in Boucherville, Québec. He visited his English grandparents in 1714 and remained with them. We presume he spent his first ten years in Montréal with his parents. He married Anna Combs on July 8, 1730 in Deerfield, Massachusetts, and they had twelve children. Both Aaron and Anna died in Greenfield, Hampshire County, Massachusetts." E-mail for Captain Rod Stebbins: <captrod@weak-industries.com>

For more information on the Denoyon family, see ***French Canadian & Acadian Genealogical Review***, Vol. III, spring 1971. For more information on the Stebbins family, see ***The Stebbins Genealogy, Ralph Stebbins Greenlee & Robert Lemuel Greenlee***, (1904), Vol. 1 & II.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Bibliography/Sources

Baker, C. Alice. ***True Stories of New England Captives***, Press of E.A. Hall & Co.: Greenfield, Massachusetts, 1897.

Colby, Susan Melanie. ***With Sword, With Cross, With Plough Stories of our French-Canadian Ancestors***. Published by the author, 2000.

Coleman, Emma Lewis. ***New England Captives Carried to Canada, Between 1677 and 1760***, 2 vols., Southworth Press: Portland, Maine, 1925.

Demos, John. ***The Unredeemed Captive***. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.: New York, 1994.

**Descendants of John Bassett**, genealogical summaries. Contact Bill Kreis at <wkreis@compucon-mi.com>

**Descendants of Sir Henry Webb**, genealogical summaries; web site:  
 <<http://jimwebb.rootsweb.com/webb/pafg11.htm>>

Douville, Raymond and Jacques-Donat Casanova. *Daily Life in Early Canada from Champlain to Montcalm*. Macmillan Company: New York, 1968. [1967 by George Allen & Unwin Ltd. and translated by Carola Congreve from the French *La Vie Quotidienne en Nouvelle France*, Hachette: Paris, 1964]

Drouin, Gabriel. *Généalogie de Joseph Léon Aurèle Nadon*, compilé par L'Institut Généalogique Drouin: Montréal, 1947.

Fournier, Michel. *De la Nouvelle-Angleterre à la Nouvelle-France. "L'histoire des captifs anglo-américains au Canada entre 1675 et 1760"*. Société généalogique canadienne-française: Montréal, 1992.

Jetté, René. *Dictionnaire de nos ancêtres de l'origine jusqu'à 1730*. Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal: Montréal, 1983.

Laforest, Thomas J. *Our French-Canadian Ancestors*. Vol. 3. LISI Press: Palm Harbor, Florida, 1985.

Melvoin, Richard I. *New England Outpost -- War and Society in Colonial Deerfield*. W.W. Norton & Co.: New York, 1989.

*New England Historical and Genealogical Registry*. 1994, v. 3, p. 484.

Sheldon, George. *A History of Deerfield, Massachusetts*. 2 vols., Deerfield, Massachusetts, 1895-96; (repr. 1983)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Elizabeth Price** (daughter of New England, mother of New France)  
 lineage of Susan M. Colby (data from Leon Nadon, Bill Kreis, Kevin Latendresse)  
 Submitted by FCHSM member, Susan Melanie Colby

**New England**

I	Alexander Webb II (Sir Alexander/Margaret Arden)	England	Mary Wilson (arrived New England, 1629)
II	Richard Webb (Alexander, Mary Wilson)	England	Grace Wilson (arrived New England, 1629)
III	John Webb (Richard/Grace Wilson)	1640 Boston	Anne Bassett (John/Margery ?)
IV	Sarah Webb (John/ Anne Bassett)	1677 Deerfield	Robert Price

**New France**

V	Elizabeth Price (Robert/Sarah Webb)	3 Feb 1706 Montréal, QC	Jean Fourneau dit Brindamour (Jacques/Marguerite Gevillac)
VI	Marie Elizabeth Fourneau (Jean/Elizabeth Price)	4 Jul 1725 Terrebonne, QC	Noel Mignerou (Pierre/Marie-Anne Charron)

VII	Anne Migneron (Noel/M-Elizabeth Fourneau)	7 Oct 1748 Terrebonne, QC	Joseph Monette (Jean-Baptiste/M-Louise Bau)
VIII	Marianne Monnette (Joseph/Anne Migneron)	23 May 1780 St-Eustache, QC	Louis J. Nadon (André/Marguerite Maisonneuve)
IX	Joseph Nadon (Louis/Marianne Monette)	20 Jan 1801 St-Martin, QC	Monique Sureau (Blondin) (Jean-Baptiste/Charlotte Renaut)
X	Joseph Nadon dit Létourneau (Joseph/Monique Sureau)	3 Feb 1824 Ste-Rose, QC	Marguerite Bigras (François/M-Louise La Chene)
XI	Léon Nadon (Joseph/Marguerite Bigras)	8 Jun 1868 Ottawa, Ontario	Léocadie Grou (Groulx) (François/Flavie Leblanc)
XII	Joseph Michel Nadon (Léon/Léocadie Grou)	17 Jul 1899 Papineauville, QC	Mélanie Giroux (Michel/Marie Naud)
XIII	Jeannette R. Nadon (Joseph/Mélanie Giroux)	7 Oct 1939 Detroit, MI	Orville E. Colby (William/Adelaide Shepherd)
XIV	Susan Melanie Colby (Orville/Jeanette Nadon)	21 Sep 1991 Vancouver, WA	William Klement, Jr. (William/Elinor Bock)



Photo by Susan Colby, August 2001. Plaque at Deerfield, Massachusetts dedicated to Elizabeth Price, wife of Jean Fourneau.

## Captives of the French and Indian Wars Part 2: Captured from New France

Susan Melanie Colby, FCHSM member (wklement3@comcast.net)

In an earlier issue of this journal, I told the story of my ancestor, Elizabeth Price, a young Englishwoman who was captured at Deerfield, Massachusetts in 1704 by *Abenakis*, Indian allies of the French. Elizabeth stayed on in Montreal to become one of my "French" ancestors.<sup>1</sup>

This story is the flip side of those turbulent times – French ancestors taken from New France by the Iroquois allies of the English and the Dutch. Many lives were lost and many colonists were taken away never to be seen again. In general, women and children were treated well in captivity. They were adopted into the tribes in order to replace family members lost to illness and war. The men, however, were more likely to have their bravery tested and to be treated as defeated warriors. Times were the worst from Montreal's founding in 1642 through the 1660s and from the 1680s through the 1690s. Matters did not improve with the ascent of William of Orange to the throne of England in 1688 and with Queen Anne's War in 1702. Truly peaceful times were few and far between until the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. Of course, that, too, was temporary, and New France was eventually lost to England on the Plains of Abraham in 1759. The loss of life on both sides is heart-wrenching, but here are some stories with happy endings – stories of ancestors who disappeared and were feared dead, only to return years later to their grateful families -- to our families, since these ancestors left many descendants, some of whom you may well find in your own family tree.

### Urbain Tessier dit Lavigne

One of my favorites is my father's ancestor, Urbain Tessier, who was originally from Château-en-Anjou (now called Château-en-Vallière) in the beautiful Loire Valley of France. A sawyer by trade, he was born about 1624 to Arthur (Artus) Tessier and Jeanne Mème (Meine). He came to Montréal early in its history (perhaps in 1646) and he and his bride, Marie Archambault, were married there on September 28, 1648. Urbain fought alongside his father-in-law, Jacques Archambault, in the Iroquois raids and, on at least one occasion (May 1651), he had to rebuild his home after its destruction.<sup>2</sup>

The following month, Urbain Tessier was lauded for his role in the battle of June 18, 1651. Along with four other settlers, he suddenly found himself face to face with a group of Iroquois raiders. Urbain's quick response helped save the others. He raced to the side of his comrades and is said to have fired sixty to eighty shots without stopping, stirring the others to action by his courage so that they could hold out until Sieur de Maisonneuve could send reinforcements.<sup>3</sup>

Nearly ten years later, on March 24, 1661, Urbain found himself in a similar situation; but this time he was unable to fend off his attackers. He had been working on his land with fourteen other men when they found themselves surrounded by about two hundred Iroquois. Three Frenchmen were killed and the remaining twelve, including Urbain, were led away. What a difficult time for his pregnant wife, Marie! It was customary to include on formal documents whether the parents were dead or alive, but when Urbain, Jr.,

<sup>1</sup> "Captives of the French and Indian Wars Part 1: Captured from New England". *Michigan's Habitant Heritage*. April 2002, Volume 23, #2: 79-88.

<sup>2</sup> *Journal des Jésuites*, published in Québec 1871 by L'Abbé Laverdière. Original text is reproduced in B. C. Payette. *Old French Papers*. 1966: 167.

<sup>3</sup> Dollier de Casson. *Histoire du Montréal*. Cited in Robert Prévost. *Généalogie Portraits de familles pionnières*. 1993. Volume I: 270-1.

was baptized on June 7, 1661, "on ne sait s'il (le père) est mort ou en vie".<sup>4</sup>

20.  
Urbain  
Tessier

Le 7<sup>me</sup> Juin  
A esté baptisé Urbain Tessier filz d'  
Urbain Tessier habitant pris par les Iroquois  
Le 24<sup>me</sup> Mars dernier Et on ne l'aist s'il est mort  
ou en vie, Et de Marie Archambault sa femme.  
Le Parrain Gilles Lozon chaudronnier: La Maraine  
Catherine Gauchet fille de Noble homme Claude  
Gauchet Et de Susanne du feu.

20. Urbain Tessier

Le 7<sup>me</sup> Juin [1661]

A esté baptisé Urbain Tessier filz d'  
Urbain Tessier habitant pris par les  
Iroquois Le 24<sup>me</sup> Mars dernier Et on  
ne sait s'il est mort ou en vie, Et de  
Marie Archambault Sa femme. Le  
Parrain Giles Lozon chaudronnier:  
La Maraine Catherine Gauchet fille  
de Noble homme Claude Gauchet Et  
de Susanne du feu.

[The 7<sup>th</sup> of June. Was baptized Urbain Tessier, son of Urbain Tessier, habitant, taken by the Iroquois on last March 24<sup>th</sup> and it is not known if he is dead or alive, and of Marie Archambault, his wife. The godfather [is] Gilles Lozon, a hollow-ware maker; the godmother, Catherine Gauchet, daughter of nobleman Claude Gauchet (de Belleville) and of Susanne du feu.]

That August, while Urbain was still being held by the Iroquois, his captors returned from a raid and they showed him a grisly sight – the impression in blood of a man's face [Monsieur Lemaître] on a cloth. According to Dollier de Casson, Urbain did not flinch. He is said to have gasped:

"Ah! Malheureux, tu as tué Asouandio, car je vois sa face sur son mouchoir."<sup>5</sup>

[Ah! Unfortunate one, you have killed Asouandio (the name given to Lemaître), because I see his face on his handkerchief.]

Urbain had identified the impression as the face of Father Jacques Lemaître, beheaded as he picked up a stone to place it on the Sulpician seminary he was building; his head had fallen on a piece of cloth that had taken the impression of his face. In her memoirs, Marguerite Bourgeoys, the founder of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame, adds that Urbain said he tried to get the cloth from the Indians, promising them everything he could in exchange for it, assuring them that when he was back in Montréal where they had promised to bring him, he would not fail to satisfy them. However, they would not accept any offer for it, saying that it was "a flag for going to war".<sup>6</sup>

Urbain endured much hardship in captivity, including having a finger torn off by the Indians (a traditional Iroquois practice with captives), but he did manage to survive to return to his family. On the day of repatriation, Father Simon LeMoynes led the recently liberated group of captives to Montréal where there was much rejoicing. Imagine Marie's great happiness as she held up their new baby for his father's first sight of him!

Even after his return, however, Urbain was not safe. He awoke one night and looked out, only to see a number of Indians in the moonlight, silently on the prowl! Just as silently, Urbain woke his neighbors and they were able to sneak up on the Indians and trap them between two fires, taking fifteen or sixteen

<sup>4</sup> Baptismal record of Urbain Tessier, Jr. Cited in Robert Prévost. *Généalogie Portraits de familles pionnières*. 1993. Volume 1: 272. Photocopy of original from FHL #0375840.

<sup>5</sup> Dollier de Casson. *Histoire du Montréal*. Dollier de Casson was a contemporary who knew Urbain personally and who described him as "homme des plus résolus ... et qui ne paraît pas chimérique" (roughly meaning Urbain was a most resolute man who didn't seem to flinch at the sight).

<sup>6</sup> Congrégation de Notre-Dame. *The Writings of Marguerite Bourgeoys*, 1976: 21.

captive.<sup>7</sup> Despite all these dangers,, Urbain and Marie produced a family of sixteen children, including my father's ancestor, **Louise Tessier**, baptized March 26, 1657. Why so many children? Greatly outnumbered by the population of New England, the only hope for the survival of New France was to quickly increase its population from within, and so, the larger the family, the better. Realizing this, the government rewarded large families. Urbain managed to stay alive until March 21, 1689, dying at about age 65. Marie lived on to the age of 83, despite hardship and frequent child bearing. Pioneer women were hardy, indeed!

Five of the sixteen children died young. The eight sons of Urbain and Marie who survived to adulthood were: **Paul Tessier** (1651-1730; married Marie-Madeleine Cloutier October 13, 1681 and had three sons); **Laurent Tessier** (1655-1687; married Anne Geneviève Lemire October 20, 1681 and had four children); **Urbain Tessier, Jr.** (1661-1685); **Jean Tessier** (1663-1734; married Jeanne Le Ber November 21, 1686; Louise Caron April 21, 1688; Marie-Catherine de Poitiers August 23, 1703, with a total of thirteen children); **Jean-Baptiste Tessier** (1672-1736; married Elisabeth Renaud May 20, 1698 and had eleven children); **Jacques Tessier** (1675-1738; married Marie Adhémar May 10, 1699 and had fourteen children); **Ignace Tessier** (b. 1677; married Marguerite Lussier (Lucier) May 23, 1703 and had thirteen children); **Nicolas Tessier** (1679-1757; married Geneviève Auger January 23, 1716 and had four children). The daughters were **Louise Tessier** (b. 1657; married Pierre Payet November 23, 1671); **Agnès Tessier** (b. 1659, married Guillaume Richard November 26, 1675); **Pétronille Tessier** (b. 1670; married Pierre Janot January 31, 1674).<sup>8</sup>

Besides his many descendants, Urbain left a legacy of important land holdings in the very heart of Montréal. *Rue Saint-Urbain* there is named for him, and old maps show *Place Lavigne* and *Bastion Lavigne*. The land granted to him in 1651 became *Place d'Armes* and the site of Notre-Dame Church. *Place d'Armes* was established in 1663 when Urbain and Marie ceded part of their land for a fort, *La Redoute du Saint-Enfant-Jésus*. A plaque on the present-day Royal Trust Company, *Rue Saint-Jacques*, reads:

This building is erected on part of the original concession to Urbain Tessier dit Lavigne being the 8th grant made to an individual in the island of Montréal.<sup>9</sup>

Had Urbain not survived his captivity, would we have the beautiful *Place d'Armes* and Notre-Dame Church where they are now in Montréal? Probably not. Most likely, the land would have been divided up for his offspring. These landmarks stand where they are now as a tribute to his courage and endurance in captivity.

#### **Pierre Payet (Payette) dit Saint-Amour<sup>10</sup>**

The next generation repeated the trials of its parents. On November 23, 1671, Urbain's daughter, **Louise Tessier**, married a man who was also destined to become a captive. This was Pierre Payet, who had been born in 1641 to Pierre Payet and Marie Martin in Florence, Gascony. Louise was just fourteen when she married the dashing, young corporal of the Carignan Regiment, which had been sent to New France by Louis XIV in 1665 to save the colony. Pierre had arrived September 14 of that year on the frigate *La Justice* after a four-month voyage over stormy seas, so violent that twenty soldiers had died at

<sup>7</sup> Captives were important for trading purposes. Settlers taken by the Indians, as Urbain Tessier had been in 1661, could be traded back home for captive Indians and Englishmen. Dollier de Casson. *Histoire du Montréal*.

<sup>8</sup> Prévost, 1993, Vol. 1: 272. [Editor's note: According to Jetté, p. 1066, there was also a son, **Claude**, baptized 25 December 1665 in Montréal and cited 30 January 1684 at Pointe-aux-Trembles. Additional information can be found on PRDH online at <[www.genealogy.umontreal.ca](http://www.genealogy.umontreal.ca)> ]

<sup>9</sup> Reproduced in Prévost, 1993, Vol. 1:271.

<sup>10</sup> Most of the following information is from B. C. Payette, *Old French Papers*, 1966: 214.

sea and 260 more had to be nursed back to health from fevers and scurvy. Pierre's company, under Sieur de La Tour, was charged with building the forts along Lake Champlain.

Years later, Pierre and Louise settled at Pointe-aux-Trembles near the eastern tip of Montréal Island. It was there that Pierre was captured. Like the son of his father-in-law, Urbain Tessier, Pierre's son, Claude, was feared to have been born posthumously. His baptismal record of January 9, 1691 read:

*L'enfant est dit posthume parce que l'on supposait le père massacré par les One-youths. Il avait été fait prisonnier et donné à cette nation le juillet 1690, dans l'attaque de fort de la Coulée, une lieue plus bas que l'église de la Pointe-aux-Trembles de Montréal.*

This was the *Battle of Coulée Grou*, and Pierre was its only survivor. He and my ancestor, **Jean Grou**, were two of four prisoners taken to the south of Lake Ontario (to present-day Rome, New York) by the *One-youths* tribe after losing the battle. Jean Grou and two others were burned alive there. Pierre's trials must have been many:

*Celui-ci après avoir subi toutes les humiliations possibles et enduré des traitements inhumains fut enfin échangé aux Hollandais, pour des commodités. Ces derniers lui rendirent la liberté. Plusieurs mois après, il avait le bonheur de revoir les siens, qui longtemps l'avaient cru mort.<sup>11</sup>*

In February of 1691, the Dutch helped to win Pierre's release, and he was returned to his family sometime during 1693, after a total absence of about three years. Centuries later a monument was raised for Jean Grou and his fallen comrades by the Canadian Commission of Historic Sites and Monuments at Pointe-aux-Trembles:

July 2, 1690, M. de Colombet at the head of 25 men attacked 100 Iroquois near here; he was killed with 9 of his soldiers, as were 30 of the enemy. Jean Grou, owner of this farm, and three companions were captured by the Indians and burned alive. Joseph Lajeunesse, descendant of Grou, has given the land and stone for this monument.<sup>12</sup>

Like her mother before her, Louise Tessier Payet was grateful she could finally show her little son (Claude) to a father nearly given up for dead. What a difficult period the early 1690s must have been for her with the uncertainty about her husband! Plus the colony was near famine from 1690 to 1693 since they could not till their lands -- they had to hole up in the forts to escape the Indians. Somehow, Louise had to get by as best she could, not knowing if her husband was ever coming back, and with small children to care for and a farm to run and Iroquois lurking in the woods! Fortunately, relief soon followed. Pierre was safe and the raids abated by 1695. Pierre was able to live out his final years in peace at Pointe-aux-Trembles where he was buried on January 23, 1719, at the age of 77.

The children of Pierre Payet and Louise Tessier were my ancestor, **Pierre Payet**, born 25 November 1685, who married Catherine Demers (Dumay) in 1708 and was buried 21 December 1743 on Ile Jésus; **Phillippe Payet**, born 1673; **Guillaume Payet**, born 1674; **Marie-Madeleine Payet**, born 1677; **Geneviève Payet**, born 1679; **Marguerite Payet**, born 1680; **Claude Payet**, born 1691; **Jacques Payet**, born 1694, **François Payet**, born 1696.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Emile Fairdeau in B. C. Payette, *Old French Papers*, 1966: 214.

<sup>12</sup> Apparently the Commission did not know of Pierre Payet's eventual return. Jean Grou and two of his companions perished in captivity. The fourth, Pierre Payet, was the sole survivor.

<sup>13</sup> This account of the children of Pierre Payet and Louise Tessier is from information in B. C. Payette, *Old French Papers*, 1966. It may not be complete. [Editor's note: Jetté, p. 884 --Marguerite was born in 1681; Louise, born 1686; Jean, born 1688; Nicolas, born 1699; Marie-Anne, born 1701; another Geneviève, born 1705.]

### Pierre Gauthier dit Saguingoira<sup>14</sup>

I recently learned the incredible story of an ancestor of my mother who was held captive at least eight and one-half years! This was Pierre Gauthier, a plowman who had been born in the small village of Eschillais, near Rochefort, France, about 1629 to Jacques Gauthier and Marie Boucher. Pierre came to New France in about 1667 and became the first settler of Lachine (on Montréal Island), on land in the seigneurie of the famous explorer, Robert Cavalier de La Salle.<sup>15</sup> Pierre Gauthier soon married the orphan Charlotte Roussel (on 12 November 1668). She was a *filles du roi* from Evreux, Normandy, born about 1646 to Thomas Roussel and Barbe Poisson. Pierre and Charlotte then had eight children together before tragedy struck. Somehow the children escaped the terrible Lachine Massacre of 4/5 August 1689, but the parents were not so fortunate.<sup>16</sup> They disappeared into the night and eventually their grieving children, aged three to twenty, had to give them up for dead. René Cuillerier was named guardian for their four minor children: Pierre, Claude, Marie and François.

The eight children of Pierre Gauthier and Charlotte Roussel were: **Jean Gauthier**, born 1669, who was married in about 1701 to Marie-Suzanne Capciouékoué (Capciouékoué); **Joseph Gauthier** (1672-1749), who married Clémence Jary (1657-1717) on 16 August 1699. On 8 February 1718, he married Marie Fortier; **Jean-Baptiste Gauthier** (1674-1743), who married Marguerite Prézot dit Chambly (1681-1757). Marguerite had lost her parents and at least two siblings in the Lachine Massacre; **Anne Gauthier** (1676-1753), who married Jacques Denis dit St-Denis (1657-died before 1718) in Lachine on 22 February 1689; **Pierre Gauthier** (1679-1742); **Claude Gauthier** (1681-?); **Marie Gauthier** (1684-1728), who married Alexandre Turpin (1641-died by 16 September 1709). On that date she married Joseph Poirier dit Desloges (1685-1754); **François Gauthier** (1686-1762), who married Françoise Lecompte (1679-1753).<sup>17</sup>

---

<sup>14</sup> Most of the following information was generously provided by The Gauthier Association. Many thanks to Jean-Pierre Gauthier. <[www.association-gauthier.org/](http://www.association-gauthier.org/)> Also see Peter J. Gagné, *King's Daughters and Founding Mothers: The Filles du Roi, 1663-1673*, 2001: Vol. 2: 502-3, but note that Gagné has acknowledged to Jean-Pierre since the publication of that book that he was in error when he stated that Pierre Gauthier returned 22 January 1698. In reality, it is not known exactly when he returned, only that he had returned in time to attend his son Joseph's wedding on 16 August 1699.

<sup>15</sup> Personal communication with Gauthier Association president, Jean-Pierre Gauthier. He has seen the bronze plaque to the first settlers at Lachine. Pierre Gauthier dit Saguingoira is the first name on the list. Jean-Pierre Gauthier has researched the unusual *dit* name of **Saguingoira** and has found no known French or Iroquois roots. The first use of this *dit* name by Pierre Gauthier was in 1672 when his second child, Joseph, was born. Jean-Pierre reasons that Pierre Gauthier may have assumed this unusual name from Indian contacts in the west. Perhaps he went west with or for his seigneur La Salle after the birth of his first child. This would also explain the three-year gap between the first two children. No record of such a voyage, however, has yet been found.

<sup>16</sup> How did the eight children manage to escape? We may never know. Research by Jean-Pierre Gauthier and others of the Gauthier Association reveals that, in the aftermath of the attack, the children were not listed among the survivors. We may deduce from this that they were in hiding for some time after the attacks which went on for several days. Knowing the dangers of their frontier situation, the parents may well have devised an escape/hiding plan in advance.

<sup>17</sup> [Editor's note: More information can be found concerning this family at PRDH Online. There are some inconsistencies between information on PRDH and the material in Jetté, p. 475. According to Jetté, Pierre Gauthier, Jr., was buried on 17 January 1709 at St-François, Ile Jésus, at the age of 29. PRDH says that this Pierre was an immigrant. #39256. Pierre, Jr. died on 6 April 1742 in Montréal. #152426 and #34379. Jetté and the official Gauthier site both say that Jean Gauthier dit Saguingoira was married to Marie Suzanne Capciouékoué. PRDH gives her name as Marie Suzanne Jeanne Capcioufseize Richard. Is this possibly the same person or two people? #31053, #8932 and #2647. Also, in Jetté, there is no mention that the parents of Marguerite Prézot died during the Lachine Massacre in 1689. However, in PRDH Online this is indicated in the note: "Killed at the time of the Lachine Massacre". #63058. Their source was the *Mémoires de la Société généalogique française-canadienne* 50 (3), p. 215.]

Charlotte died in captivity, but Pierre managed to survive several years with the Indians even though he was sixty years old when taken. By at least January of 1698 the family realized that Pierre was still alive. A document (notary J. B. Pottier, no. 204) drawn on 22 January mentioned Pierre as a "prisoner of the Iroquois, our enemy".<sup>18</sup> Pierre's hardiness may well have stemmed from his years of hard labor as Lachine's first settler. His sons, too, were vigorous. At least two of them, Jean and Joseph, became voyageurs. Jean signed on for Illinois on 13 May 1690 (Adhémar, no. 1639) and for Michilimackinac on 22 March 1692 (Adhémar, no 2063).<sup>19</sup> He married an Indian woman in Kaskaskia, Illinois around 1701. On 10 September 1693, my ancestor Pierre's son, Joseph, also went west to Michilimackinac (Adhémar, no. 2511). He hauled goods there for M. de Louvigny, a captain in the *détachement des marines* and commander for the king.<sup>20</sup>

Unlike his brother, Jean, Joseph found a bride in Lachine. It was at Joseph's first wedding (to Clémence Jary on 16 August 1699), that his missing father finally reappeared in the public records of New France. When and how had he returned? Unfortunately, the details of Pierre's many years in captivity and how they were ended were not recorded. What an ordeal! But what a joy for his family to reclaim him after nearly ten years and keep him close to hearth and home for the remaining four years of his life. Pierre died in the home of his son, Joseph, in Lachine, on 5 December 1703, at the age of 74.

### The Less Fortunate

Many other ancestors in my family tree were killed on the spot or, like Jean Grou and Charlotte Roussel, were taken away and never returned. I will list some of them below for those readers who may have these same ancestral names in their tree. Please contact me at my e-mail address if you would like more historical information about them:

**Jean Michel (Michaud)**, killed in Lachine Massacre 1689 (but not buried until 29 October 1694); **Jean Deniau (Deneau)** and his wife, **Hélène Daudin (Dodin)**, killed 12 August 1695 at Tremblay. **André Sire (Syre)** killed at Lachenaie; **Jean-Baptiste Lalonde**, killed at Lachine 30 September 1687 and reburied in 1866. Probably also slain by Indians was **Françoise Grenier** (first wife of Noel Langlois) who died in 1665; the notary wrote simply, *qui fut tuée*, beside her name, but did not specify by whom.<sup>21</sup>

On this first Memorial Day following September 11, 2001, it seems fitting to remember all the innocent victims of war, including our early ancestors from both New England and New France. *Je me souviens.*

Susan Mélanie Colby  
Memorial Day, 2002

---

<sup>18</sup> Research by Father Alphonse Gauthier C.S.V. <<http://www.association-gauthier.org/anglais/pierrea.html>>

<sup>19</sup> B.C.Payette, 1966:248. *Archives de Québec*, Etude Adhémar.

<sup>20</sup> See: <<http://www.association-gauthier.org/anglais/pierrea.html>>. His grandson, Joseph, also signed on 25 April 1719. See: <<http://www.telusplanet.net/public/dgarneau/metis5.htm>>. Joseph's brother, Jean, spent many years in the west. For example, he was with the *Outaouais* in 1703 when Pierre divided his belongings among his children. [Editor's note: Joseph's brother, Pierre, also was a voyageur. In one known contract (Adhémar, 22 May 1709), he was listed as the *engagé* of Jacques Hubert dit Lacroix who was traveling to *fort le Pontchartrain du lac Erié* with his wife, Marie Cardinal, and their child.]

<sup>21</sup> See Colby 2000 for summaries of these stories or contact her at <[wklement3@comcast.net](mailto:wklement3@comcast.net)>.

**Urbain Tessier dit Lavigne and Pierre Payet (Payette) dit St-Amour**

Submitted by FCHSM member Susan M. Colby, research by Janice M. Weisz

I	Urbain Tessier dit Lavigne (Arthur/Jeanne Môme)	28 Sep 1648 Québec, QC	Marie Archambault (Jacques/Françoise Tourault)
II	Louise Tessier (Urbain/Marie Archambault)	23 Nov 1671 Montréal, QC	Pierre Payet dit St-Amour (Pierre/Marie Martin)
III	Pierre Payet (Pierre/Louise Tessier)	10 Apr 1708 Montréal, QC	Catherine Demers (Dumay) (Michel/Elisabeth Jetté)
IV	Jacques Payet (Pierre/Catherine Demers)	2 Jul 1742 St-François-de-Sales, Ile Jésus, QC	Marie Anne Coron (François/Marie Syre)
V	Marie Cécile Payet (Jacques/M-Anne Coron)	6 Jul 1778 St-Martin, QC	Joseph M. Desjardins (Jean-Baptiste/M-Angélique Maisonneuve)
VI	Antoine Desjardins (Joseph/M-Cécile Payet)	16 Nov 1807 Ste-Rose, QC	Marie Sarazin (Jean-Bte/M-Charlotte Rochon)
VII	Grégoire Desjardins (Antoine/Marie Sarazin)	19 Aug 1843 Ste-Thérèse, QC	Marie Trudeau (Nicolas/Anne Séguin)
VIII	Marie D. Desjardins (Grégoire/Marie Trudeau)	12 Jan 1863 Huron County, MI	James Shepherd (James/Sara Aust)
IX	Adelaide Shepherd (James/Marie Desjardins)	30 June 1905 Hubbard Lake, MI	William Colby (Kolbe) (August/Justine Furstenau)
X	Orville Colby (William/Adelaide Shepherd)	7 Oct 1939 Detroit, MI	Jeannette Nadon (Joseph Michel/Mélanie Giroux)
XI	Susan Mélanie Colby (Orville/Jeanette Nadon)	21 Sep 1991 Vancouver, WA	William Klement, Jr. (William/Elinor Bock)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pierre Gauthier dit Saguingoira**

Submitted by FCHSM member Susan M. Colby (data from Drouin, 1947)

I	Pierre Gauthier dit Saguingoira (Jacques/Marie Boucher)	12 Nov 1668 Montréal, QC	Charlotte Roussel (Thomas/Barbe Poisson)
II	Joseph Gauthier (Pierre/Charlotte Roussel)	8 Feb 1718 Lachine, QC	Marie Fortier (Louis/Madeleine Moison)
III	Jean-Baptiste Gauthier (Jacques/Marie Fortier)	7 Jun 1751 Ste-Geneviève de Pierrefonds, QC	Amable Rivière (Jacques/Charlotte Alarie)

IV	Amable Gauthier (Jean-Bte/Amable Rivière)	12 Feb 1776 Ste-Geneviève de Pierrefonds, QC	Pierre Lachaine (Charles/M-Louise Boutin)
V	Louise Lachène (Pierre/Amable Gauthier)	18 Jul 1803 Ste-Rose, QC	François Bigras (Jean-Bte/Marie Richer)
VI	Marguerite Bigras (François/Louise La Chene)	3 Feb 1824 Ste-Rose, QC	Joseph Nadon dit Létourneau (Joseph/Monique Sureau)
VII	Léon Nadon (Joseph/Marguerite Bigras)	8 June 1868 Ottawa, ON	Léocadie Grou (Groulx) (François/Flavie Leblanc)
VIII	Joseph Michel Nadon (Léon/Léocadie Grou)	17 Jul 1899 Papineauville, QC	Mélanie Giroux (Michel/Marie Naud)
IX	Jeannette R. Nadon (Joseph/Mélanie Giroux)	7 Oct 1939 Detroit, MI	Orville E. Colby (William/Adelaide Shepherd)
X	Susan Mélanie Colby (Orville/Jeanette Nadon)	21 Sep 1991 Vancouver, WA	William Klement, Jr. (William/Elinor Bock)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Bibliography

- Bourgeois, Mère Marguerite. ***The Writings of Marguerite Bourgeois: Autobiography and Spiritual Testament***. Classified and annotated by Sister Saint-Damase-de-Rome, CND; translated from the French by Sister Mary Virginia Cotter, CND. Montréal: CND, 1976. [CND= Congrégation de Notre-Dame]
- Colby, Susan Mélanie. ***With Sword, With Cross, With Plough Stories of Our French-Canadian Ancestors***. Published by the author. 2000.
- Colby, Susan Mélanie. "Captives of the French and Indian Wars Part 1: Captured From New England". ***Michigan's Habitant Heritage***. April 2002, vol. 23 (2): 79-88.
- Dollier de Casson, François. ***Histoire du Montréal***. Nouvelle édition critique par Marcel Trudel and Marie Baboyant. Cahiers du Québec Collection Documents d'Histoire, Editions Hurtubise HMH Ltee, Québec, 1992.
- Drouin, Gabriel. ***Généalogie de Joseph Léon Aurèle Nadon***. Compilé par L'Institut Généalogique Drouin: Montréal, 1947.
- Gagné, Peter. ***King's Daughters and Founding Mothers: The Filles du Roi, 1663-1673***. Vol. 2. "Charlotte Roussel", pp. 502-3. Quintin Press: Rhode Island, 2001.
- Gauthier, Alphonse. ***Pierre Gauthier dit Saguingolra***. Copyright 1999. Association de généalogie des Familles Gauthier <http://www.association-gauthier.org/>
- Journal des Jésuites***. Published by L'Abbé Laverdière in Québec in 1871.
- Payette, B.C. ***Old French Papers***. Montréal, 1966.
- Prévost, Robert. ***Généalogie Portraits de familles plonnières***. Vol. 1. Libre Expression: Montréal. 1996.
- The French Create the Company of the West***  
<http://www.telusplanet.net/public/dgarneau/metis5.htm>