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Elv.	ROCK SPRINGS, WYO	6,261



1847 - 1909

Pelie Levesque

Six generations have kept the family secret. For one-hundred-twenty years the family has not revealed it. Felix Levesque, his first wife Caroline and their five children knew the secret. Emma, my grandmother, was the second wife of Felix and she knew the secret but her six children did not. The second generation, children of the second marriage and members of the third generation only knew there *was* a secret. As for those of the last three generations, they probably have not even heard about the family secret.

Born 21 March 1847 near the banks of the Saint Lawrence River at Rivière-Ouelle in the Province of Québec, Canada, Felix was the fourth child in a family of eleven children. His five sisters each bore the first name of Marie while two brothers bore the first name of Louis. It was common practice in French speaking Canada to be called by ones middle name while the first name reflected honor upon ones ancestor. This practice of using the middle name was extended to most, but not all, of Felix's children as well. Felix himself had but one given name. He often shortened Felix to the use of just the letter 'F' in written correspondence.

His parents, François and Emeréce lived with their eleven children in a house eighteen feet by twenty feet. This average size home for the time and place offered less than thirty square feet per person to accommodate the needs of the thirteen people living within the confines of its walls. The eldest son Nél was two years older than his brother Felix.

It was Nél, the eldest, who stood to inherit the house and family farm which produced scant food to feed the thirteen people who occupied its land. Early memories of Felix were not happy ones. They lived on "roots and ells from the river," my Grandmother related as she told and retold stories about my grandfather, Felix. "Papa," she always referred to Felix as Papa, "hated horses and had little to do with them throughout his lifetime." We can understand then why Felix determined at an early age to leave the farm.

Mr. Côté a neighbor who worked for the Grand Trunk Railroad helped Felix obtain a job on the railroad. Since "ciphering," today we would say mathematics, was a game for Felix, he developed his skills by calculating in his head and on paper when the opportunity presented itself. In addition, Felix learned telegraphy by listening to the telegraph key as it clicked.

However, the older men held the best jobs and there was little opportunity to obtain a job as telegrapher.

Felix married Caroline Côté, who was six years older, on 5 May 1868 at the parish of St. Thomas at Montmagny in the Province of Québec, Canada. The first child arrived a year later in mid June 1869. Living conditions were difficult at best. Food was often lacking and by October 1874 the fourth child would arrive. Felix decided that he should seek a better life for his family and so it was that he set out for Omaha, Nebraska. Stories were circulating that the Union Pacific Railroad Company was expanding and that they were paying as much as two dollars per day in wages. Determined to obtain one of these high paying jobs, Felix boarded a train in Canada and ventured forth into the land of opportunity.

1874

Cheyenne and a large part of the Comanche and Kiowa tribes left their reservations and took to the plains to war on the hated white buffalo hunters and settlers. Random acts of violence spread from the Texas panhandle north into western Kansas. Undaunted, Felix set out for Omaha, Nebraska.

Arriving in Omaha in 1874, this twenty-seven year old father of four children, presented himself at the offices of the Union Pacific Railroad. Panic gripped Felix the moment he looked at the employment application form. What if the Grand Trunk should find out that he, Felix a trusted employee, was seeking employment in the United States? What if they found out and he was not employed by the UPRR? He made a decision and kept the family secret until his death in 1909. Over a hundred years would pass before it would be revealed.

1876

The *Wyoming Weekly Reader*, which reported on "western people and western interests," advertised the Union Pacific Route: "Four days from Omaha to Sacramento." At Cheyenne they reported, "[Yesterday] the west bound U. P. passenger was on time, with twelve passengers for Cheyenne and fifty-seven through. The east bound U. P. passenger was on time, with twenty-five through passengers. The U.P. *emigrant* was on time, with two full coaches." Buffalo and Indians still provided an occasional threat to the safe operation of the railroad but hot cinders from the locomotive were a constant danger.

Union Pacific has no record of his first job title and family history has not passed the story of his early years down to us. We know that he possessed fine penmanship and mathematical abilities which may have kept him at the home office in Omaha for a short period of time. The exact dates of his moves from Omaha to Fort Steele or to Rock Springs, Wyoming Territory, has been lost. The census of 1880 records all members of the family at Fort Steele while his obituary indicates he was agent at Rock Springs as early as 1876. A Rock Springs photo dated 1881 clearly places Felix as agent at that location.

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The *Gazette Union Pacific Railroad—St. Mary's—Rawlins*, 1878-9, states, "The station, express and telegraph agent here [Fort Steele] is F. P. Maroney." Unfortunately, only selected pages of the directory are still in existence and Rock Spring pages are lost forever.

Page 170 of the *Gazette Union Pacific Railroad—St. Mary's—Rawlins* has the following account, "Fort Steele, six hundred and ninety-five miles from Omaha, at an elevation of 6,840 feet. The North Platte is crossed just before reaching the station. Instead of the shallow, sandy stream we saw at the junction of the North and South forks just before entering the station at North Platte, we find a deep, cold, clear stream, presenting some of the most charming views. The fort was established in 1868, and is regarded important as a base of operations in any future Indian troubles in the territory."

1880

Caroline and the children arrived at Fort Fred Steele, Wyoming Territory in 1880. This according to the 1880 census and a document written by Joseph Henry, his youngest son, who recorded every place he lived from his birth in 1876 until 1955. Four of the children ranging in age from six to eleven undoubtedly received some schooling at Fort Steele which was named for Civil War hero Major General Frederick Steele. The fort was one of three Wyoming posts established to protect the transcontinental railroad from Indian attacks. The year before the family arrived at Fort Steele, troops had been dispatched to quell the uprising of the Utes in Colorado who were fighting against the tyrannical Indian agent Nathan Meeker. Army food at this time consisted of antelope, elk, perhaps some buffalo meat, but most of the buffalo had been killed by this time, wild turkey, black-tailed deer, wild goose and duck.

The slow moving North Platte River ran past the post. The railroad bridge spanning the river was well protected. Trains are still running across the bridge in 1995, past the small station building and on through the long abandoned fort toward the horizon of the west. Overland migrations progressed slowly along the opposite bank of the North Platte from 1841 to 1866 as wagon trains fought their way west. In 1860 and 1861 the short lived Pony Express used this same trail but all this was before the soldiers came to establish a fort.

1881

Rock Springs station in 1881 was the site where a photographer set up his tripod. The photo he took became a part of history as the record was made of men and machinery as well as the Rock Springs station. In the photo are: U.P.Ry [U.P. Railroad used the name U.P. Railway between January 24, 1880 and October February 1, 1898] locomotive Number 2, a 4-4-0 driven by a single drive shaft, its

smoke stack a diamond stack with spark arrester, and a coal oil lamp box mounted just ahead of it; the old station which was located a few hundred feet west of the present station; twenty-one men, including Felix Levesque, agent, the only one pictured on the loading platform without a jacket.

Since Felix is pictured without his jacket, we can surmise this was a picture taken in the summer of 1881 just prior to the death of his wife Caroline who was still living at Fort Steele with their children even after Felix assumed the position of agent at Rock Springs.

On the wind-swept plain at Fort Steele, Caroline died on 14 October 1881. She was buried in the cemetery at Rock Springs on the following 23 November. We have been unable to locate information as to the family's living accommodations at the fort or the title Felix held at this time with UPRR. The small depot at the fort was a focal point for military travelers as well as civilians. Accounts were kept of the arriving army materials as well as freight for civilians. It is likely Felix was agent at the fort sometime during the period 1874-80.

The census taker in 1880 was not required to list one's occupation but we do find Felix, Caroline and their children, Arthur, Eva, Horace, Rosanna and Henry listed. It is interesting to note that the age of Felix was stated as 34 while Caroline was listed as 36 even though their difference in age was five years, ten months and five days. The listed names of the children were what they were called at that time. Their names were: Francis Felix **Arthur**; Marie Antonette **Eva**; Louis **Horace**; Marie Albertine **Rosanna**; and Joseph **Henry**. In later life Rosanna used the name **Rose** while Henry used **Joe**.

1883

During the period between Caroline's death and 1883, we do not have a record as to who cared for the children. We know that the children were returned to French speaking Québec where they resided with the sisters and brothers of Felix until 1888. This was a difficult time for Felix as he was separated not only from his wife who died but he was also deprived of the companionship of his small children. The children were seven to fourteen years old when they were put on the train headed back to their homeland, Canada. These French speaking children would return as young adults, a mature twelve to nineteen years of age.

1879

Rock Springs became the home of Felix about 1879, if we can rely upon the accuracy of his obituary. Then again the census records him in 1880 at the fort. Exactly when he moved is difficult to determine but certainly the 1879-81 period seems most likely. Was he living at the Commercial Hotel or boarding in a home

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while his family remained at Fort Steele? Research through the records of Fort Steele revealed much about military life at the post but little regarding civilians.

1884

Church played an important part in the lives of French-Canadians. Felix was one of the early supporters in the construction of the Catholic Church atop No.2 Hill in 1884. It was hoped that by building a church, a priest would be assigned. This was not soon to become a reality. In August 1887 the Diocese of Cheyenne was created and in January 1888 Father John Delahunty was appointed as the first pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows.

1885

We know that he dedicated himself to his assigned tasks as station agent and that in 1885 the Union Pacific held examinations to insure the competent operation of the system. Felix was issued Examination Certificate number W328 dated May 16, 1885. It states, "Felix Levesque has passed the examination on Rules and Regulations required to permit him to perform duty in *Union Pacific Railway Company's Service*, in the Capacity of [written-in] Agent and [telegraph] Operator."

The Union Pacific locomotives burned a precious commodity — wood. Jim Bridger led Captain Stansbury up the Bitter Creek Valley in 1850. Stansbury documented coal deposits in the area at that time. Coal was first prospected in the Rock Springs area in 1864. The first coal mine in Rock Springs opened in 1868 and by 1940 had produced over fifty million tons of coal. In 1875 the Union Pacific Coal Company tried to step up production. They began hiring Chinese at a lower rate of pay and by 1885 some 500 Chinese were employed in the mines. Labor unrest was a constant concern.

On September 2, 1885, the *Chinese Incident*, became the top news story of the nation. All eyes were focused upon Rock Springs, Wyoming Territory. This small coal mining town provided the telegraph lines with details of the massacre, the governors involvement and finally the arrival of U.S. Army troops which established Camp Pilot Butte as an international treaty post to protect the Chinese. The camp lasted until the Spanish-American War forced its abandonment in 1899.

Felix Levesque controlled the telegraph key in Rock Springs, which was located inside the UPRy depot. It is likely he transmitted most of the messages which originated at Rock Springs.

[With less than half a day available for research in the Lincoln, Nebraska archives, it was not possible to locate telegrams sent from Rock Springs by our ancestor Felix. Telegrams relayed over a period of several days from Omaha to the New York headquarters were located and copied. The first two telegrams forwarded indicate the gravity of the situation.]

Western Union Telegram #1:

"DATED OMAHA SEPT 3, 1885.

TO C. F. ADAMS, JR.

ONE HUNDRED ARMED MEN HAVE DRIVEN ALL CHINESE FROM ROCK SPRINGS KILLING ONE [LATER THE DEATH TOLL WOULD RISE] AND INJURING ONE CHILD; HAVE BURNED THE HOUSES. GOVERNOR WARREN IS ASKING FOR TROOPS [THEY REMAINED IN ROCK SPRINGS FOR MANY YEARS] TO SUPPRESS RIOT, AND REQUEST THAT YOU COMMUNICATE WITH PRESIDENT. THEY WILL NOT PERMIT CHINESE TO RETURN; ALSO NOTIFIED EVANS COAL DEPT. ENGINEER TO LEAVE TOWN AND LIKE OUR FRIEND S. J. SMITH HE WENT. [SIGNED] S. R. CALLAWAY."

Western Union Telegram #2:

"DATED OMAHA, NEB. SEPTEMBER 3, 1885.

TO C. F. ADAMS, JR.

THE PEOPLE OF ROCK SPRINGS ARE WELL ARMED AND WILL NOT ALLOW ANY OF THE CHINESE MEN TO RETURN. THERE ARE ABOUT 600 OF THEM SCATTERED THROUGH THE TERRITORY. GOVERNOR WARREN IS NOW AT ROCK SPRINGS WITH SUPERINTENDENT DICKINSON. HE SUGGESTS OUR TAKING CHINESE MEN TO EVANSTON IN THE MEANTIME SO THAT THEY CAN BE FED. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE WHOLLY POWERLESS AND THE CITY IS IN THE HANDS OF A MOB. [SIGNED] S. R. CALLAWAY."

From these two telegrams, we can visualize the violence and fear that must have gripped the average citizen especially as darkness fell and fires raged in what were once the shanties and dug-outs of the Chinese. Felix must have at this moment been glued to his telegraph key but somewhere in the back of his mind a feeling of gratitude that, during this perilous time, his children were safe in Canada must have been deeply felt.

1888

During the "*lonely years*" 1882-1888, Felix wrote letters to his family. As a result of this correspondence he developed a friendship with a French-Canadian family living in Murray County, Minnesota who had a young daughter named Emma. Since the father, Joseph Letourneau, had worked for the Grand Trunk Railroad in Canada, as did Felix, it is quite possible that they were acquainted. Each of the Letourneau children knew telegraphy, including the girls. In the due course of time, Felix agreed to a marriage contract with Emma who was nineteen years his junior. He had

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been informed of Emma's talent as a cook, housekeeper, seamstress and musician but was not prepared, upon his arrival in Minnesota, to find her on hands and knees scrubbing the wooden floor. Did her industry impress him? Did he also know she liked to hoist her skirts and play baseball with the boys? He was soon to find out. Family members called her *Gus* because she liked to play outside. Later she would be known as *Em & Co.* because of the large number of children in her *company*.

1889

Emma and Felix journeyed by train with her entire family to the parish of St. Thomas at Montmagny in the Province of Québec, Canada where they were married on 27 May 1889. Over a hundred years later, this marriage record would unravel the family secret.

The Letourneau family was joined by relatives in the area who came to the celebration. Levesque's, Gendreau's, Deschene's and Kirouac's gathered along with the five children of Felix to wish the couple happiness. If happiness is being in the kitchen, then Emma was a happy bride. Over the years, she repeatedly told the story of her cooking dinner on her wedding day for over 20 people. The young bride met her first challenge and was proud to have passed the test.

On the following day, the five children, their father and new step-mother boarded a train and headed across the border into the United States. In December of 1888, Felix had purchased property located at what today is 601—611 North Front Street. Arriving in Rock Springs, Felix presented Emma with a small gun which she carried on her person until the day she left Rock Springs in 1917. She too said, "I always carried it in the pocket of my apron in the house or in the folds of my overskirt when I went about business in the town." Her brother Phil chided her about living in the wild west but Emma declared, "It really was wild when I arrived." A very few buffalo were still crossing the high desert near Rock Springs by the time she arrived but Felix told her tales she recounted in later life, stories about the great buffalo herds.

Their property on North Front did not meet the family needs and in early 1889 Felix purchased property on Broadway. Occupying three lots, the property was located at 205 Broadway and included the area now occupied by the A. Street Overpass. What use he made of this property is not clear. He also purchased a house next to the Commercial Hotel. This property is located about where the drive-up window of the *Rock Springs National Bank* is located today.

"Papa had the only [telegraph] key in Rock Springs. All the news, in and out, went through him. On a summers day, when everything was open, I could read the messages at home while standing at the window," so stated Emma in later years.

She was said to be as capable with the telegraph key as her husband.

Emma was an organized person. She had a plan for every meal she prepared which included fresh vegetables and a desert. She was a good cook and a good planner. However, she failed to plan for an unforeseen event that developed from amorous attentions proffered by her new step-son Arthur. At age 20, he was just three years younger than his new Mama. Felix, upon learning of his son's amorous intentions, "threw him out bodily." Arthur, always a comiver, wondered aimlessly through life taking advantage of people until his death in 1938. The family sentiments ran high against him to the end. A plea to family members at Christmas in 1937 went unanswered. Even though he made a rich gold strike in Alaska in 1897, he was buried in California by the County of Los Angeles in a paupers grave.

1890

Aspirations of wealth took a step forward toward reality in April 1890 when Felix purchased two lots in the *Buena Vista Tract* on the outskirts of Salt Lake City. The land showed promise as it was located near the railroad tracks. Ten dollars down and payments of ten dollars per month were recorded until on March 28 1891, the entire \$155 had been paid for both lots. The contract of sale remains a family possession. Somewhere through the years, this property was sold or let go for taxes. A visit to this property in 1990 revealed it to be located in what became an industrial area of little value. It remains mostly undeveloped with a chicken processing plant providing much of the employment in this area. At the time of his death, this property still held promise. The 1891 tax bills show the real estate value to be \$35 for the two lots. The school tax was levied at the rate of 1/4 of 1% for a total school tax bill of nine cents plus the regular assessment at the rate of 8 1/2 mills or a total of 30 cents (total tax 39 cents).

Joy and sorrow entered the Levesque household in July. Baby Felix was born on Monday July 14 and the second family was begun. Since the baby was weak and struggling it was baptized the same day. One day later, on Tuesday, the child died bringing the first of many sorrows to Emma's heart.

1890 still proved to be an exciting year for Felix. He boarded the afternoon train on 14 August headed for Rawlins. Here he checked into a hotel and waited with high expectation for the dawn of 15 August, the day our immigrant ancestor was to attain his citizenship. The United States District Court in session at Rawlins awarded Felix Levesque his Certificate of Citizenship. "United States of America, Territory of Wyoming, County of Carbon," are the words heading the certificate. It is interesting to note that this document was issued on 15 August some thirty-six days after Wyoming had been granted statehood on 10 July 1890.

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Among the family documents are to be found company passes good for passage on various railroad lines. Many of these lines have been absorbed into other companies operations through the years. It is doubtful that Felix used all of these passes as they were offered and freely exchanged by most railroads until the time of World War II. Since each pass was issued to Felix, they are listed in the year of their issue. Four were issued in 1890: Monon Route, *Louisville, New Albany & Chicago and Louisville Southern Railways*, "Traveling to and from the Semi-Annual Meeting of the International Association of Ticket Agents, at Jacksonville, Fla., February 13th, 1890;" *Colorado Midland Railway*, Pike's Peak Route, "Ticket Agent's Pass;" *Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul*; *Burlington Route*, "Railway Employee's Free Ticket 1890," Issued to F. Levesque & Wife.

1891

In the summer of 1891, the Union Pacific Railroad and the Young Men's Christian Association of Rock Springs teamed up in an effort to raise funds for the YMCA. An "Annual Ticket" was issued resembling a railroad pass and printed by the UPRR with their Union Pacific emblem in three colors. Ticket number one was issued to F. Levesque.

One year after purchasing property on North Front Street, in November 1890, we find Felix recording the purchase of property located next to the Old City Hall at 201 B. Street. It was here, where Eagles Hall stands today, that four children of the second family Felix Levesque was to father, were raised.

Eugene Albert was born sixteen months after the death of baby Felix on 11 November 1891. The fact that he was born at 201 B. Street is not recorded but if he was not born here it is safe to assume he entered the door at this address within a few days of his birth. On the day of his birth, Eugene was presented at the baptismal font with Arthur, age twenty-two, who had been made welcome in the family again temporarily, as godfather and Eva, age twenty-one, as godmother. Gene inherited both his fathers mathematical ability and his flare for penmanship. These were still the days of quill pen and ink.

1892

Secure in his position as agent at Rock Springs, Felix requested a leave of absence. This document is in our possession: It states:

"CERTIFICATE 1531 [ISSUED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF] *UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM*, WYOMING DIVISION, CHEYENNE, NOVEMBER 30TH, 1892. THIS IS TO CERTIFY, THAT F. LEVESQUE, HAS BEEN EMPLOYED IN THE CAPACITY OF AGENT, AT ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING IN THE C.T. DEPARTMENT OF THE UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM. WYOMING

FELIX LEVESQUE

DIVISION, FROM 1874 TO NOVEMBER 30TH, 1892. IS GRANTED A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THIRTY DAYS. SERVICES, CONDUCT AND CAPABILITIES SATISFACTORY."

What was the reason Felix requested a months leave of absence? This the high point of his life; he was successful; he was an achiever; he had arrived. Felix was off to audit the books of a bank in New York City. News of his ability to make quick mental calculations and add five digit columns in his head had reached as far as New York. A pressing need sent out a plea and Felix responded.

1893

Joseph [Henry] had completed his education at Rock Springs. He was now seventeen years of age and ready to go to work. Felix arranged for employment with the UPRR at Rock Springs. Joe was a competent worker who displayed a desire to achieve a bit more than anyone else. This determination remained with him his entire life. Hard work and a loyal dedication to duty were his trademark.

Philip Alphonse, the third child of Emma's, was born 16 September 1893. He was named after Emma's brother Philippe but called Alphonse. Happiness reigned as the house filled with small children.

Perhaps Felix and Emma traveled to Minnesota in 1893. Emma's brother Phil was station agent at Ghent and among the passes issued to Felix & wife this year is one issued by Phil's employer, *Chicago & North-Western Railway*. Another trip pass issued from "Mo Valley to Cedar Bluffs" bears the following impressive imprint, *Chicago & North-Western Railway Company, Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad Company and Sioux City & Pacific Railroad Co.* Another interesting pass has a stub. The pass is good from Sioux City to Mo Valley and the stub from Kasota Junction to Sioux City. This pass was issued by *Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway Co and Sioux City & Pacific Railroad Company*. In some cases one must wonder if the name of the railroad company was not longer than their rail line.

1894

We find that in 1894 passes were issued for travel for the entire system of the *Chicago & North-Western Railway* and also the *Union Pacific System* issued a pass good for a round trip from Rock Springs to Ogden, Utah.

1895

Charles Ambrose Washington was born on 6 August 1895. He always tried to convey proper manners and used the name Charles or C.A. Levesque. His brothers and mother called him Charlie which he did not appreciate.

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1896

Rose was engaged to be married to Doctor Will Freeman who graduated from Trinity Medical College in Toronto, Canada. On the 3rd day of October 1896, they presented themselves before the County Clerk of Sweetwater County, Wyoming. On the combined *Applicants Affidavit and Marriage License*, the words "Territory of Wyoming" appears in four places. In two of these the word Territory has been lined through and the word STATE written over it; the other two entries stand uncorrected. Doctor Will signed his name W.C.C. Freeman. His name was William Charles Clarkson Freeman but they called him Doctor Will. Clarkson was his mothers maiden name. In researching his life, it was found that he received his medical license in Wyoming in 1899 before license numbers were assigned. Frank Fury, a Cheyenne doctor, received license number six in 1905. Doctor Will was a true pioneer doctor of Wyoming. He listed his age as 28 and Marie Rosanna as 25 on their marriage application.

They were married by Father John Delahunty, first pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, on Saturday 20th of October.

1897

Quill pen was dipped in ink on March 10, 1897 and a letter written by Phil to, "Felix, Em & Co." Suffering from crippling arthritis, he labored to write this letter in which he mentions he was glad they [Felix & Em] had heard from Arthur in New Mexico.

Arthur, having heard of the gold strike in the Klondike and Alaska, persuaded his brother Joe [Henry] to quit his job working for the UPRR at Rock Springs and join him on his adventure to the goldfields of Alaska. The story of how Arthur cheated his brother out of everything when they returned from the Copper River in 1899 is another story.

William Raymond, the last son born to Emma, was born on Monday 5 April 1897 and baptized three days later on Thursday the 8th. His godparents were his half-brother Joseph Henry and his half-sister Rose Freeman. Joe's name was recorded in the church registry as Henry.

1900

This was a busy year in the life of the Rock Springs station agent. UPRR built a new depot bordered on both sides by park areas that were yet to see many displays of public enthusiasm. The little station agent, Felix Levesque dressed in his finest clothes, in which French-Canadians took great pride, for the dedication ceremony of the UPRR depot in Rock Springs, Wyoming Territory. This was an historic occasion and dignitaries waxed eloquent as the band played and people celebrated

this great step of progress.

Marie Josephine, the last child and only daughter born to Emma, was born on Thursday 31 May 1900. Her godparents gathered around the baptismal font on the day of her birth to witness the baptism. John and Elizabeth Driscoll were her sponsors.

Four passes issued in 1900 have survived almost one hundred years in the family. On June 6, the *New York, Ontario & Western Railway* issued a pass good for passage from New York to Oswego. The *Boston & Maine Railroad* issued Felix a pass from Boston to Newport, Vermont. Was Felix working his way north once again to visit family members in Québec? Did Felix perhaps stop in at the bank in New York City where he had worked for a month in 1892?

July saw Felix once again traveling to Chicago and on to Tracy, Minnesota on a *Chicago & North-Western Railway Company* pass. We find that the C&NW has designated trains numbered one and two as the *Overland Limited* and restricted these trains from travel by those using passes. Another pass issued in 1900 once again mentions Kasota Junction with termination at Norfolk, Nebraska not far from UPRR Company headquarters in Omaha.

1901

One Fall day in 1901, Emma decided to visit W. J. Johnston who operated a photo gallery in Rock Springs. This is believed to be the earliest photo of Emma's children. Baby Josephine was not included, perhaps because of the need to remain perfectly still for a period of time while the exposure was made. The children were well braced and no movement occurred during the exposure. Written on the back of the photo is, "Levesque children (Emma Letourneau) Alphonse - 7; Willie - 4; Charles - 6; Eugene - 9 years".

Alphonse and Willie are in long pants, Charles is in a sailor suit dress while Eugene sports knickers. They all are proud to display their high top shoes that lace to the top. One look at this photo and there is no doubt that these children were loved and well cared for.

Edward Henry Harriman made a fortune in stock-market speculations. At the same time he acquired a thorough knowledge of American railroads. In 1897, he took control of the bankrupt Union Pacific and built it into a leading railroad. He developed a huge railroad empire in the west. In 1901, Mr. Harriman toured the line through Wyoming. He paused long enough at Green River to be photographed.

Emma told her grandson the following story, "Papa [Felix], showed Mr. Harriman

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how to operate the telegraph key and how to copy messages down on paper. Mr. Harriman liked Papa and later offered him a job at Home Office in Omaha. In fact he offered him a job more than once. Papa never was interested in going to Omaha. He liked to raise his family in Rock Springs and anyway Papa wasn't feeling well enough to start a new position".

The first issue of the *Wyoming State Business Directory* appeared in 1901 labeled "Vol. 1". Safes, windows, doors, skylights, cream & butter separators, improved windmills and general merchandise are advertised on the back cover. On page 312, The Central Drug Store in Rock Springs, managed by R. L. Newman, states they are agents for *Scabeura Sheep Dip*. Their telephone number is listed as 29-Y. Few telephones were installed in Rock Springs prior to system improvements that were made in 1913.

Also on page 312, we find Freeman, W C C, physician listed but no telephone number is listed. In fact the drug store was the only listing on pages 312 or 313 that had a telephone number printed. Page 213 contains a listing for Levesque F, agent U P Ry. The Golden Rule Mercantile Co is also listed on this page. This was the second store opened by Mr. J.C. Penny.

1903

Alphonse (Philip) was ten years old and his half-brother Joe (Henry) was 27 in the summer of 1903. Disaster struck while some boys, including Alphonse, age ten, were playing cowboys and Indians. Armed with a bow and arrow, Alphonse was in pursuit of the cowboys and shot off an arrow. Disaster struck as Joe, who was working on the U.P.R.R. between Granger, Wyoming and Ogden, Utah, came home for a short visit. As Joe rounded a corner, the arrow struck him directly in the eye. He ran to Doctor Will's office but nothing could be done to save the eye. It had to be removed. Many years later, in 1958 when Joe died, over twenty glass eyes were found in his home in San Jose, California by his cousin Paul Freeman, son of Doctor Will and Rose Levesque. Alphonse said at the time, "Don't worry Joe, I'll always take care of you".

Ten years later in February 1913, Alphonse died in the switchyard at Rock Springs a victim himself. Crossing the tracks in the rain on his way to clock-in for the midnight shift, his foot slipped into a frog and wedged there. Just at this time a train rounded the bend. His image was not reflected in the headlight of the locomotive soon enough for the engineer to stop the locomotive. Emma and Felix buried their second son.

1904

Eva, the eldest daughter of Felix and Caroline, married Frederick Caron a resident

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of Marshall, Minnesota in 1904. Emma probably was instrumental in arranging this marriage as the Caron family lived near the Letourneau's and both families spoke French. After her marriage, Eva moved to Minnesota where she became the wife of farmer Caron, living there until her death in 1952 some eighteen years after the death of her husband.

The only typewritten document that Felix left us is his Will. It is on printed Union Pacific stationery. It reads: "Office of Local Agent, Rock Springs, Wyo. April 7th. 1904. [sic] I, Felix Levesque, being in good health, and of sound mind fifty-seven years old the 21st. of March last, not knowing how soon I may be called to take my place among the Angels above, I desire to bequeath what little property I possess to my wife, Emma Levesque, for the benefit of five young children, namely, Eugene, Alphonse, Willie, and Josephine, [sic] My property consist of Life Insurances in the NorthWestern, and the Woodmen of the World, a house next to the Commercial Hotel, two lots in Buena Vesta [sic] Utah, and a few dollars in the bank, ,and Columbia Building & Loan Stock, I appoint my wife, Emma Levesque, as sole admisistratrix, without bonds, This is my last, and only Will,"

Felix Leveque

[signed with a quill pen in a large flourish.]

[Witnessed by three additional signatures.] [Note the omission of spaces in most cases after the use of a comma.]

This is the first indication that we have of the health conscious mind of Felix. Undoubtedly he was beginning to suffer from internal pains. Off and on, for the next five years he would suffer, mostly in silence, and continue his duties as agent.

1906

Felix made one last property purchase. The Union Pacific Railroad laid a single track up Horsethief Canyon to a coal camp called Superior. In March of 1906, in anticipation of area growth, and first hand knowledge of the planned activity, Felix made his last land purchase, property described as "SE 4, Section 34, TWP 21, Range 102." How this land was developed and utilized we do not know.

1907

The Rock Springs Miner newspaper in the 1907, "Official paper of the city of Rock

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Springs and Sweetwater County," proclaims circulation of the paper to be 1800 with a subscription price of \$2.50.

The directory lists Lauzer, Edward S, physician. Doctor Will Freeman and Doctor Lauzer had a joint practice. It was to Doctor Lauzer, who saw patients in the evening, that Felix first turned when pain invaded his body. The Levesque children spent many an evening in his office waiting to be treated for a cold or bruise.

Twenty-seven listings appear on page 328 of the 1907 directory, of these eight are for saloons. Saloon listings account for thirty percent including J. L. Mc Donald's listing as the proprietor of the Grand Opera House and Palace Saloon.

It was at this establishment, the Opera House which seated 800, that Emma played the French Horn with the orchestra. She played both the horn and the piano devoting some time each day to her musical pursuits.

Once again we find Felix listed as the agent for the Union Pacific Railroad Company. The little Frenchman was as devoted as any employee to his employer. Rock Springs listings in the 1907 directory included a, "*Time Card, Union Pacific Railroad Co.*" which showed, "F. Levesque, Agent." Twelve trains a day stopped at Rock Springs. From 3:44 in the early morning until 10:23 at night, the trains made their scheduled stops to accommodate freight, baggage and passengers. Odd numbers applied to Westbound trains while even numbers were used to indicate Eastbound. These trains were the center of life for Felix. He knew the trains not only by their numbers but also by their descriptive names. Trains 1 & 2—*Overland Limited*; trains 3 & 10—*China and Japan Mail*; train 4—*Atlantic Express*; trains 5 & 6—*Oregon Express*; trains 7 & 8—*Los Angeles Limited*; train 9—*Fast Mail*; trains 17 & 18—*Portland Passenger*. Ticket sales and telegraph operations must have been a daily challenge at this busy station.

Union Pacific issued their agent at Rock Springs, Felix Levesque, his annual pass "good on lines east of Green River, Wyo."

1908

Progress was being made in Rock Springs. Libraries were an important part of small communities throughout America at the turn of the century. Rock Springs erected their landmark in 1908 on C. Street. Doctors Freeman and Lauzer, physicians and surgeons, located at the corner of C. and South Front Streets, listed their telephone number as 13-C. Also occupying space along South Front Street were the Bon Ton Restaurant; J. N. Crocker, *Jeweler and Optician*; The Eagle Bar owned by Bugas & Hunter, advertising *Fine Imported and Domestic Wines, Liquors and Cigars*; First National Bank, *Capital \$60,000, surplus \$120,000*, A. Kendall, President; Grand

FELIX LEVESQUE

Restaurant, managed by Charley Joe, offered *Regular Meals and Short Orders*; Gem Saloon, operated by Paul Kos; Clara Ace offered *Millinery, Hair Dressing, Shampooing, Manicuring and Massaging*; Depot Saloon operated by J. M. Anderson; and Beeman & Neuber Mercantile Company.

Son-in-law, Doctor Will Freeman advised Felix, in January 1908, his condition should be attended to by a physician having the most modern equipment and knowledge. Following Doctor Will's advice, Felix boarded a train to Ogden, Utah where he consulted with a hospital physician. He was advised that the scope of his pain was beyond modern medicines ability to treat it at that time.

Early in February, Felix boarded a train bound for Rochester, Minnesota. Here on the eighth, he visited the offices of Doctors Mayo, Graham & Company. For professional services he paid \$50 in cash and was issued receipt number 4416. Word of the work Doctor Mayo was performing had spread. Felix was determined to find what was causing his pain if at all possible. After the examination, Felix was told his kidney condition was likely to get worse but little could be done to effect a cure.

Eugene brought further disappointment to the Levesque household at the end of May when he brought home his report card from Rock Springs High School. The report card, written with a metal point pen and ink, lists his subjects: English IX, Latin 1st Yr., Algebra, History Anc., Bookkeeping, Drawing. Listed also are the total number of days taught, 183 and Eugene's attendance of 152 days. "Eugene was never healthy," was an often stated fact in later years and this lends credence to the statement. On the reverse side of the Report Card we find, "Retained in Ninth—No credit". Surely this was a blow to Felix and Emma as well as Eugene. The fact is, in later life he more than redeemed himself as he excelled in both bookkeeping and drawing.

Prescriptions often written on small pieces of paper are meant as only a temporary means to convey information from doctor to pharmacist. None-the-less, a prescription was written by Doctor Will on W. E. Boyd, Prescription Druggist stationery that has survived among family records. One of the ingredients contained in this order for throat syrup has long been banned for human use.

Emma received a grand present from Felix for Christmas in 1908. On the fourteenth of November, undoubtedly suffering some pain, Felix journeyed to Cheyenne where he paid a visit to the Singer Sewing Machine Company sales room. He purchased for Emma, an accomplished seamstress, her first sewing machine operated by a foot treadle. The receipt indicates Felix paid \$40, the full price in cash.

The receipt is of some interest since it was printed by, "The Singer Manufacturing

STATION AGENT

Co." which was crossed out and "Singer Sewing Machine Co." stamped under it. Denver, C.O., was replaced with a stamp indicating the address as 1713 Furguson St., Cheyenne, Wyo.

1909

U.S. free mail delivery was established in 1909 with the advent of house numbers and three mailmen to walk the city routes. House numbers were a long time in appearing on many houses.

Union Pacific issued Felix his last pass in 1909. Printed on the pass were the words, "Not good on *Overland* or *Los Angeles Limited* trains." It was common practice to restrict employees, that is non-paying riders, from using the banner trains which in many cases were extra-fare trains. What is interesting to note is that on the back of the pass a stamp proclaims, "Good on all freight trains between points at which they stop." Not everyone riding on a pass was accorded *this* privilege.

"POSITIVELY: Postage Stamps, and personal checks on banks outside of Salt Lake County NOT ACCEPTED." These words are printed on the 1909 Tax Notice for the Buena Vista Tract. Total amount due fifty-six cents.

Clara, Emma's sister in Minnesota, received the last letter Felix wrote. He typed it on stationery headed, Union Pacific Railroad Company, Office of Agent. It is dated September 8th, 1909 and reveals a good bit about his condition including the fact that he retained his sense of humor almost to the end. "Dear Clara, let me thank you first, but [sic] let me also scold you, just one word from you to Emma would be proof enough that you had remembered her birthday, a postal card with a rooster on would have been sufficient to tell her she was getting old, and time for her to crow. I was sick all day on Emma's birthday, could not even kiss her, but today I am feeling well again..."

Life was drawing to a close for Felix as he boarded yet another train late in the afternoon of the 27th or 28th of September 1909. He was in great pain and was seeking relief even at the cost of extreme measures. He entered the hospital at Ogden, Utah where an operation was performed on his kidneys. He summoned his wife and family to be with him in his last hour. Suffering intense pain, he was none the less, conscious until the last. His soul departed at 6:17 on Thursday morning, the 30th day of September.

The life of Felix Levesque had ended. He took his secret with him while the knowing members of the family continued to guard it until each of them departed in their own time. His obituary reported that, "He was survived by his widow, seven sons and three daughters, one daughter, Mrs. Eva Caron living in Marshall,

FELIX LEVESQUE

Minnesota; Mrs. W. C. C. Freeman, Arthur, Henry, Eugene, Alphonse, Charles, Willie, baby Josephine, all of this city and Horace, of Superior."

Horace, was thirty-seven years old and the branch manager of the Rock Springs National Bank at Superior. He opened the branch office and years later closed it. It fell upon his shoulders to make the arrangements for Papa's burial.

From the obituary one might conclude there was an infant left behind but Josephine, the youngest, was nine years old. Arthur is named as a resident of Rock Springs. This is probably incorrect although it is possible that he returned for the funeral although we have no family record. Since feelings ran so high against him, it is more probable that he never even wrote the family.

We learn from his front page obituary, headed, "**Prominent Railroad Man's Life Ended**" that, Felix was, "a man of excellent habits and sturdy constitution...engaged in his duties as agent of the Union Pacific depot until within a few days of his demise. He met the conditions and situations of his position as agent always with courtesy. His temperament was quiet and his speech candid, his courtesy gaining the confidence and respect of those about him. In the death of Mr. Levesque the company loses one of its most valued employees and the city one of its staunchest citizens."

Records left in our care reveal that the *Richey Funeral Chapel* in Ogden, Utah embalmed the body at a cost of \$35. They also provided a suit of clothes, \$15; Black broad cloth casket, \$125; and an outside case, \$5. His body was sent to Rock Springs where J. F. McNulty received it. John McNulty's letterhead stated, "Undertaker and Embalmer, Flowers, Robes, and Hacks". His statement contains the following entries: Hearse 2, \$6; Hacks 4, \$12; Services \$10; Flower Wagon \$3. Richey's total bill was \$31.

Family and friends gathered at the Levesque home at 9:30 on the morning of Monday October 4th. They boarded the four hacks and proceeded to the Catholic church where Father John Delahunty officiated at the 10 o'clock Funeral Mass.

After the church service, the body was accompanied to the St. Joseph section of the Rock Springs Cemetery where the body of Felix was placed next to that of his first wife Caroline and his son Alphonse.

Woodmen of the World, Camp number 165, conducted the graveside service. Felix was a longtime member of this fraternal organization. Greeley Monument Works, in Greeley, Colorado shipped the grave marker Emma had ordered in February of the following year. The Woodmen of the World, "WOW" insignia is inscribed on

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warm colored grave stone which stands about five feet in height.

The Woodmen of the World Ritual on page 43 of the Joseph Scene reads, "We remember each other in hours of sickness and distress, and when death comes we place over each sleeping dust a monument bearing this inscription, *Dum tacet, clamat; Though silent he speaks*. May you prove yourself worthy of our love, honor and remembrance."

Our honored Ancestor Felix Levesque has spoken from his grave. Records of your life have revealed your secret!

In 1874, as you completed your employment application with the UPRR in Omaha, you used your *mother's maiden name*. You and your descendants became the LEVEQUE family in the United States while you were known in Canada by your *father's name* of DESCHENES.

Our last name is truly DESCHENES. Now **WE** too share the secret!

DESCENDANCY CHART

1-- Felix Deschesnes Miville LEVESQUE- (1847-1909)

First spouse:

Caroline COTE- (1841-1881)

2-- Francis Felix Arthur LEVESQUE- (1869-1938)

2-- Marie Antonette Eva LEVESQUE- (1870-1952)

sp-Frederick CARON- (1862-1934)

3-- Blanche CARON- (1905-1983)

sp-George DE RUE- (1899-1961)

4-- Francille DE RUE- (1926)

sp-Gerald BUE- (1925)

5-- Brian Gerald BUE- (1954)

sp-Pam WERDERKEHR- (1954)

5-- Douglas George BUE- (1956)

5-- Fredrick Joseph BUE- (1958)

sp-Kathleen PRATT- (1958)

5-- Robert Burton BUE- (1960)

5-- Bridget Marie BUE- (1962)

sp-Sheriff AHMED-246 (1962)

2-- Louis Horace LEVESQUE- (1872-1948)

sp-Margaret MC LAUGHLIN- (1872-1948)

3-- Elizabeth Rosa (Zella) LEVESQUE- (1902)

sp-John Patrick NAGLE- (1902)

4-- Patricia Joan NAGLE- (1931)

sp-William Laird GALLIGAN- (1930)

5-- Threse Joan GALLIGAN- (1954)

5-- Kathleen Marie GALLIGAN- (1956)

5-- John Glendon GALLIGAN- (1958)

5-- Elizabeth Ann GALLIGAN- (1959)

5-- Patricia Joanne GALLIGAN- (1961)

4-- Margaret Ellen NAGLE- (1933)

sp-Michael Patrick CORWIN- (1930)

5-- Michael Patrick CORWIN Jr.- (1960)

5-- Mary Katherine CORWIN- (1962)

5-- Joan Marguerite CORWIN- (1963)

4-- John Patrick NAGLE II- (1937)

sp-Myrna Lynn BALL-

5-- Laura Ann NAGLE- (1961)

5-- John Patrick NAGLE III- (1963)

4-- Mary Katherine NAGLE Sister N.D.- (1940)

3-- Louis LEVESQUE- (1904-1906)

3-- Helen Marie LEVESQUE- (1910-1912)

2-- Marie Albertine Rosanna LEVESQUE- (1874-1946)

sp-William Charles Clarkson FREEMAN M.D.- (1868-1922)

3-- Paul Deschnes Cobban FREEMAN- (1899)

sp-Frances LEARY- (1900-1962)

4-- Paul Michael FREEMAN- (1928)

sp-Patricia (FREEMAN)- (1929)

5-- Patrick FREEMAN- (1950)

5-- Paul FREEMAN- (1952)

5-- Michael FREEMAN- (1955)

4-- Barbara FREEMAN- (1929)

4-- Rose Frances FREEMAN- (1930-1949)

3-- Mary Frances Dorris FREEMAN- (1901-1906)

2-- Joseph Henry LEVESQUE- (1876-1958)

sp-Jenny Armstrong MOORE- (1875-1954)

DESCENDANCY CHART

1-- Felix Deschesnes Miville LEVESQUE- (1847-1909)

Second spouse:

Marie-Lozia Emma LETOURNEAU- (1866-1940)

2-- Felix LEVESQUE- (1890-1890)

2-- Eugene Albert LEVESQUE- (1891-1939)

sp-Florentine GOODWIN- (1896-1972)

3-- Norine Anne LEVESQUE- (1928-1981)

sp-Matthew VANDERTOL- (-1990)

4-- Mary Anne VANDERTOL- (1959)

sp-VITTI-

4-- Theodore Joseph VANDERTOL- (1961)

4-- Veronica VANDERTOL- (1964)

3-- Rose Mary LEVESQUE- (1929)

3-- John Thomas LEVESQUE- (1930-1989)

sp-Rose Marie FREESE- (1931)

4-- Susan LEVESQUE- (1951)

sp-Alan EDEN- (1947)

5-- Stephanie EDEN- (1978)

5-- David Lloyd EDEN- (1981)

4-- Katherine Ann LEVESQUE- (1952)

sp-William ALGER- (1953)

5-- Matthew ALGER- (1987)

5-- Lauren ALGER- (1988)

5-- Mark ALGER- (1990)

4-- John Philip LEVESQUE- (1953)

sp-Maria Rita BARRAGM- (1954)

5-- Rose Marie LEVESQUE- (1979)

5-- Veronica LEVESQUE- (1982)

5-- Deanna LEVESQUE- (1985)

5-- Mary Jean LEVESQUE- (1988)

4-- Jeanne LEVESQUE- (1955)

sp-Donald ELLIS- (1955)

5-- Eric ELLIS- (1974)

5-- Valerie ELLIS- (1979)

4-- Gerard LEVESQUE- (1956)

sp-Elicia KOESTIER "Ellie"- (1959)

5-- John Gerrit LEVESQUE- (1986)

5-- Jaclyn Marie LEVESQUE- (1988)

5-- Jared Thomas LEVESQUE- (1990)

4-- Sarah Jane LEVESQUE- (1958)

sp-Brian SCHLATTER- (1963)

5-- Breanna SCHLATTER- (1984)

5-- Amber SCHLATTER- (1986)

5-- Corrie SCHLATTER- (1988)

4-- Mary LEVESQUE- (1960)

sp-Joaquin OROSCO "Jack"- (1960)

5-- Jacob Thomas OROSCO- (1988)

4-- Jacqueline LEVESQUE- (1962-1962)

4-- Jo Ann Elizabeth LEVESQUE- (1966)

sp-Fernando CRUZ- (1966)

5-- Megan Elizabeth CRUZ- (1993)

5-- Christopher William CRUZ- (1994)

- 3- Florentine LEVESQUE- (1931)
- sp-Patrick LINDSAY- (1930)
 - 4- Joseph LINDSAY- (1957)
 - sp-Alyson BUDLONG- (1958)
 - 4- Thomas LINDSAY- (1958)
 - sp-Janet MORRISON- (1967)
 - 5- Rochelle LINDSAY- (1989)
 - 4- Diane LINDSAY- (1960)
 - sp-Kerry STONER- (1959)
 - 5- Justin STONER- (1984)
 - 5- Ryan STONER- (1986)
 - 5- Jessica Elaine STONER- (1991)
 - 4- Denise LINDSAY- (1961)
 - sp-Robert BLAKE- (1960)
 - 4- Ann Marie LINDSAY- (1962)
 - sp-Daniel Randolph WINSLOW- (1964)
 - 4- Timothy E. LINDSAY- (1963)
 - sp-Troylyn MACKAY- (1964)
 - 5- Timothy Patrick LINDSAY- (1992)
 - 4- Mary LINDSAY- (1965)
 - sp-Donald Howard REYNOLDS- (1961)
 - 5- Andrew REYNOLDS- (1990)
 - 4- Kelly Patrick LINDSAY- (1967)
 - sp-Tiffany Lynn LAUBIE- (1970)
 - 4- Patricia LINDSAY (twin)- (1971)
 - 4- Michael LINDSAY (twin)- (1971)
- 2- Philip Alphonse LEVESQUE- (1893-1913)
- 2- Charles Ambrose Washington LEVESQUE- (1895-1952)
- sp-Elsie H. SPITKO- (1891-1982)
 - 3- Margaret LEVESQUE "Peggy"- (1925)
 - sp-Eugene KNIGHT "Gene"- (1925)
 - 4- Eugene KNIGHT "Geno"- (1955)
- 2- William Raymond LEVESQUE- (1897-1955)
- sp-Florence Hazel HALLER- (1903-1984)
 - 3- Raymond LEVESQUE- (1930)
 - sp-Marianna Louisa LOMBARDO- (1926)
 - 4- Mary Katherine LEVESQUE "Mary Kay"- (1960)
 - sp-Michael Joseph JONES Doctor- (1961)
 - 4- Paul Joseph LEVESQUE, Ph.D. Rev.- (1962)
- 2- Marie Josephine LEVESQUE- (1900-1965)
- sp-James Everett DEATH- (1900-1964)
 - 3- Marie Louise DEATH- (1930)
 - sp-Harry Grover SUTTLE- (1928-1989)
 - 4- Adell SUTTLE- (1951)
 - sp-Rodolfo Coronado JUAREZ- (1949)
 - 5- Jeanette Elisa JUAREZ- (1975)
 - 6- Joseph Charles HUNINGTON-STUMPF- (1992)
 - 5- Michelle Marie JUAREZ- (1976)
 - 5- Christine Adell JUAREZ- (1979)
 - 6- Salina Blue JUAREZ- (1994)
 - 5- Valerie Vanessa JUAREZ- (1983)
 - sp-Jay SPRAY- (1906-1994)



The material presented in this booklet was researched and prepared by Ray Leveque, grandson of Felix Leveque. It is based upon documents and copies which are in my possession as well as conversation with my grandmother Emma and other members of the family.

Marie Louise [Death] Spray, granddaughter of Felix, generously contributed material and reviewed the content of this booklet.



Marie Louise "Domithilde" dit Lebel/Bel

Betty A. Lindsay #1425

email: blindsay@acmc.net

Marie Louise is the last ancestor whose parents I have been hunting for these past two decades. She is the last link I need to complete my ten-generation ancestral fan chart. What a maze of paperwork I have sifted through to research her origins. I collected many clues not discarding any. I started with the family tradition passed to me about her. The story was told concerning her granddaughter, Natalie **Ouellet** (Theodore **Ouellet** and Domithilde **Levesque**). It was said Natalie was part Indian of the Micmac tribe. The explanation for this story was due to her physical characteristics. She had straight black hair and Indian facial features. The fact was she kept this black hair even until her death at age 89. She also died with all her teeth in tact which is said to be another Indian trait. I used this information to begin my search with the theory she had been an adopted Indian maiden.

From my former research, I learned it was not uncommon for the name Marie Louise to be given as a baptismal name for adoptive babies into prominent families in Québec during unsettled times of Canadian history. The long search to prove this theory resulted in no facts for my Marie Louise. With no positive results after much searching, I decided to leave the Indian maiden search and to keep the story as mainly a theory of family tradition.

During my arduous search, I wrote many letters to genealogists, to genealogy societies, and to relatives. I spent many hours looking through numerous reels of microfilm. Any library collection I visited during my travels, or while working on specific research projects, always included looking for her. I finally acquired a copy of her marriage record and the records of her children's births, so I began to analyze the documents for commonality. It begins here:

1. At the time of her marriage in 1827, Louise was a *filles majeure* from the parish of St-Louis-de-Kamouraska. (She was not a minor, which made her birth sometime around 1800. Someone knew when she was born to give her this status)
2. Her marriage record to Lambert **Levesque** did not list any parents for her.
3. I had the names of two witnesses for her who were noted to be friends of the bride. What connection could they have to Louise?
4. Birth, death, and marriage records of their children had godparents and witnesses listed. Could they be relatives from her family?
5. Birth record of a *filles naturelle* named Marie Louise born 1798. Was this her?
6. Land records for Lambert **Levesque** in Rivière Ouelle & New Brunswick. Were the grantors and grantees relatives?
7. Microfilmed church records for Kamouraska, Rivière Ouelle, St-François, NB, St-Basile, NB.
8. Church records from St-Luce, Frenchville, ME.



Once I had her marriage record and those of her children born in Rivière Ouelle, I started looking for relationships with the people on these records. I found birth, marriage, and death records and placed related people together. A pattern began to point toward a certain family of Dominique **Levesque** & Angélique **Pelletier**. The issue that she was not listed with a surname became theorized that she was a *filles naturelle* and possibly raised by that family. But why did the name **Lebel/Bel** appear on some records and not on all?

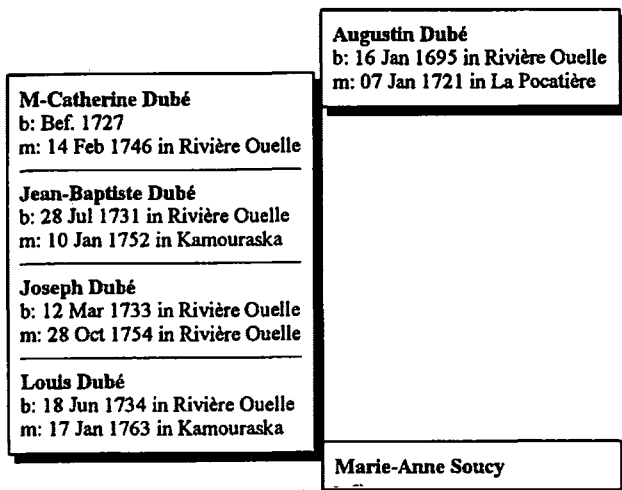
The puzzle just kept getting larger and more complicated as I collected more records. I wrote to genealogist Michael **Dumais** in 1993, with what I had collected and asked for his assistance. He found only one Marie Louise baptized April 3, 1798 in Rivière Ouelle, of unknown father and mother after searching records for the years 1790-1810. The godparents of this Marie Louise had some significant connections that follow. Aside from her, I had found two Marie Louise **Lebel** baptisms that took place in Kamouraska/Rivière Ouelle. I was able to eliminate these as possible relations by finding their parents through microfilmed baptism records and whom they married. The analysis that follows is what connections I make with this *filles naturelle* and my relative Marie Louise. We will adopt this woman as ours until proven otherwise.

Notre Dame de Liesse de la Rivière Ouelle

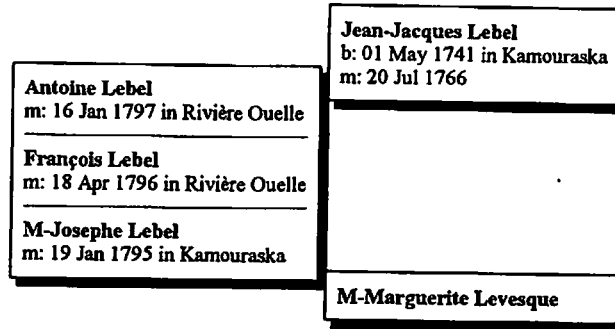
#36--birth of a Marie Louise Illégitime (translated from French). In the year 1798 on the 3rd of April, there was baptized Marie Louise by myself priest whose signature follows, after having been unofficially baptized at home, born yesterday of unknown parents. The godfather was Louis **Dubé** master joiner, carpenter, and the godmother, Marie Catherine **Hudon** dite **Beaulieu** wife of Charles **Levesque**, midwife in this parish she declared not being able to sign, certified, Father **Bernard**, priest.

This birth had a lot of information for the genealogist. The baby was baptized at home the day prior to the official one. Who's home? Of unknown parents? Not likely, this was a small community with one parish priest. He had to know who the parents were but could not list them because they were unwed or their marriage had not yet been blessed by a church wedding before this birth. Where he included so much information identifying the godparents, we begin with them to find the parents for Marie Louise.

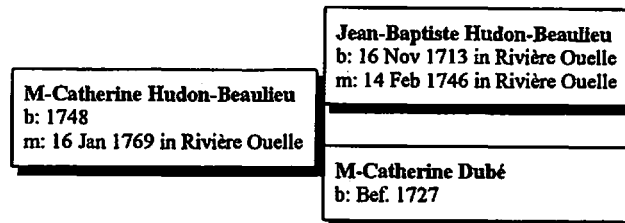
Godfather: Louis **Dubé**, the youngest son of Augustin **Dubé** and Marie Anne **Soucy**. His oldest sister Marie Catherine **Dubé** is the mother to Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu**, the midwife and godmother of our Marie Louise. Louis **Dubé** married Marie **Dionne** Jan 17, 1763, Riviere Ouelle. They had eleven children, two of their daughters married Lebel brothers from Kamouraska.



Marie Catherine **Dubé** (Louis and M-Anne **Dionne**) married Francois **Lebel** (Jean-Jacques **Lebel** and Marguerite **Levesque**) April 18, 1796 in Rivière Ouelle. Marie Anne **Dubé** (sister of M. Catherine) married Antoine **Lebel** (Jean-Jacques **Lebel** and Marguerite **Levesque**), Jan. 16, 1797 in Rivière Ouelle. We see these two marriages take place before the 1798 birth of Marie Louise. In plotting relationships, we find the two **Lebel** brothers, François and Antoine, are tied to the **Levesque** line into which Marie Louise marries, making them first cousins to Angélique **Pelletier** married to Dominique **Levesque**.



Next, we look at the godmother, Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu** b. 1748 to Jean-Baptiste **Hudon-Beaulieu** and Catherine **Dubé** the older sister of Louis **Dubé**, the godfather. She is married to Charles **Levesque** (Jean Baptiste **Levesque** and Josephte **Bérubé**), Jan 16, 1769 in Rivière Ouelle. Here we see another connection: Marie Louise's father-in-law, Benoit **Levesque** and Catherine's husband Charles, are first cousins.



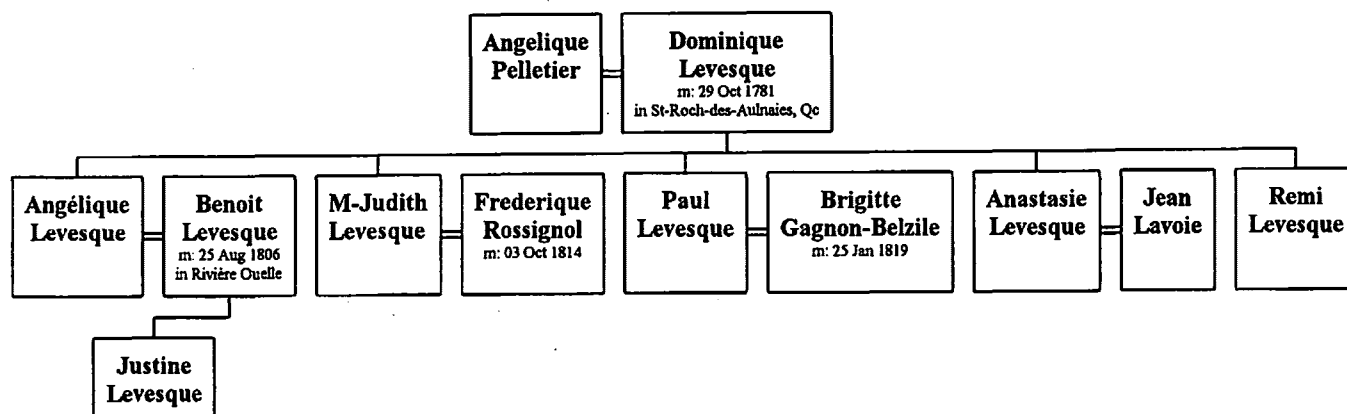
I now take you to the marriage record of Marie Louise to Lambert **Levesque** son of Benoit **Levesque** and Marie **Lebrun**. Her parents are not listed, she is not given a surname. The clues from this record lead to a Dominique **Levesque** and Angélique **Pelletier** of Kamouraska. Could they have been her adoptive parents? Could they be the connection for her also being referred to as Domithilde (daughter of Dominique)? Examination of this record implied the priest must have known who her birth parents were since he indicated she was of 'legal age' and he found 'no objection to this marriage' indicating that there was no close family genetic relationship. In order to state this for the record, he had to know her lineage.

Lambert b. Sept 28, 1796, witnesses were: His father Benoit, and his cousin Jean-Remi **Levesque**, son of Dominique **Levesque** & Angélique **Pelletier**. The same priest baptized Remi, Mar 10, 1798 one month before our *fille naturelle*.

Marie Louise's witnesses, noted as friends, were: 1. Frederique **Rossignol** married to Marie Judith **Levesque** (Dominique **Levesque** and Angélique **Pelletier**). 2. Jean **Lavoie** married to

land a few months later on June 12th, from Eloi **Levesque**. On June 10, 1828, Lambert sold a portion of his land to an Edouard **Gagnon dit Belzil**, shoemaker in Rivière Ouelle. This was a section of the land Lambert first bought in February of 1827. My attention was drawn to the dit **Belzil**, it reminded me of the dit **Bel** I had seen on one of Lambert's son's birth record. Could my Marie Louise be from this lineage? Had I been focusing in the wrong area? I had already seen numerous name spellings used for my paternal surname. Brothers and sisters from one family moving from one parish to another, sometimes even within the same community. The priests shortened, added and subtracted part of the surname Roy **Desjardins dit Lauzier**. Could this have happened with the **Gagnon dit Belzil**(Belles Isles) name? I began to look closely at the remaining land deeds.

On May 6, 1828, Lambert bought a portion of land from Jean **Terriault**, son of then deceased Jean **Terriault** and Marie Charlotte **Plourde**. Charlotte remarried Augustin **Gagnon Belzil** in May of 1797. The following month, Lambert acquired more land from this **Belzil** connection, this time more names are mentioned. Grantor's were Augustin **Gagnon**, (on this deed there was no **Belzil** noted to their names) Edouard **Gagnon** shoemaker, Misses Geneviève and Theotiste **Gagnon**, adult women of Rivière Ouelle. The original owner of the property was the now deceased Augustin **Gagnon**, their father. [They had a sister Bridgitte not mentioned on the deed who married Feb 1, 1836, a Paul **Levesque** son of Dominique and Angélique **Pelletier**.] This clue brought me back to my original theory that this family was a common link to Marie Louise's parents. The name spelling of dit **Lebel** and **Bel** became a minor issue compared to matching the peoples' commonality. I attribute the spelling changes to human error in longhand transcriptions at a time in history where the spelling of a person's name went more by the sound of it than the letters used in writing the name.

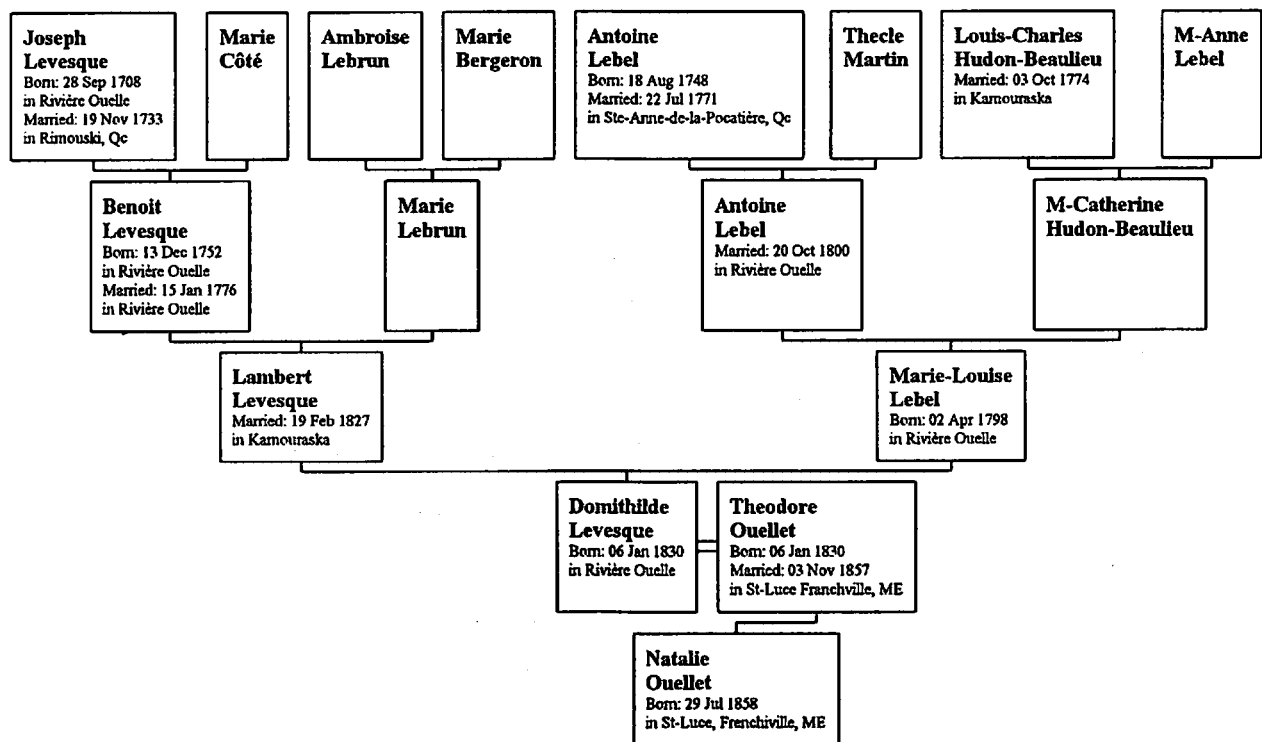


To leave no stone unturned, I decided to look at all the microfilmed Lebel birth, marriage and death records for the parishes of Kamouraska and Rivière Ouelle to see if I could find a brother or sister with Marie Louise as witness. I also printed the 1831 census for the two parishes to help check on family locations and professions of any **Lebels** living near Lambert & Louise. I also wanted to locate where their marriage witnesses and relatives lived in relation to each other. It was quite a chore.

I started by going through the index for Kamouraska records, there listed in 1827 for marriage #69 was Lambert **Levesque** & Louise *Illégitime*. I could not believe my eyes, it confirmed she was a *filie naturelle*. I had originally looked for their marriage record from a printed church repertoire, thus, had not looked them up on the church microfilmed index. It had not been necessary in finding the marriage record but look what I missed by not looking there first.

Searching the microfilm, I looked at witnesses to **Lebel, Levesque**, even **Lavoie & Rossignol** events to cover the witnesses at her marriage. I did not find any new significant clues. The census showed the physical location of the family but, no new data that linked my Marie Louise to a specific **Lebel** or **Belzil** family. Lambert and Louise were living in the area of the **Levesque** family homestead in Rivière Ouelle with 21 other **Levesque** families close by as neighbors. Lambert was a cultivator who rented part of his home to the gristmill owner Jean **Tardif**.

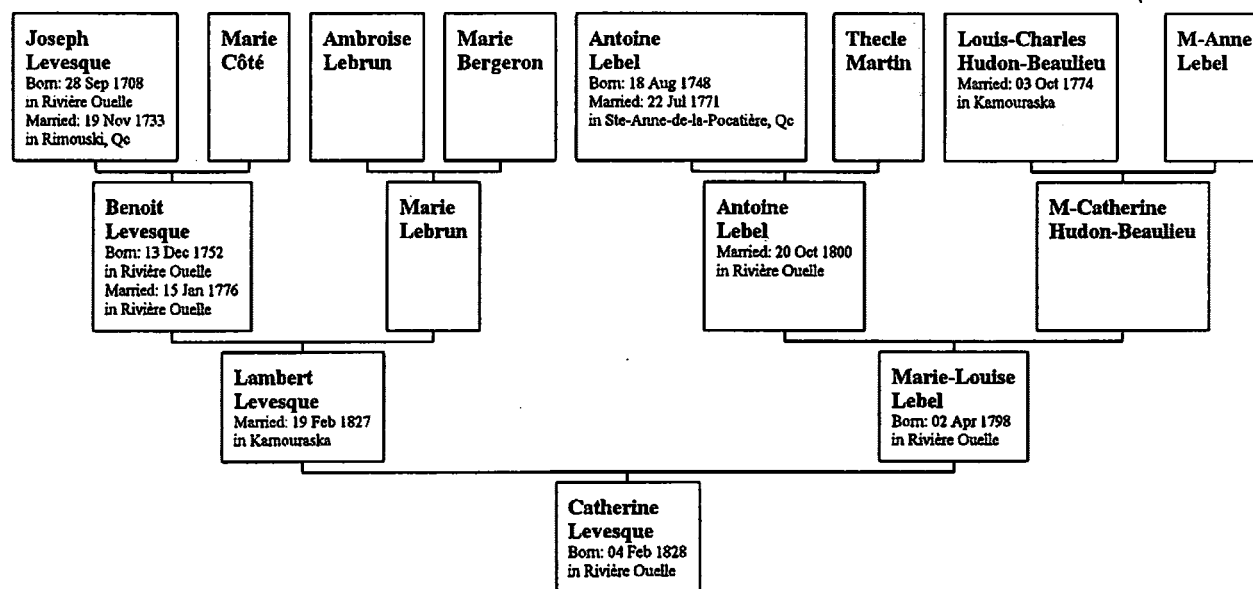
By 1839, Lambert moved to New Brunswick and became part of the land rush that occurred during the Webster-Ashburton Treaty era. He acquired 101 acres, lot #70 located in Baker Brook next to Alexandre and George **Ouellet**. This is the same **Ouellet** family that Domithilde **Levesque**, daughter of Lambert & Louise, married into - Theodore **Ouellet**, son of Alexandre **Ouellet**. Lambert (father) was buried in St-François, NB March 15, 1874. No mention of his widow, Marie Louise, was on the death record. That lead me to the conclusion she had already died. I have still not been able to locate her death record.



At long last, I decided to conclude my research and evaluate my findings. I found the family relations overwhelmingly pointed to direct relatives of the family or children of the family namely Dominique **Levesque** and Angélique **Pelletier**, the common thread which led to one **Lebel** family: Jean **Lebel** + Marie Jeanne **Dupère** m. January 7 1733, Rivière Ouelle. This family lived in Kamouraska and had 10 children, three of their children relate to the facts found in the records for my Marie Louise.

1. Marie Madeleine **Lebel** married Pierre **Pelletier**; their daughter Angélique married Dominique **Levesque**.
Births and marriages of children from Angélique and Dominique kept recurring within Lambert & Marie Louise's life.
2. Jean Jacques **Lebel** married Marie Marguerite **Levesque**.
Their sons François and Antoine married Catherine and Anne **Dubé** daughter of Louis **Dubé**, godfather of Marie Louise, *filie naturelle*.

3. Antoine **Lebel**, youngest son, b. Aug 18, 1748, married Thecle **Martin**. Their son Antoine **Lebel** married Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu** in 1800 at Rivière Ouelle. She was godmother to our Marie Catherine **Levesque**, first born child of Lambert and Louise. Also, it is evident she was the namesake for the child but is it as her grandmother? We can only speculate.



It could have been a possible occurrence that Antoine **Lebel** Sr. went to his brother, Jean Jacques for help with the baptism of the *filie naturelle*, Marie Louise, in 1798. Louis **Dubé** was a family relation for Jean Jacques through the marriage of his two sons to Louis **Dubé**'s daughters [see #2 above]. Louis was a respected master joiner craftsman in the community so able to help his daughters' father-in-law, Jean Jacques **Lebel**. Louis **Dubé**'s niece, Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu** was a midwife in the parish. Louis had two unmarried daughters at home so he could empathize with the father's plight

Rivière Ouelle and Kamouraska were farming communities that included some fishing trade and boat commerce. The majority of the inhabitants were farmers. It was unusual to see three shoemakers with family ties to Lambert and Marie Louise, since this was a trade usually apprenticed through a father to son or relative. Catherine **Hudon**'s sister Marie Louise married a shoemaker, Regis **Garon**. Lambert's brother André was a shoemaker. Could this be how Lambert and Marie Louise were introduced? Could this family be why Lambert and the **Gagnon-Belzil**'s had land contracts? I thought this trade/profession was an important factor to consider.

Antoine **Lebel** and Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu** married after April 1798 the date Marie Louise, *filie naturelle* was born. Could they be her parents? Angélique **Pelletier** was Antoine's aunt and it is evident she and Dominique **Levesque** were a great part of Marie Louise's life as seen by the family records that connect them.

In final conclusion of this research, I feel comfortable stating that this *filie natuerlle*, Marie Louise, came from members of the Jean **Lebel** and Marie Jeanne **Dupère** family. To say positively that Antoine **Lebel** and Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu** were the parents of Marie Louise, *filie naturelle*, would not be accurate without the birth record noting them as parents. The likelihood that it was they, however, is quite good.

LEBEL

- I. **LEBEL**, Nicolas of d'Ile-ville-sur-Montfort, Rouen, Normandie, France
son of (Clément **Lebel** & Françoise **Lagnel**)
1m. **Drouin**, Marie (Robert **Drouin** & Marie **Chapelier**)
Nov 28, 1662, Château-Richer, Québec (ct. Nov 27 **Aubert**)
Marie drowned May 2nd 1664 in la Rivière aux Chiens, Qué
2nd m. **Mignault**, Thérèse (Jean **Michaud** & Louise **Cloutier**)
April 2, 1665, Château-Richer, Québec (ct. Mar 29 **Aubert**)
(Children: Jean, Angélique, NICOLAS, Joseph)
- II. **LEBEL**, Nicolas (1675-1699) resident of Kamouraska
m. **Michaud**, Marie Madeleine (Pierre **Michaud** & Marie **Ancelin**)
Aug 23, 1707, Rivière Ouelle, Québec
(children: JEAN-BAPTISTE, Joseph, Nicolas)
- III. **LEBEL**, Jean Baptiste bapt. Oct 7, 1708 Rivière Ouelle of Kamouraska
m. **Dupere-Larivière**, Jeanne Marie Anne (Michel **Dupère-Larivière** & Marie Anne **Dancosse**)
Jan 7, 1733 Rivière Ouelle, Que
(children: MARIE MADELEINE, Marie Rosalie, Marie Jeanne, Marie Josephe, Marie Angélique, JEAN-JACQUES, François Toussaint, Honoré Michel, Marie Louise, ANTOINE)
[Marie Madeleine m. Pierre **Pelletier** (Charles **Pelletier** & Barbe **St-Pierre**)]
June 27, 1757 Kamouraska
Parents of Angélique **Pelletier** who married Dominique **Levesque**.
Pierre **Pelletier**, brother to Rosalie **Pelletier** m. to Joseph **Martin**

[Jean-Jacques m. Marie Marguerite **Levesque** (François **Levesque** & Marguerite **Gueret-Dumont**)] July 7, 1766, Québec
Their sons married two daughters of Louis **Dubé** & Marie Anne **Dionne**:
Antoine **Lebel** m. Marie Anne **Dubé** Jan 16, 1797 Rivière Ouelle
François **Lebel** m. Marie Catherine **Dubé** April 18, 1796 Rivière Ouelle
- IV. **LEBEL**, Antoine baptized August 18, 1748 Kamouraska
m. **Martin**, Marie Therese "Thecle" (Joseph **Martin** & Rosalie **Pelletier**)
July 22, 1771, St-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, Québec
(children: ANTOINE, Joseph, Jean-Baptiste)
- V. **LEBEL**, Antoine (Kamouraska) and Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu** (Louis-Charles **Hudon-Beaulieu** & Marie Anne **Lebel**)
m. Oct 20, 1800 Rivière Ouelle
- VI. Marie Louise, *fille naturelle* b. April 3, 1798 Rivière Ouelle
m. Lambert **Levesque** Feb. 19, 1827 Kamouraska

LEVESQUE

- I. **LEVESQUE**, Robert of Saint-Sulpice, Rouen, France son of Pierre **Levesque** & Marie **Caumont** married Jeanne **Chevalier** (Jean **Chevalier** & Marguerite **Romain**) on April 22, 1679 at L'Ange-Gardien, Québec
(children: FRANCOIS-ROBERT, Pierre-Joachim, Joseph, Jean-Baptiste, Marie Anne)
- II. **LEVESQUE**, Francois Robert
m. **Aubert**, Marie Charlotte (Felix **Aubert** & Claire-Francoise **Thibault**)
Nov 7, 1701 Rivière Ouelle
(children: Marie-Jeanne, François-Robert, Bernard, Marie-Ursule, JOSEPH, Marie-Madeleine, Jean-Baptiste, Marguerite, André, Jean-Bernard, Louis, Dominique)
[Dominique **Levesque** m. Marie Dorothee **Bérubé** (Pierre **Bérubé** & Marie Geneviève **Dancosse**)
Their son, Dominique, married and produced the links to my Marie Louise: Dominique **Levesque** m. **Pelletier**, Angélique (Pierre **Pelletier** & Marie Madeleine **Lebel**) Oct 29, 1781 St. Roch-des-Aulnaies, Qué.
(children: Dominique, Benoit, Angélique, Anastasie(1790), Zacharie, Marie Judith, Paul, Anastasie(1796), Jean François, Hyacinthe, Apolline, Marie)
 1. Angélique m. Aug 25, 1806 Rivière Ouelle, Lambert's brother Benoit **Levesque**
 2. Marie Judith m. Oct 3, 1814 Frederique **Rossignol** witness for Marie Louise, *fille naturelle*.
 3. Paul m. Jan 25, 1819 Brigitte **Gagnon-Belzile** grantor family of Lambert's land.
 4. Anastasie m. Jean **Lavoie** witness for Marie Louise, *fille naturelle*.
 5. Marie Madeleine **Lebel** is the sister to Antoine **Lebel**, father of Antoine **Lebel** who married Marie Catherine **Hudon-Beaulieu**
- III. **LEVESQUE**, Joseph (Sept 28, 1708-June 30, 1785) Rivière Ouelle
m. **Côté**, Marie (Jean-Baptiste **Côté** & Françoise **Choret**)
Nov 19, 1733 Rimouski, Qué
(children: Charles-François, Jean-François, Joseph-François, Jean-Baptiste, Dominique, François, Pierre, Marie Josephte, François Marie, Louis, BENOIT, Theresa, Madeleine, Ignace)
- IV. **LEVESQUE**, Benoit Dec 13, 1752-May 10, 1838 Rivière Ouelle
m. **Lebrun**, Marie, Acadian refugee (Ambroise **LeBrun** & Marie **Bergeron**)
Jan 15, 1776 Rivière Ouelle
(children: Marie Josephte, Véronique, Charlotte, Benoit, Jean-Toussaint, Louis, Marie Josephte, Julie, Marie Angélique, Anastasie, André, Jean François, Marie Angélique, LAMBERT, Jean-André, Jean-Rémi)
- V. **LEVESQUE**, Lambert m. Marie Louise, *fille naturelle* Feb 19, 1827, Kamouraska
(children: Marie Catherine, Jean-Bruno, DOMITHILDE, Lambert, André, Marie Eleanore)
- VI. **LEVESQUE**, Domithilde + Remi **Lavoie** (Jean Roc **Lavoie** & Adelaide **Plourde**)
1st m. Feb 2, 1847, Ste-Luce, Frenchville, ME
children: Marie **Lavoie** b. May 4, 1852 baptized at Ste-Luce.
Marie Demarise **Lavoie** (Damdrie misspelled in record) June 14, 1850 baptized at Ste-Luce, Frenchville, ME; her godmother was Louise **Lebel**.

Jean Remi **Lavoie** died age 29 Feb 4, 1854 buried Ste-Luce
2nd m. Theodore Ouellet (Alexandre **Ouellet** & Marie Anne **LaPlante**)
Nov 3, 1857 Ste-Luce, Frenchville, ME
They lived in St-François, Madawaska County, NB, Canada
children: Olive, NATHALIE, Marie Emelie, Theodore, Narcisse, Marie Anne, Julie

- VII. **OUELLET**, Natalie b. July 29, 1858, St.Luce, Frenchville, ME; d. 16 Apr 1947, Crocket [Clair], NB married Pierre-Eloi **Boucher** (Pierre **Boucher** & Philomene **Soucy**) b. Nov 17, 1859 St-Modeste, Rivière-du-Loup on Oct 17 1881, in St-Francois-Xavier, St-François, NB, Pierre-Eloi d. Mar 19, 1899 Claire, St-François, NB.

SOURCES:

Jetté, René; *Dictionnaire Généalogique des Families du Québec des Origins à 1730*.
Tanguay Cyprian; *Dictionnaire Généalogique de Familles Canadiennes*
P.R.D.H. Data Base,
www.genealogy.umontreal.ca

Family Tree Maker CD's and Archives

Church Repertoires/Genealogies: Notre-Dame-de-Liesse, Rivière Ouelle by Michaud & Proulx; St. Luce, Frenchville, ME by Cyr; St-Louis-de-Kamouraska by Jean-Guy **Roy** & Michel Beaulieu; Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière; Marriages of the Edmundston, NB Diocese, by Langlois.

Microfilmed Church Repertoires: Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière; Notre-Dame-de-Liesse-Rivière Ouelle; St-Louis-de-Kamouraska; St. Basile; St-Francois-Xavier; St-Francois, NB; St-Francois d'Assie-Clair, NB; St-Thomas-d'Aquin, Lac Baker; St-Jacques N.B.; St. Bruno, Van Buren, ME; St-Hilaire; St-Jean Baptiste-I'le Verte; St-Modeste-Cacuna; St-Epiphanie-Rivière-du-Loup.

Census Quebec 1831, 1851: Rivière Ouelle, Kamouraska; New Brunswick, Madawaska County 1861, 1871, 1891

Notarial records: Pierre **Garon**(1826-29); Thomas **Cassault**(1824-1828); Louis **Cazes** (1796-1798); Bernard **DuBerses** (1799-1800); Augustin **Dionne** (1797-1807); Joseph **Ouellet** (1825-1830);

Joseph **deGuise** (1805-1808).

Genealogical Societies: Société-de-Généalogie de Québec; Société Historique-de-la-Côte-du-Sud; American-Canadian Genealogical Society; New Brunswick Genealogical Society; St. Francois Genealogical Society.

Archives/Library Collections: Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, Fredericton; U.N.B. Library Fredericton & Edmundston; Dalhousie University Library, Acadia University Library, Wolfville, N.S.; Archives, Halifax, NS; *Salle Gagnon*, Montréal; ACGS Manchester, NH; Madawaska Historical Society; Vital Statistics N.B. & Maine; *Centre d'Etude Acadienne*, Moncton, NB; *Archives Nationales du Québec*, Montréal.

Genealogy Books: *Robert Levesque & Jeanne Chevalier Descendants* by Fernand & Marie-Ange **Levesque**; *Ouellet Genealogy*, by Linda **Dubé**; *Les Michaud Poitevin Au Canada* by Françoise Michaud **Dufresne**; *Repertoire Généalogique des Descendants d'André Levesque et d'Angélique Ouellette* by **Poitras**, Leo & Jean-Guy; New Brunswick Directory 1867-68, by Bird.

Genealogists/Correspondents: Michel **Dumais**; N.B. Indian Union, Joe **Knockwood**; Québec Indian Association; ACGS team Gerry **LaLonde**, Pauline **Cusson** & Larry **Autotte**, Stephen **White**, Leon **Guimond**.

Book Reviews

Pauline Cusson #2572

[Ed. Note: Not all of the books reviewed below will be put on the shelves in our library. Some are not relevant to genealogical research, however, in order to continue receiving those books that are relevant to us, a review is required by the publishers.]

Title: *Barrington, New Hampshire Vital Records*

Author: Richard P. Roberts

Publisher: Heritage Books, Inc. 1540-E Pointer Ridge Pl., Bowie, MD 20716
Heritagebooks.com

Price: \$47.00 plus \$4. shipping & handling. 1-800-398-7709

The fifth collection of genealogical abstracts culled from the annual Town Reports of New Hampshire towns by Richard P. Roberts. This volume presents the vital records of the town of Barrington, in the vicinity of Dover, Portsmouth and New Hampshire's border with Maine. These records are a valuable source of information concerning people and events post-1886; the quantity and type of data presented vary considerably from entry to entry, with older entries generally providing greater detail.

Birth information can include: child's name, date and place of birth; father's name, place of birth, age and occupation; mother's maiden name, place of birth, age and occupation; number of children and residence if other than Barrington.

Marriage information can include: name, age, place of birth, place of residence and occupation for the bride, the groom and the parents of both parties, with date and place of marriage.

Death information can include: name of the deceased, date and place of death, cause of death, age at time of death, marital status, residence and parents' names and places of birth. Entries are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Title: *The Writer's Guide to Everyday Life in Renaissance England*

Author: Kathy Lynn Emerson

Publisher: F&W Publications, Inc., 1507 Dana Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45207

Details: Hardcover; 280 pages \$18.99

This book is a telescope through time. The author takes you to 1485-1649 England, to show you how people lived.

You'll discover: fashions of the day; what people ate, table customs, etc.; family life - the elaborate customs of courtship and marriage, the problems of infidelity; what the Royal Court was like; the litigious society that was Renaissance England; work, food and discomfort of seafarers; causes for celebration; life in the cities and the rural areas, and much more.

A treasury of specifics, a beginning point for further research, and idea starter. Use this book and set your work securely in time and place.

Title: *The Writer's Guide To Everyday Life in Colonial America*

Author: Dale Taylor

Publisher: F&W Publications, Inc., 1507 Dana Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45207

Details: Soft Cover; 296 pages \$14.99 (CAN \$22.99)

With this book, you'll understand all the events - from inconsequential to major - that framed Colonial American life... existing under England's dominion, clashing with the Native Americans, and finally tearing away from the mother country. Details are what bring a story to life. And when it comes to everyday life in Colonial America, you'll find practically all