

The French in Texas

the Records Division. Third Class Grants were given to any man who came to the Republic between 1 October 1837 and 1 January 1840. For more details on the various headright classes, and other records available at the General Land Office of Texas, there are two very important, and free, pieces of literature to aid those wishing to research (in person or by mail) land office records: *Guide to Genealogy and Imprints on Texas History: An Annotated Bibliography of General Land Office Publications (1836-1975)*. Write to the General Land Office, Austin, Texas 78701.

By law, Texas had been a Roman Catholic province under Spanish and Mexican rule. Texans rejected the idea of an official religion, and there was a strong tide against Catholicism because of its governmental association. It was French interest and French money that ultimately restored a badly demoralized Catholic Church in Texas, which was placed under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The Catholic Archives, 1600 Congress Avenue, Austin 78801, has files of legal claims, surveys, etc. Two printed resources for church records are Carlos Eduardo Castaneda's seven volume *Our Catholic Heritage in Texas* and *Lone Star Vanguard, The Catholic Re-Occupation of Texas 1838-1848* by Ralph Bayard. The Catholic Historical Society at 3812 Lafayette, Fort Worth, Texas 76107 will also be of help.

Texas is very proud of its Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio. A unique concept established in 1967, the Institute continues to gather and present information on the peoples of Texas. One of a series of books on the many kinds of people who have contributed to the history and heritage of Texas is *The French in Texas*, available from the Institute at P.O. Box 1226, San Antonio 78294. One may also make mail inquiries about the material in the Institute's research files, its traveling exhibits, etc.; a field trip to the Institute will result in an unusual opportunity to view the Texans of more than 26 national and ethnic origins.

There are, of course, many other sources not mentioned here-- books, periodicals, libraries, societies. We hope that this will serve as a basis only for research on the French ancestry of Texans.

THE STATE ARCHIVES
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

REY
FAM

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

The Reno-Reneau-Reynaud Family of France

by Dollye McAlister Elliott, FAS/hc

From at least the 15th century*, we find Reynauds settled in England and it is probable that members of the family were there prior to that century. Many of them left France during the persecution of the Huguenots, many of them left, also, undoubtedly, for the same reasons that other people emigrate: trade, new horizons, escape from the past.

The search in France for the Reynauds who were Huguenots is complicated by the fact that, during the persecutions, Protestant records were burned by the authorities in public bonfires, and whatever records of births, deaths, marriages were kept by those practicing the Protestant faith had to be kept secretly and hidden. Thus, one cannot today go to a county record office and find the complete records of these Huguenots. But all branches of the family were not Huguenot, and the records of those branches are relatively complete.

On 25 March 1688, King James II of England granted Denization, which later became Naturalization, to Lewis Reynaud, Anne, his wife, Francis, Lewis, Mary, and Sara Reynaud, their children, and to Benjamin Reynaud and Mary, his wife, and their children Marianne and Mary, along with one John de la Chaumette, Huguenots. I can trace Lewis and Anne and their son Lewis, as the line is mine. But there were also Renos, for thus their name became Anglicized, in North Carolina and in Pennsylvania during the 18th century. Many of the Reynauds-Renos later changed the spelling of their names to "Reneau", probably in an attempt to recapture a part of their French heritage. There were many Reneaus in London during the latter part of the 17th century and there are many Reno/Reneau families today in both England and the United States and Canada.

In the Bounty Papers of King James II, we again find the names of Lewis Reynaud "of Angoumois", Anne, his wife, and his children and the statement that they are going "to Virginia". (See "Nicholas Hayward of London and the Huguenot Emigration to Virginia" in *The Colonial Genealogist* IX:2:58-62, The Augustan Society, Inc., 1978.) (For the Reneau/Reno line in the U.S.A., see "Reneau/Reno of Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky"[line of Lewis Reno, who settled in Virginia before 1700] in *The Colonial Genealogist* IV:4:226-235.) The clue "of

*Will of Jan Reynaud, Burgess, in the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London.



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Angoumois" is the first clue family researchers had had as to the origins in France of the family. Angoumois is in Poitou and I have found and translated the following:

Rignaud or Regnault

H. Beauchet-Filleau, *Dictionnaire Historique et Généalogique des Familles de l'Ancien Poitou*. (Poitiers: Dupré, 1840-54), vol. II.

"Regnaud or Regnault. We have adopted the chief spelling in compiling this article.

Many families of this name lived and yet live in Poitou, but we do not suppose that they had the same origin. Those we deal with here lived in the confines of Angoumois and of Poitou. We think that they had as cradle, in the olden times, the old chateau Regnaud, of which only the ruins remain on a little hill which rises above the Charente in the commune of Fontenilles, two leagues from Mansle. Our opinion is in some measure justified by the proximity of Villognon, which is no farther than three leagues, and that last Seigneurie is the oldest one which qualifies the chief personages of that family we have found and which was transmitted to the Chergé family.

That family, whose nobility has been established for all times, has supplied so many branches that it is only by vigorous research that we have been able to establish the following lines. We have not received any information or communications on the branches of the Soudière, or Taponet, and of la Tourette.

The chief line is actually represented by François-Gabriel, who married Demoiselle Marie-Catherine-Delphine de Nesmond, daughter of François-Hélène, Chevalier de St. Louis, and Marie-Louise le Comte de Theil, by whom [he had]: (1) François-Hélène-Alexandrine, deceased wife of M. Jean-Baptiste-Gustave de Gigou; (2) N., son. He lived in the chateau of St. Marit in Angoumois.

The branch of Taponat, near la Rouchefoucauld, became extinct in the person of Marie-Thérèse, died at Angoulême in 1843, aged 83 years [born circa 1760], wife of Florence Guttierrez-Cordova, Spaniard, leaving a son of this union.

MM. Horric de Villognon, near Mansle, descended from the branch of la Tourette.

We are obliged in large part to the documents and original deeds which established the following genealogy, to the obligingness of M. le baron de Magne and of M. Frédéric de Chergé, whose family had many alliances with it.

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Isolated Names

Guillaume Regnaud, Sieur de la Soudière, shares with Jourdain Boeuf, valet, husband of Pétronelle Regnaud, and another Pétronille Regnaud, the late inheritances of Constantin Regnaud, valet, father of the said Pétronille and of the late Guillaume Regnaud, valet, brother of the said Constantin, and father of Guillaume, 23 September 1290.

Foulques Regnaud, Ec., is witness of an act passed by the religieux of Nanteuil, 24 September 1432.

Hélye Regnaud, surnamed Poitou, King's herald, enjoying the rights of the provost ordinaire of the town of Niort in 1467; he had them all his life.

Jehan [John] Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, married, 25 October 1513, Antoinette de Fontlebon, daughter of Pierre, Ec., Seigneur of the said place, by whom he had Pierre, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon en partie. Jehan was dead before the 1st of September 1528.

Belin Regnaud, nobleman, Seigneur d'Ambernac, purchased a piece of land in 1528.

Marguerite Regnaud married 20 October 1528, Louis de Barbezières, Ec., Seigneur de Montigné.

Marie Regnaud married, in 1598, Jacques de Vessac, Ec., Seigneur de la Forest.

Jean [John] Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Rancogne, assisted [attended] 4 August 1612, at the marriage of Jean Babin, lawyer in the parlement, and Susanne Chalmot.

Samuel Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de la Boixière, assisted, 18 February 1613, at the marriage of Jean de Ferré.

Charles Regnaud, tonsured clerk [monk], novice religieux of the abbey of Nanteuil, took possession of two offices of almoner in the said abbey, 11 October 1653.

Théodore Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villeneuve et de Poursac, rendered confession to the abbey of Nanteuil-en-Valleé, 18 May 1656 [gave avowal].

Marie Regnaud was, about 1674, the wife of Louis de Villedon, Ec.

Catherine Regnaud married Antoine de la Porte du Theil, Ec., Seigneur du Theil-Aux-Servants, and entered an agreement, 16 July 1675, with Pierre Regnaud, Sieur de la Touche-Barreau, and Renée Garestier, his wife.

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Pierre Regnaud, above-mentioned, possessed at the same period, the noble farm house and mill of Treneau.

Jacques [James] Regnaud, Seigneur de Lamberlière. Marguerite Bonnin, who was his widow, was maintained nobly by [fut maintenue noble] M. Barentin [this phrase runs through this entire article, and it is idiom-atic, but I do not know precisely what it means; apparently it has to do with probating wills], 31 August 1667, as did

Robert Regnaud, Seigneur de la Robinière,
Françoise Regnaud,

Samuel Regnaud, Seigneur de Beauregard, and
Pierre Regnaud, Seigneur de Beaupuy. The last had his arms inscribed in l'Armorial de Poitou. These are the same that are carried by the branches du Repaire, de Villognon, du Maslandry, and de Fontaines.

Pierre Regnaud, Ec., Siegneur de L'Age-Bertrand, gave homage to the King at his château of Chemerault, Psse de Limalonges, 4 May 1676.

Nicolas Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Saleure, living 5 September 1676.

Henri Regnaud, Sieur de la Borde, was present [witness] to a deed executed 1 February 1724, by diverse members of the family de Montfre-boeuf.

Marie Regnaud married, 25 October 1758, Philippe de Chergé, Ec., Seig-neur de Villognon, her kinsman, as son of another Marie Regnaud, and died 3 May 1750 [sic] leaving numerous posterity.

Marie-Françoise Regnaud was, 1 August 1759, married to Jean-Charles-Joseph Garnier, Ec., Seigneur de la Coussière.

A. Regnaud, Branch of de Massignac and du Repaire

- I. Yvois Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, had, by Jeanne Regnaud, his wife,
- II. Fouquet Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, Brizay, Etc., married 11 September 1441, Jeanne Tizon, who brought to him the land of Massignac; she was his widow and gave homage 13 March 1461. Their children were:
 - (A) Jean, who follows;
 - (B) Christophe, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, who entered an agree-ment 20 June 1469 with his mother and married, 23 January 1472, Marguerite du Theil. On 23 March 1473, he entered an agreement with Foucaud du Theil, Ec., Seigneur de Joussé.
- III. Jean Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon et de Massignac, mar-ried, according to a genealogy note, Gilberte Jourbert, daughter of Jean, Ec., Seigneur de Nieuil. We see it agrees, 26 Septem-ber 1482, as wife of Jeanne de Noulet, with Mathurin and Marie de Naulet; perhaps she married twice. One knows him by his son Nicholas.

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- IV. Nicolas Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, Massignac, etc., who entered an agreemtn, 3 October 1509, with Mouton de Crux, Ec. his father-in-law [also means step-father], received a concession of fiefs of the monks and religieux of Charroux, who gave him the investiture, and received from him the wished-for homage, the 11th and 24th November 1525; he was condemned, 14 September 1545, by the seneschal de la Marche, to serve with l'arrière-ban [calling up of the king's vassals] or to see his house seized. Nicholas had married, 20 June 1509, Marguerite de Crux, daughter of Mouton, Ec., Seigneur of said place and de Brioux. They had a son,
- V. François Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, Massignac, etc., who with Jeanne Regnaud, daughter of François, Ec., Seigneur d'Ambernac, had sons:
- (A) Philippe, who follows;
- (B) Hélye, reported in lineage B, following.
- VI. Philippe Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, Massignac, was admitted, 27 January 1574, as archer in the company of M. de la Vauguyon, at Civray, was married, 28 November 1564, to Anne de Barbarin, daughter of Jacques, Ec., Seigneur de Chambon, and was father of:
- (A) Isaac, who follows;
- (B) Pierre, died before 1611;
- (C) another Pierre;
- (D) Samuel;
- (E) N., wife of Jacques de Couhé, Ec., Seigneur de la Mothe, who all shared, 10 October 1611, in the inheritance of Pierre, their deceased brother.
- VII. Isaac Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Massignac, sold, 26 February 1629, his house and seigneurie of Villognon to Sieur de la Simonie. He had married, 16 March 1601, Marie Eschallard, daughter of Jacques, Ec., Seigneur de Chastillon, and of Françoise Eschallard, his wife, by whom he had:
- (A) Paul, who follows;
- (B) Françoise, married to Elie de Pons, Ec., who shared with his brother-in-law the inheritance of said Isaac, 2 June 1636.
- VIII. Paul Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Massignac et de la Renaudie, rendered avowal to the abbey of Charroux 7 July 1631 and 11 July 1638. He had married, 2 July 1628, Marie de Salignac de la Mothe-Fénélon, and was father of
- IX. René Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Massignac et de la Renaudie, was [?] nobly protected by M. Barentin, 1 September 1667, married 3 February 1650 to Elisabeth Troty de la Chetardie, daughter of N. and Anne de Polignac; he had:
- (A) René, died with the army;
- (B) Nicolas, who follows;
- (C) Philippe, died in the service.
- X. Nicolas Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Massignac, du Repaire, baron de la Châtre, entered the service of the king at an early age, was lieutenant with the regiment of Bourbon in 1687, passed with

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the same grade in the regiment of Garge (15 June 1687), captain (29 June 1687), Lieutenant-Colonel with the regiment of l'Aigle (3 October 1697); François de la Chetardie, his uncle, ceded him the regiment of Beauce, 5 February 1703, of which he was named colonel and obtained the brevet of a pension of 1,000 livres in 1705. He was chevalier of St. Louis and served 42 years with distinction. Nicholas died 8 July 1734, leaving by Jeanne de Curzay, his wife, daughter of Jacques, Ec., Seigneur de Villers det St. André, and of Marie de Montlevain, whom he had married 4 January 1711:

(A) Jean, born 7 September 1717, died an old captain with the regiment of la Marche, infantry, 2 June 1793. He was a bachelor;

(B) Jeanne, married 31 October 1731 to Pierre Guiot, Ec., Seigneur de la Lande, to whom she carried the lands of du Repaire, Massignac, etc.

(C) Elisabeth, born 2 February 1749 [?], and married to Emmanuel de Salignac, Seigneur du Pavillon, Chevalier of St. Louis, etc.;

(D) Marie, born 6 March 1722, married 9 May 1746, Pierre de Magne, Seigneur de Joussé, Chevalier de St. Louis, died 5 February 1781.

B. Regnaud, Branch of Maslandry and de Fontaines

VI. Hélye Regnaud, younger son of François and Jeanne Regnaud, reported at V of lineage A. above, Ec., Seigneur de Massignac, et des Arcaillz, made divers acquisitions of lands, 27 June and 25 July 1577, 8 May 1580, 6 December 1582, 8 May 1587, and 21 March 1591 was supported in his noblesse, as seen by his deeds, 22 October 1598, by the deputy commissioners. Married 25 June 1581, to Susanne Barbarin, by whom he had:

(A) Pierre, who follows;

(B) Fiacre, Ec., Sieur de Lindonne, married François Pasqualt, who was his widow on 22 February 1657 and shared his inheritance with his children, who were:

(1) Nicolas

(2) Marc, Ec. Seigneur de Bellemotte, married 27 June 1676 to Anne de la Mothe, and was confirmed by M. de Maupeon, 14 March 1700;

(3) Pierre, Ec., Seigneur du Roc;

(4) François, born 1633, who made an exchange with Marie de la Borderie, widow of Pierre, his uncle, 21 February 1659.

(C) Marc, Ec., Seigneur des Champs, shared with his brothers and sister the inheritance of their father and mother 24 February 1620, and shared with them, 28 July 1635;

(D) Marie, named in the deeds of 1620 and 1635 aforesaid.

VII. Pierre Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur du Maslandry, des Arcaillz, resided at Ambernac, near Charroux, 18 January 1610, was, 1 June 1629, guardian of the children of the late Jacques de la Borderie, probably brother of Marie de la Borderie, his wife, who was his widow 26 February 1659, and made an exchange with Fran-

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goise Renaud. He was father of:

(A) Jean-Louis, who follows;

(B) Anne, who was, 28 December 1675, wife of Jean Carron, Sieur des Isles.

VIII. Jean-Louis Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur du Maslandry, was maintained nobly by M. Barentin, 31 August 1667 [?], married Louise Guy, daughter of N., Ec., Seigneur de Ferrières and Jacqueline Garnier, about 1660. He had:

(A) Jean, who follows;

(B) François, Ec., Seigneur de Leyrat et de Fontaines, received as did Jean, his brother, quittance of a sum of 75 livres of rent, 19 January 1736, and was interred 2 May 1745. We think that it is he who had married Isabeau Prévost, who testified in his favor 24 December 1716;

(C) Anne, named with her brothers in a transaction of 24 June 1720.

IX. Jean Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur du Maslandry, received quittance 19 January 1736, with Francis, his brother. He was father of:

(A) Pierre, and

(B) Jean, who follows.

X. Jean Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur du Maslandry, de Limalonges et de Fontaines, died at 45, 2 May 1745, leaving as widow Marie des Roches, who rendered, 15 November 1755, homage for the land of Maslandry. They had a son

XI. Charles-François Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur du Maslandry, Fontaines, etc., gave homage for Maslandry, 15 March 1770, took part in sharing the inheritance of the late Charles-François de Pastouraud. He had married, before 1 September 1768, Marie-Charlotte du Theil, daughter of Joseph, Ec., Seigneur de Verneuil and Marie de Nesmond, by whom he had:

(A) Louis, born 5 August 1768, dps;

(B) Jean, who follows;

(C) Marie, who married Jean Guillard de Chemerault, died 19 July 1842.

XII. Jean Regnaud, called Chevalier de Fontaines, born 28 July 1771, and died in 1840, had by Marie Couturier, his wife:

(A) Marie-Elizabeth, married, 2 January, 1838, to Basile Guyot, of the de Montorsy branch;

(B) Adelaide, alias Susanne, married 10 May 1819 to Jean-Baptiste de Chargé, of the de Blanzais branch;

(C) Agathe.

C. *Regnaud, Branche des Seigneurs de Villognon, Pse de St. Gervais.*

We have not been able to connect this branch to the preceding ones, but it is incontestable that it emerges from the principal branch about the IV. or V. generation of chart A. The qualifications lived near the same; their arms are not different, etc. Only, as we do not know just the point of junction, we are unable to place before each name the number indicating their degree. .../...

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Up to here we have recognized only a Seigneurie of Villognon, with environs of Mansle, and there were no others: but all at once it appears, in the registers of the civil state and the Psse de St. Gervais, a family Regnaud whose members are described as Seigneurs de Villognon in the same Psse. "Or" [where?] before that period also, there existed no other noble home of the name of Villognon; one knows only that of Puypéroux [?which is no longer mentioned and a stranger to the country?] where rather more with the family whose history we retrace, would look there vainly today for a village, a house which carries that name.

The reason for such a change appears very clear; it is sufficiently demonstrated by the marriage of Pierre Regnaud, who is going to be our point of departure in the following line. He took as his ancestors, the qualification of Seigneur de Villognon. He married the daughter of Sieur de Puypéroux, who carried to him that land; his eldest son is qualified only Seigneur de Puypéroux, and the younger son took the name of the neighboring lands; but Guiscard, his grandson, acquired a position and a very fine fortune; he desired to revive and perpetuate in his branch an ancient denomination [title, name], and for that reason built in that area and place of the noble house of Puypéroux another mansion which he designated by the name of de Villognon, and by which he was qualified as seigneur; at that time, Puypéroux existed no longer except as a remembered title and as designation of some cadet lines.

Pierre Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, had married Françoise Mounier, daughter of Pierre, Sieur de Puypéroux and Antoinette de Fontlebon, whom whom he had:

(1) René, who follows; and

(2) Nicolas, reported in E., who, 1 July 1576, shared in the inheritance of their father and mother.

René Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Puypéroux, assisted, 17 September 1576, at the marriage of Nicolas, his brother. He married, 13 February 1575, Philippe de Goret, daughter of François, Ec., Seigneur de Fontclaré and Jeanne de Livron, by whom he had:

Guichard Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, made equerry of the equipage of the king; he married 17 November 1604 Marie du Breuil, daughter of Pierre, Ec., Seigneur de Théon and Catherine Lemoyne, and was father of:

(1) Henri-Hercule, who follows;

(2) Claude, Ec., Seigneur de la Fayolle, who with Jeanne le Court had Jacquelyne and Eleanore, who entered the convent of Montazais, 13 October 1630, in the presence of their uncle, Gabriel;

(3) Charles-Hercule, reported at IV;

(4) Gabriel, who was almoner of the abbey of Nôtre Dame de Nanteuil-en-Vallée, resigned that office to Charles Regnaud, who was installed 11 October 1653.

Henri-Hercule Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon et de Puypéroux, married, 13 July 1634, Marie Joly, daughter of Charles, Ec., Seigneur des Moussards, and Marie Dussault, by whom he had seven chil-

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dren; the following are the only ones known:

- (1) Gabrielle, made will 28 January 1698, and died unmarried;
- (2) Catherine, wife of François Tizon, Ec., Seigneur de Roumagne;
- (3) Robert, who follows;
- (4) Jean, Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, who, by Louise Corgnol, daughter of Philippe, Ec., Seigneur de Tesse, and Charlotte de Martin, had François, Seigneur de la Borde; Gabrielle; and Marie, who married, 13 November 1695, François de Chergé, Ec., Seigneur de Blanzais.

Robert Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Boisclair, married 14 January 1676, Elisabeth D'Angély, daughter of Pierre, Ec., Seigneur de la Salle and Lucrèce Raoul, by whom he had a son Henri, who was under the guardianship of Charles de Cosnis, Ec., Seigneur de Lhoumeau in 1692.

Jean Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Boisclair, had by Louise de la Tour, his wife, Jenne, married 14 June 1738, to Jean de Chergé, Ec., Seigneur of the said place and du Marboeuf, where she lived a widow with a son.

D. Regnaud, Branch of La Courrière

Charles Hercule Regnaud, son of Guischard and Marie du Breuil, reported above, C., Ec., Seigneur de Villognon, la Courrière, was dead before 14 May 1668. He married 29 November 1649, Marguerite des Jardins, daughter of Guillaume, Ec., Seigneur de Marches and Charlotte Aubert and was father of:

- (1) Claude, born 30 December 1650;
- (2) Gabriel, who follows;
- (3) Henri, born 17 October 1652, assassinated 25 February 1682;
- (4) Louise, born 23 February 1654, married to Pierre du Perron, Ec., captain of cavalry.

Gabriel Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de la Courrière, married (1) 3 June 1675, Catherine Regnaud, by whom he had: Catherine, baptized at Nanteuil 15 November 1677; and married (2) 28 July 1686, Elisabeth Lecomte, daughter of René Ec., Seigneur de la Dhoue and Marie de Vessac, who made him father of

Charles Hercule Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de la Courrière, entered the service at an early age, made three campaigns in the regiment of Picardie, married, 12 February 1720, Angélique Eléonore de Gourjault, daughter of Charles, Chevalier, Seigneur de la Berlière and Claude-Perside Gourjault, by whom he had:

- (1) Pierre-Charles-Hercule, who follows;
- (2) Elisabeth, wife of Jean du Plessis, Ec., Seigneur de la Merlière;
- (3) N., served with the regiment of Anjou, infantry, when he died at the hospital of Antibes, 25 December 1746.

Pierre-Charles-Hercule Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de la Courrière, baptized 10 September 1722, married (1) 24 November 1755, Françoise Laurent de Gorce, daughter of François Ec., Seigneur de Gorce, Chevalier de St. Louis, and married (2) in 1775 Marie de Villedon,

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daughter of Charles, Ec., Seigneur and Françoise de Pons, by whom he had no children. Those of the first marriage are:

- (1) Louise, died unmarried;
- (2) Susanne, married to Leonard Jousserant de la Voularnie;
- (3) Marie-Françoise-Thècle, Damoiselle de la Touche, married 8 July 1799 to André-Hector Brumaud des Houllières, officer of cavalry, died at Lafayolle, 12 September 1848, at 87 years of age. M. Brumaud possessed many titles relative to the family of his wife, which have been communicated to us;
- (4) Louis, marine officer, who died on board the *Palmier*, 1 November 1781;
- (5) Guy-André-Joseph-Alexandre, baptized at Nanteuil 21 May 1761, tonsured clerk of the diocese of Limoges, died 1 December 1779;
- (6) Marie, died young.

E. Regnaud, Branch de la Fayolle

Nicolas Regnaud, younger son of Pierre and Françoise Mounier, reported at C. above, Ec., Seigneur de la Chailloterie and de la Fayolle, married 17 September 1556 Marguerite Arembert, daughter of Bertrand, Ec., Seigneur de Mons, and Antoinette Bouleau, by whom he had:

- (1) Louis, who follows;
- (2) Henriette;
- (3) Renée, who died in 1618.

Louis Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de la Fayolle, made, 5 February 1618, a noble share with his mother and his two sisters. He married, 29 September 1602, Ann D'Asnières, alias Dassier, daughter of Olivier, Ec., Seigneur de Bessac, who, widow, shared, 10 December 1638, with his children, whose names follow:

- (1) Pierre, who follows;
- (2) Isaac, who married, 27 January 1646, Françoise Riquet, widow of Jean, Ec., Seigneur de la Vergne and daughter of Jacob and Denise Jaudlaud;
- (3) Jacques or Jacob. He had married, 25 April 1640, Françoise l' Houmeau, who was widow and guardian of their minor children, whose names we do not know, when she was maintained in her noblesse by M. Barentin, 31 August 1667;
- (4) Jeanne.

Pierre Regnaud, Ec., Seigneur de Torsay et de la Fayolle, married (1) before 11 April 1635, Esther Pastoureau, and married (2) Rebecca Berland, of the pretended reformed religion. By the first marriage were born Esther, who married 4 March 1650 Charles Gourjault, Ec., Seigneur de Bessé.

Arms: *Azure, three fir cones gold. --L-Armoire du Poitou."*

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Surnames of Possible French Origin in Early
Appalachian Kentucky*

by James H. Siler

*Qui sert bien son pays
n'a pas besoin d'aïeux*
Voltaire

In a previous article, the present writer attempted a count of the national origins of the early settlers of Appalachia by studying the family names in three typical counties in the 1830 Federal Census.¹ [Notes follow at the end of the article.] Based on that limited study, he drew the tentative conclusion that at least one-fourth of the names were neither Anglo-Saxon nor Scotch-Irish, the two sources usually accepted as contributing the vast majority of the Appalachian pioneers, but were rather of continental origin, and he provisionally assigned more English origins than Scottish to the first settlers of the three given counties.

The present article is restricted to trying to determine the French names alone out of those of presumed continental origin, but the search has been broadened to include all of Eastern Kentucky in the 1810 Federal Census. Practically all of mountainous Kentucky was then comprised in four counties, Floyd, Knox, Greenup, and Clay, and it is those counties' census schedules which have been perused.²

At the outset it should be stated that a few of the names may be faulty readings, a perfectly natural accident as anyone working with the original records or their microfilmed reproductions well knows. Although obvious to searchers familiar with the field, it should also be briefly stated that even if the decyphering is correct as the census-taker wrote the names, they often represent capricious and phonetic approximations as the enumerator heard them, or as the bearer of the name himself may have pronounced or spelled the name for him.

The problem of recognizing names as of French origin is a difficult one in most cases. Who might guess that Fords could be Faures, Goodwins be Gaudoins, or that Shepherds were originally Chaberts? There are documented cases of these changes, although most Fords are probably of British descent. In some cases, however, attempts of the

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Our Gallic Ancestors: Dubrux

Dubrux was "Americanized" to Dubrutz and was so listed in the 1790 census. In the time of the son of Gabriel Dubrux the spelling was changed to Du Brutz and has remained so to this day.

According to family tradition, Gabriel Dubrux was born 25 December 1761 in the Department of the Lot, Bordeaux, France. A more specific location is needed for further research in that area.

The next time we hear of Gabriel he is listed in *Les Combattants Français de la Guerre Américaine 1778-1783*, listes établies d'après les documents authentiques déposés aux Archives Nationales et aux Archives du Ministère de la Guerre (France, Du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, 1905). His name is under "Matelots" [sailor, seaman]. Another document from the Colonial National Historical Park, Yorktown, Virginia, duplicates this information.

A letter from the Charleston, South Carolina Historical Society comments on the name the Marquis de Grasse, whom I assume is the same person who became a joint owner with my ancestor of some property in Fayetteville, North Carolina, 6 July 1785. I have a copy of this deed obtained from the county courthouse in Fayetteville.

In the 1790 census he was listed as head of household (same location as in the above paragraph) but there are two males shown as over age 16 and no females. The only other listing is 4 slaves. This indicates to me that two adult males are in the household, and the second might possibly be de Grasse? [A Gabriel Duburke is listed for the 1800 Federal Census of North Carolina, Cumberland Co.]

He was married to Deborah Montgomery in March 1792. I have copies of the marriage bond, marriage bonds for their daughters, wills, and some other items. Gabriel died 14 March 1824 in Fayetteville, Cumberland Co, North Carolina.

One of the daughters of Gabriel and Deborah was named Louisa Bourdesoule (or perhaps De Bordeseur) for her paternal grandmother, according to tradition.

After the successful engagement at the Battle of Yorktown, the French Navy retired to Martinique. Tradition says that Gabriel was involved in a shipwreck and narrowly escaped with his life. Others in the family speculate that there may have been a shipwreck but that he used the ensuing confusion to "jump ship" and make his way back to America, arriving either in New Orleans or South Carolina. At least there is no evidence that he ever returned to France. A relative says that he was supposed to have written to a brother in France asking him to send some grape cuttings for planting.

Maxine Du Brutz Rector, 537 S. Flower St., Apt. 2, Inglewood, California 90301.

Our Gallic Ancestors: Chenal (Chenal dit Bastian)

François Chenal married Clauda Genant born 1681 and died 15 August 1747. Children: (1) Pierre François, and (2) Michel, who married 23 April 1748 to Marie Bournier, daughter of Pierre Bournier and Jeanne Françoise Pochat.

Piette François Chenal (son of above François) married on 7 June 1735 in Entremont to Claudine Françoise Cho(u)lex, daughter of Jacques Cho(u)lex and Françoise Terrier. Pierre died 24 May 1748 in Entremont. Their children:

- (1) Claude Antoine born 7 September 1737, married 25 June 1765 to Pernette Guillaume-Bidognet, daughter of Melchior and of Claude Antoinette Passerat.
- (2) Claude François, of whom following.
- (3) Jean Claude married 10 January 1769 to Jeanne Françoise Fichet, daughter of Alexis Fichet and Jeanne Antoinette Bussat.
- (4) Marie married on 8 January 1765 to Jean Paul Levet, son of Claude Louis Levet of Petit-Bornand.
- (5) Michel born 30 August 1743.
- (6) Jacques married on 15 April 1777 to Marie Rose Bernex (Bernet) born at St. Jean-de-Sixt, daughter of François Bernet and Jeanne Marie Favre.
- (7) Joseph married on 20 February 1781 to Claudine Levet, daughter of Jean Louis Levet. [See Levet, following.]

Claude François Chenal (second son of Pierre François above) was born 17 September 1739 and baptized 18 September, married on 9 June 1767 in Entremont to Magdeleine Bussat, daughter of François Bussat and Theresa Caul of Petit-Bornand. Their child: Jeanne Marie born 27 March 1776 in Entremont, died 1829; married to Victor Jean Joseph Levet (see Levet, following), son of Jean Marie, on 2 March 1794.

The above compilation was prepared by M. Etienne Arnaud of Paris, France.

Mrs. John A. Gerbel (née Christine Levet), 315 St. James Drive, Piedmont, California 94611.

Our Gallic Ancestors: Levet

Charles Levet died 1709 in France; married Melchiotte Richard. Their known children: (1) Jean François, of whom following; (2) Madeleine married on 27 March 1718 to François Perrilliat, son of Bon Perrilliat and Jeanne Tholon of Grand-Bornand.

Jean François Levet (son of Charles) born in France and married on 26 November 1709 in Taninges, France, to Jeanne Françoise Vuy, daughter of Pierre Vuy. Jeanne Françoise died 26 December 1719. Children of Jean and Jeanne: (1) Pierre Joseph born 8 October 1710; (2) Michel born 25 February 1712; (3) Jean Louis, of whom following; (4)

Levet continued:

François Henri born 20 October 1716.

Jean Louis Levet (son of Jean François) born 6 March 1714; married in Entremont on 24 February 1740 to Jeanne Perrilliat, born 3 October 1723, daughter of Claude François Perrilliat and Clauda Pergoz. Children of Jean Louis and Jeanne: (1) Jean Marie, of whom following); (2) Claudine, who married Joseph Chenal on 20 February 1781. Joseph was the son of Pierre François Chenal and Claudine Cho(u)lex [see Chenal page 80].

Jean Marie Levet (son of Jean Louis) born 2 March 1747, died 6 January 1831; married Jeanne Marie Sau(1)nier who died 17 April 1804 in Entremont. Children of Jean Marie and Jeanne Marie: (1) Victor Jean Joseph, of whom following; (2) Jean Claude born 1774/75; (3) Joseph Marie born 25 May 1778 at Entremont, département of Mont-Blanc; married on 11 January 1798 to Françoise Pernet who was born 3 November 1779 at Entremont, daughter of Melchior Pernet and Antoinette Blanc Grivaz.

Victor Jean Joseph Levet (son of Jean Marie above) born 6 January 1769 at Entremont and died 12 January 1842; married at Entremont on 2 March 1794 to Jeanne Marie Chenal dit Bastian, daughter of Claude François Chenal dit Bastian and Magdeleine Bussat [see Chenal page 80]. Jean Marie was born 27 March 1776 at Entremont and died 26 July 1829.

Children of Victor Jean Joseph Levet and Jeanne Marie Chenal dit Bastian:

- (1) Jean Claude, of whom following;
- (2) François Marie born 22 November 1797 at Petit-Bornand; married on 24 February 1824 to M. Rose Guillaume-Bidognet. François died 10 November 1853 and buried 11 November at St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Edgard, Louisiana.
- (3) Claude François born 27 December 1799 at Petit-Bornand, died 10 February 1827 in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, and buried 14 February at St. John the Baptist Cemetery.
- (4) Pierre François born 9 May 1802 in France, married Françoise Dronchat on 7 February 1826.
- (5) Jacques Martin born 24 February 1805 in Entremont, a cart merchant in Louisiana, died 12 September 1839 in St. Charles Parish, buried same day at St. John the Baptist Cemetery.
- (6) Jeanne Marie born 18 January 1808.
- (7) François Xavier, of whom see following;
- (8) Marie Jacqueline born 24 September 1812.
- (9) Jean Marie born 27 July 1815, died 30 January 1891 and buried at Reserve, Louisiana; married (2) Virginie Edrington at St. Augustine Church, New Orleans on 20 June 1850.
- (10) Martin Joseph married Jeanne M. Petit (Patit).

François Xavier Levet (7th child of Victor Jean Joseph above) born 11 March 1811 in Entremont, married Marie Guillaume dit Farnolet on 11 October 1832 at Bonneville, Haute-Savoie, France. Marie born 1801 in

Levet continued:

Entremont, daughter of Claude Guillaume and Claudine Delcurtier, and died 28 September 1863 in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana.

Children of Xavier and Marie:

- (1) Felicie born 1834 in France, married 6 January 1855 at St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana to Dominique Levet. Felicie died 26 September 1915.
- (2) Rosine born July 1835 in France, married 15 May 1854 at St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana to Marie Eugene Thierry Levet (son of Jean Claude Levet).
- (3) Andre born 30 November 1845 at St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana and died there on 9 June 1853.
- (4) Gustave born 1842/44 at St. John the Baptist Parish, died 1 October 1859.
- (5) Jean Xavier born 15 December 1847 at St. John the Baptist Parish, and died at Convent on 19 January 1920; married on 12 February 1872 to Frances Amelie Donaldson.
- (6) Marie Clementine born 6 July 1849 at St. John the Baptist Parish, married Lezin Ory, Jr.

Jean Claude Levet (1st son of Victor Jean Joseph Levet above) born *circa* 1795 in Entremont, died 13 February 1864 at St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana; married in Paris in 1824 to Marie Therese Rosalie Contant (Comptant), daughter of Jacques Contant and Marie Lambert. Marie Therese died in St. John the Baptist Parish on 5 April 1850. Their son

Marie Eugene Thierry Levet born 20 November 1824 in Paris, died 27 July 1866 in Reserve, Louisiana and buried 28 July at St. John the Baptist Cemetery; married (1) on 17 July 1848 in Bordeaux, France, to Catherine Emilie Landrodie born 1 September 1822 in Bordeaux and died 1 November 1853 in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, daughter of Elie Jean Landrodie and Jeanne Bordenage (or Anne Bordenave). Children of Eugene and Catherine:

- (1) Marie Gervaise born 29 June 1850 at St. John the Baptist Parish, died 1941 in New Orleans; married Louis Caboché on 26 February 1876 at St. Augustine Church in New Orleans.
- (2) Emilie Catherine born 26 October 1853 in St. John Parish, died 6 June 1873 in Reserve.

The second marriage of Eugene was on 15 May 1854 in St. John Parish, to Rosine Levet born July 1835 in France, daughter of Francois Xavier Levet and Marie Guillaume. Rosine died 22 December 1914 at St. Amelia Plantation of St. James Parish, Louisiana and buried 23 December at St. John the Baptist Cemetery. Children of Eugene and Rosine:

- (1) Gustave Eugene Dominique born 24 October 1861 at St. John Parish, died 21 July 1925 in New Orleans.
- (2) Felicien Albert, of whom following.
- (3) Rosine Adele an adopted daughter.

Felicien Albert Levet (son of Marie Eugene Thierry above) born 8 December 1863 in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, baptized 14

Levet continued:

May 1864; married 27 July 1892 at St. James Parish to Regina Augustine Leboeuf born 3 December 1869 at St. James Parish and died 12 November 1941 in New Orleans, daughter of Auguste Leboeuf and Anaise-Augustine Voisin. Regina was baptized on 22 March 1870 in St. James Parish. She was buried in St. James Cemetery. Felicien was a Farrier in the Spanish-American War; died 31 December 1935 in New Orleans and is buried at Chalmette National Historical Park in Arabi. Children of Felicien and Regina:

- (1) Joseph Alonzo born 6 March 1893 in St. James Parish, died at age 1 1/2 years.
- (2) Marie Alonce Albert Irene born 25 September 1894 in St. James Parish, was the United States Vice-Consul in Venice; married first to Countess Marie von Specht and second to Louise Franke; died in New Orleans on 29 October 1974.
- (3) Felicien Fernand Roland born 25 August 1901 in St. James Parish, died at 6 months.
- (4) Roger Edward born *circa* 1903 in St. James and died 9 December 1945/46 in New Orleans; married Marjorie---
- (5) Marie Christian Rodolphe Adrien, of whom following.
- (6) Annette Marie and
- (7) Odette Marie born 31 July 1905 in St. James.
- (8) Marie Reine Irene born 9 September 1908 in St. James.
- (9) Roland Andre born 26 March 1911 in St. James.

Marie Christian Rodolphe Adrian Levet (son of Felicien above) born 29 November 1902 in St. James Parish, baptized 15 January 1903. Married on 2 July 1938 in Petersburg, Virginia to Lelia Belie Harris born 11 May 1923 in Prince George, Virginia, daughter of George Lewen Harris and Beulah Elizabeth Tyus. Children of Christian and Lelia:

- (1) Lelia Christine born 13 December 1939 in Quantico, Virginia; married John Anthony Gerbel on 11 June 1960 in Petersburg, Virginia. John born 31 October 1931 in Champaign, Illinois, son of John A. Gerbel and Catherine Elizabeth Finnigan. Children:
 - (a) Donna Catherine born 30 April 1961 in Springfield, Illinois.
 - (b) Timothy Christian born 27 August 1963 in Springfield, IL.
 - (c) Amy Susan born 9 September 1964 in Springfield, Illinois.
 - (d) John Matthew Levet born 27 December 1968 in Winfield, IL.
- (2) Donna Jean born 7 October 1945 in Petersburg, Virginia; married on 29 October 1966 to Malvin Sidney Pecht, Jr., son of Malvin Sidney Pecht, Sr. and Jacqueline Crawford. Children:
 - (a) Melanie Christian born 23 January 1972 in Fredericksburg, VA.
 - (b) Katherine Kerrie born 29 January 1976 in Fredericksburg, VA.

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Report from the French Genealogy & Research Committee & News and Notes

Surprisingly, we have received a large amount of manuscript material for the *French Genealogist*--more in fact than possible to use in this issue. Unfortunately our financial base was not large enough to allow for an issue any larger than this one. We had anticipated a price rise in postage and paper during the year, and thus set the cost for this issue at \$4.00. However, that allows only for an issue of about the same size as last year, but no additional funding to allow for an *expanded* size. We will be billing renewals for the 1979 issue at \$6.00, anticipating that that amount will give us the extra to add more pages.

Please do not stop sending manuscript material. Although we may have not been able to use a contribution this issue, we will in time need all of the material sent to adequately cover the subject of French Genealogy.

Reaction to our first issue, Annual Number 1, 1977, was quite pleasing and the comments very complimentary, from U.S., Canadian and readers in France.

Volunteer Indexer: We ask for a volunteer to index the Annual Issue Number 1 and Number 2 of the *French Genealogist*. If interested, contact the Production Editor, c/o The Augustan Society, 1510 Cravens Avenue, Torrance, California 90501.

Complimentary Copies to France: We will be happy to send a complimentary copy of the *French Genealogist* to researchers in France under the following program: for each complimentary copy we mail in your name you must remit 50¢ for printed matter postage, plus sending us a 3 x 5 card with your name and address on it, with the legend "With the compliments of". We will place the card in the complimentary copy and mail to a searcher in France. This type of program has proved very helpful to our readers of the *Germanic Genealogist*, and it is surprising how often assistance can be forthcoming from this nice gesture.

Queries & Surname Interest Listings: are free now, and we invite you to compose your queries and send them in early. Please do not wait until summer 1979 and then attempt to integrate them into our draft manuscript. Thank you.

Postage note: All correspondence sent to us where a reply is expected must be accompanied by a postage stamp sufficient to cover first class mail. It is not necessary to send an SASE, but we must have the return postage. Also, when writing to Canadian and overseas searchers remember to send international reply coupons. .../...

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