

HISTORY OF GENERATION

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 ANNE LENEUF du HÉRISSE
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ANTOINE DESROS
 ANNE LENEUF of HEDGEHOG

THE COUPLE

Antoine Desrosiers was probably baptized in Renaison Drill (Loire), France, circa 1619. His wedding registry, probably to Trois-Rivières, has not been found, but he signed a contract marriage before the notary Flour Boujonier, November 24, 1647 in Trois-Rivers, with Anne LeNeuf Hedgehog, daughter of Michel LeNeuf, Sieur du Hedgehog. The marriage must have taken place over the following two years. Anne was either the daughter of Michel union with an unknown woman de-sold in France, is the natural daughter of Michel. She was born in the village of Thierry in Normandy around 1632. Antoine Desrosiers died in Champlain August 8, 1691 and was buried the next day. He was 74 years old. Anne LeNeuf died October 16, 1711 in Champlain and buried the day. She was aged about 79 years.

FAMILY

This couple had eight children, seven of whom were married.

ARRIVAL

The first official mention of the presence of Antoine Desrosiers New France as sponsor to a baptism of Sillery, 10 January-uary 1642 ¹. Since he was in Quebec in winter 1642, we must conclude, as does historian Trudel, he was one of the summer arrivals

¹ Trudel, Marcel, *1632-1662 Catalog of immigrants*, Éditions Hurtubise HMH, Montreal, 1983, pages 49, 61, 100 and 103.

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precedent. The fleet of 1641 arrived in June, consisting of at least four vessels including *Gaston* and *René*. Another ship arrives August. In total, about 100 passengers, including 57 immigrants arrive on these ships. 57 of these immigrants come to the 14 foundation Montreal to be held next spring.

A typical trip this time was difficult and long. Boats were small and uncomfortable crossing lasted on average two months to thank you from the wind. Passengers "*took with them a trunk or a chest containing their herds, sometimes a bench, their personal belongings and bags containing tools, some cooking utensils and seed grain*" ²

Passengers found themselves crammed in close quarters obscure malodorous, shaken by the roll, harassed by seasickness and forced into a painful promiscuity. For food, the cookies morning, soup for lunch, meat and fish in the evening. Meat pro-came from animals and birds brought alive on the boat and slaughtered as required. The fish was salty or fresh when sailors fish-chaient. It was common that drinking water be corrupted during the through-See. Is complemented with wine from time to time and with water spirits for sailors. Fresh water was deemed too precious to "Waste" to wash or wash clothes. Should finally be surprised to learn that nearly 10 percent of the passengers died in road ³.

According to Marcel Trudel, Anne LeNeuf Hedgehog arrived in Quebec in 1636 with his father, Michel LeNeuf, Mr. Hedgehog. She is aged four

years. Fleet arrives this year on June 11 including, among others, *St. Joseph*. It takes a hundred passengers including 91 immigrants. The LeNeuf being wealthy, have probably made the crossing more comfortably and take more furniture and other personal that most passengers.

ACTIVITIES AND TRANSACTIONS

Antoine Desrosiers has probably learned to read and write in New

2 PALARDY, Jean, *Antique furniture of French Canada*, Pierre Tisseyre, 1963, page 16, Montreal,

3 LANDRY, Yves, *Orphans in France, pioneers in Canada: The Daughters of the King in the seventeenth century*, Méac, Publisher, no. Ottawa, 1992, page 44. Le-

France. At his death, he has a small library at home. It is a very active man, and many traces of its activities remained at notaries or in parish registers:

YEAR

1642 sponsor Sillery.

1645 employee of the Jesuits in Trois-Rivières.

1647 marriage contract with Anne LeNeuf Hedgehog before the Flour Boujonnier notary, at Three Rivers.

1648 vote in the election of his stepfather (or future stepfather) to Communauté des Habitants.

1649 and its associated Sauvaget Signoret, they provide 500 piles Pierre Boucher to build fortifications at Three Rivers.

1649 obtained a grant of land.

1650 bought land in Trois-Rivières and built a house.

1650 baptized his daughter Mary at Trois-Rivières.

1652 baptized his son Michel in Trois-Rivières.

1655 baptized his son Joseph in Trois-Rivières.

1656 gets a "new way" for land increased from 20 to 25 acres, as later canceled.

In 1657 his son John baptized at Trois-Rivières.

1657 obtained a grant of land to the Rivière-aux-Sables.

1659 was captured by the Iroquois and escapes eleven weeks later
near Lake Ontario.
1661 baptized his daughter Anne in Trois-Rivières.
1664 acquires a small strip of land in the Île-aux-Pigs.
1664 baptized his son Antoine to Trois-Rivières.
1664 gets down to the tree-à-la-Croix.
1666 census is the Trois-Rivières and claims to be old
46.
1667 census is at Cap-de-la-Madeleine and claims to be old
48 years.
1667 sells his house Trois-Rivières.
1668 William Larue, undertake and complete the construction
a windmill for the Jesuits in Pointe Saint-Eloy.
1668 moved to Champlain.
1669 becomes tax attorney lordship and trustee and judge

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lordly.

1674 sold his land to the Rivière-aux-Sables.

1679 sold his land Tree-à-la-Croix.

1681 census, is said to be Champlain and 62 years old.

LIVING CONDITIONS

Life in many ways was downright different New

France of what had been known among them the French immigrants. The re-named Voltaire spoke of a country of snow and ice almost perpetual tual and Rabelais spoke cold that froze the words of the sailors, words that thawed in the spring, when we could finally hear ... Both illustrious and sometimes whimsical French were still not come to see them on the spot. In addition, the father-Vi Mount Jesuit missionary wrote that the Canadian cold was much healthier and more tolerable than the French moisture. Also, Denis-Joseph Ruelle, Sieur d'Auteuil who was a member of the Board and who lived twenty years in Quebec, spoke of the economic utility

nomie snow and ice to the timber for communications by serving as bridges over rivers in winter, allow as an ox pulling a load four times greater in winter than in summer, etc.. It remains that the French have of making big adjustments their lifestyles to adapt to the country.

Homes

Their styles resembled that houses France but increasing the roof slope to prevent the accumulation of snow in winter. Wooden houses were favorable, but the stone was often favored because of fire hazards. It was more attention to the isolation.

Furniture

The first settlers *"brought only the clothes in a chest. It was impossible, except for the characters condition, make the furniture they own daient in France. By cons, governors, churchmen, the senior civil servants and ladies founding hospitals and convents brought furniture, as these chests and objects of worship that could not make on-site fault labor or because the carpenters were too busy building in May-*

sound The first furniture made here were very practical, simple and wood of the country. They were chests, sideboards, cabinets, buffets, cabinets, hutches, mixers, pantry, beds, seats of all sorts, tables, desks, dressers, etc.. furniture is essential.

Clothing

The settlers quickly changed clothes to incorporate some practices they have copied indigenous. European clothing were not designed to address the rigors Canadian winter. In Furthermore, it was much less expensive to manufacture clothes place with local products. Mittens - leather or fur - and moccasins were adopted by the trappers, then the colonies. Thus, they adopt the leather deer, moose, bear or caribou. They also weave flax and hemp as the local wool is still

rare. During the summer, the French clothing are ridiculously hot, over-while during heat waves.

Food

The first French passengers attempted to survive winters with biscuits and peas⁵. The ravages of scurvy have convinced a food adapted to the harsh climate was complete clothing and heating. The first settlers discover and eat moose, caribou, deer, porcupines, hares and beavers. And also poultry, and fish. Cucumber is a dessert sought. By against the potatoes they are not popular at all; they are not eaten only when there is scarcity because they "*are not good at nouriture men*"⁶. "Add to that all local berries forests and meadows. Potatoes not find favor with consumers hu-hands and farmers with the help of English after 1760. Nearly each house has its garden, which provides power to the diverse family. The woman is the centerpiece of the garden."⁷

⁴ PALARDY, Jean, *Antique furniture of French Canada*, Pierre Tisseyre, Montreal, 1963, page 16.

⁵ At that time, biscuits and peas were the main food that was served on ships for long voyages at sea lack of fresh food, so vitamin deficiencies, which brought disease scurvy.

⁶ In a letter of Mother Marie Duplessis St. Helena, superior of the Hôtel-Dieu Quebec, October 17, 1737.

⁷ Provencher, Jean, *The Four Seasons in the Valley of Saint-Laurent*, Éditions du Boréal, Montreal, 1988, page 115.

Drinks

At first, we import water spirits, wine and liqueurs. Quick-ment, are manufactured on-site beer and "broth" made from wheat or corn. In 1668 Talon built a brewery provide the population and for export; limit the Sovereign Council import wine and water spirits.⁸

The horse

The horse, which will become very useful to growers and men

war finally arrives. "The first contingent of horses arrived in Quebec 16 . Jul. 1665 The Jesuits noted in their journal: [Arriva Captain Chicken Mr. Bourdon, 12 horses, 8 girls, etc..] Eight animals were killed at During the crossing. '9

Lent

New Canadians scrupulously observe the instructions of the E-Church¹⁰ They abstain from meat and milk derivatives every Friday and every Saturday during the forty days of Lent and during remaining nine days of fasting before religious festivals. But, they have not much choice. For example, Louis Gaboury of the island of Or-Orléans is denounced by a neighbor [Étienne Beaufils] for failing to follow Lent. Without further proof, the manorial court condemned "to pay a cow and the product of a icelle his informant year; it is more post attached to the public for three hours and then the conduit opposite each Parish shovel, knees, hands clasped, bareheaded, to ask God for forgiveness, to King of Justice, for eating meat during Lent without asking permission to the Church; plus twenty pounds fine applicable to pious works of the parish, and the expense"¹¹What do think!

The neighbor

As in certain regions of France, here in the countryside of the colony, the neighbor is almost part of the family. There are regular-mutual aid; we are ready to work instruments, cars, horses. We will seek the priest with his best towbar neighbor soft-

⁸LACOURSIÈRE, Jacques, *Quebec People's History*, Volume I, editions of trion, 1995, pages 130 and 131.

⁹Ibid, page 128,

¹⁰Non-Catholics who had landed to stay immediately renounce their religion and adopt the Catholic religion if they were to return to France by the pro-chain boat. Several newcomers have experienced a conversion and if felt good, at least "Instantaneous".

¹¹Douville, R. and CASANOVA, J.-D, *Daily Life in New France*, pages 70 and 71.

rant. At parties and weddings, the neighbor left and right neighbor are invited as kinship. When you make a batch of bread, there "bread from neighbor."¹²There is often a marriage between neighboring children.

ORIGIN AND LINE OF LENEUF

Anne LeNeuf the Hedgehog is the only daughter of Michel LeNeuf, Sieur du Hedgehog with whom she arrived in New France in 1636 at the age of four-be years. His father died without marrying (or remarrying as appropriate). It was a large landowner; in 1663, it owns land for a total of 807,514 acres¹³ (276,170 hectares or 761.7 km² car-Res). LeNeuf the family is from Caen in Normandy. Michel, son Mathieu LeNeuf, Mr. Hedgehog, arrived in New France accompanied by his widowed mother, Jeanne Marchand, his brother Jacques and his sister, Mary. Five nephews and niece, (Nicolas, Jean-François, Gaspard, Guy and Marie-Madeleine), children of his sister Madeleine and Jean Poutrel, lord of Coulombiers also immigrated and some were adopted by their uncles LeNeuf. The daughter of Michel, Anne LeNeuf of Heyrisson is the line for us.

CHILDREN DESROSIERS ANTOINE AND ANNE LENEUF:

- **Mary**, baptized June 16, 1650 in Trois-Rivières, she married Alexandre Rheault, son of Louis Rault and Jacqueline Robin, 19 February 1664 in Trois-Rivières. They had signed a marriage contract before the notary Severin Ameau, January 19 last. They had ten six children married. Alexander was a carpenter. He died in Champlain, Jan. 6, 1692. Mary had studied in Ursulines Quebec¹⁴.
- **Michel Desilets said:** baptized September 3, 1652, at Three Rivers. See details in the text "Generation 2".
- **Joseph** baptized 29 July 1655 in Trois-Rivières, he died before the 1666 census.
- **John said Dutremble:** born September 29, 1657 and baptized the next day hand at Three Rivers, he married Marie-Françoise Dandonneau girl

¹²PROVENCHER Jean, *the four seasons in the St. Lawrence Valley*, Boreal, 1988 page 27.

¹³Trudel, Marcel, *terrier of St. Lawrence in 1663* Publishing University of Ottawa, 1973.

¹⁴Lebel, Gérard, *our ancestors, Volume 2*, Sainte-Anne-de-Baupré, 1984, page 42.

Dandonneau Pierre dit Lajeunesse and Françoise Jobin, 20 January 1682 Champlain. They had ten children, including at least five were married. Jean was browser. In 1684, he was taken prisoner by Iroquois with his brother Antoine and a dozen other French during transport a shipment of furs in the Great Lakes region.

They are stripped and released nine days later ¹⁵. He died on 23 February 1704 Champlain. His widow married Henry Bélisle said Lamarre, master surgeon, November 26, 1705 in Champlain. She had the opportunity to travel since died in Detroit, May 8, 1711.

• **Anne:** born and baptized 12 November 1661 in Trois-Rivières it married Jacques Turcot, Turcot son of Jean and Françoise Capel, the Following the signing of a marriage contract before the notary Guillaumin I LaRue Champlain, April 4, 1674. They had eleven children at least six married. Jean Turcot succeeded his stepfather as Judge Champlain in 1691 ¹⁶. Jean Turcot was buried 6 April 1699 to

Champlain. Anne remarried to Jean Desrosiers said Debidabé Troyville, son of John and Mary Dedibadé Barner, April 24, 1702, in Champlain. They had no children.

• **Antoine said Lafresniere:** born and baptized August 30, 1664 in Trois-Rivers, he married Marie-Renée Lepellé, daughter of Jean Lepellé said Desma-spokes and Jeanne Isabel, 26 November 1696, at Champlain. They had signed a prenup the day before the notary Daniel Norman din. They had eleven children. In 1684, he was taken prisoner by Iroquois with his brother John (see above). Antoine qualified officer militia in 1731. Having remained at Champlain, he settled in the island Dupas, near Berthier, where he raised his family.

• **Peter said Dutremble:** born about 1667, he married Marguerite-AUBU chon, daughter of Jacques Aubuchon and Marguerite Itas, April 27, 1693, to Champlain. They had signed a prenup the day before, in the no-Daniel Normandin silence. They had nine children with at least seven to are married. He settled in the lordship of Bécancour, near the river Godefroy. He died before 1723 and Bécancour before his wife.

• **Marie-Jeanne,** born about 1671, she married Claude Drouet, Sieur de Richardville, son of Claude Drouet and Apolline Soixson, March 18

¹⁵LACOURSIÈRE, Jacques, *Quebec People's History*, Volume I, editions of trion 1995, page 161.

¹⁶RICHARD, Bishop, *The Desilets*, the Trifluvien, November and December 1906 journal.

1687 Champlain. They signed a marriage contract later, the August 27, 1688 to Louis DeMeromont master. They had eleven-children. Claude was a soldier of the company Méloizes, then, is promoted teaches.

RESIDENCES

Antoine Desrosiers moved much. In 1642, he saw probably Sillery (Quebec), where he is godfather¹⁷. In 1645, he was at Trois-Rivières service Jesuits. He married between 1647 and 1649. In 1649, he obtained a concession of 20 acres on the right bank of the Saint-Maurice. Year Next he moved into the town of Trois-Rivières on Notre-Lady at the corner of the rue Saint-Michel¹⁸, where he built a house. In 1657, he obtained a concession to the Rivière-aux-Sables to Pointe-du-Lake. Then, in 1664, he obtained a strip of land in Île-aux-Pigs in the mouth of the Saint-Maurice. Then, it still gets a concession sion to the Tree-à-la-Croix¹⁹. Then again, in 1665, he obtained a concession sion to Champlain land of 3 acres wide by 40 acres of depth. In 1667 census, it remains at Cap-de-la-Madeleine. In 1668, it is the colon, in Champlain. There appears to until his death.

STORIES

For many years, the Iroquois were still in the omber, ready to surprise the whites. The life of Antoine Desrosiers was marked by at least two tragic incidents:

- According to the Journal of the Jesuits²⁰ the servant named Antoine Desrosiers Mathurin was killed by the Iroquois, August 7, 1651, "Easting party dez the four o'clock in the morning to shoot the crows his field, he was found dead on the road, two arquebusades in the chest, and the ax in the tests. "
- In 1659, to May 26, Antoine Desrosiers - then aged 42 and father of four young children - and two other companions were captures in Lake Saint-Pierre by Iroquois. At least one of the two com-

¹⁷Trudel, Marcel, *1632-1662 Catalog of immigrants*, Éditions Hurtubise HMH, 1983 page 103.

¹⁸Trudel, Marcel, *The beginnings of the seigneurial system in Canada*, Fides, 1974, page 167.

¹⁹Lebel, Gérard, *our ancestors, Volume 2*, Sainte-Anne-de-Baupré, 1984, page 40.

fungi was tortured and killed. Taken to Lake Ontario by his captors, Antoine managed to escape and return to Three Rivers after eleven weeks-long absence ²¹. Obviously, we already believed dead.

2 Lebel, Gérard, *our ancestors, Volume 2*, Sainte-Anne-de-Baupré, 1984, page 41.