

Jeremie (Jerry) Benoit and St Joseph Church

Jeremie Benoit had a hand in the building of the new St Joseph church in 1884. Jerry Benoit, a teamster, was contracted to haul the Redstone from the quarry in Burlington's south end.

This page is dedicated to Ronald Kenneth Benway and Lucille Fontaine who so proudly preserved and displayed this historic photo of his great grandfather Jeremie Benoit's great effort on delivering all the stone used in building St Joseph Church in 1884.

The stone came from William Roots Redstone Quarry on Hoover Street which is off the east side of Shelburne Road.

This photograph was donated in their memory by their daughter Nancy Benway Devoid in 2015.



On the back is written "Stone for St Joseph Church" and Babeu or Balieu
There was a Theodule Babeu in the St Joseph 1884 census but he was not a photographer.

Burlington Free Press 31 August 1883

Work on the new French Catholic church is to be begun at once. The building will be located on the south side of Allen Street, nearly opposite the Nazareth School building, and will be a stately and imposing structure. It will have a frontage of 71 feet and a depth of 170 inside and will be of brick, with stone trimmings. The erection of the church is rendered necessary by the great increase of the congregation at St. Joseph's - an increase amounting in the last twelve years to 1,100 people.

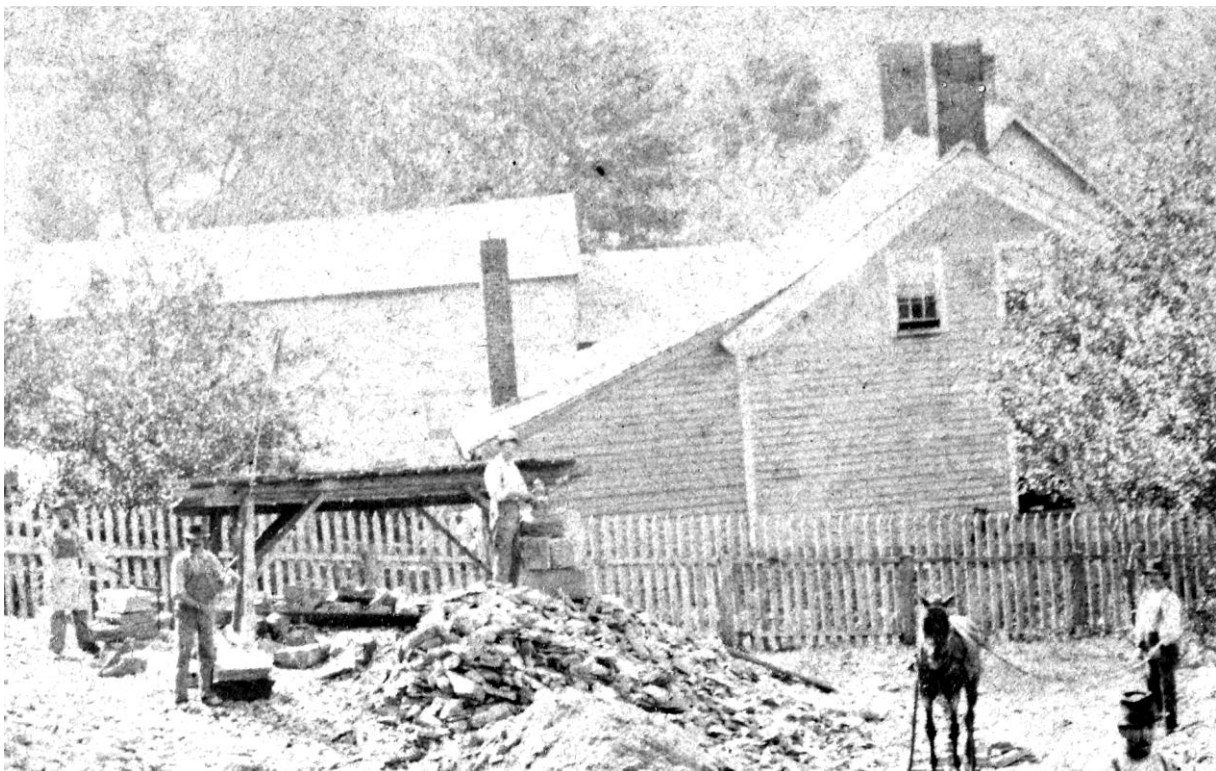
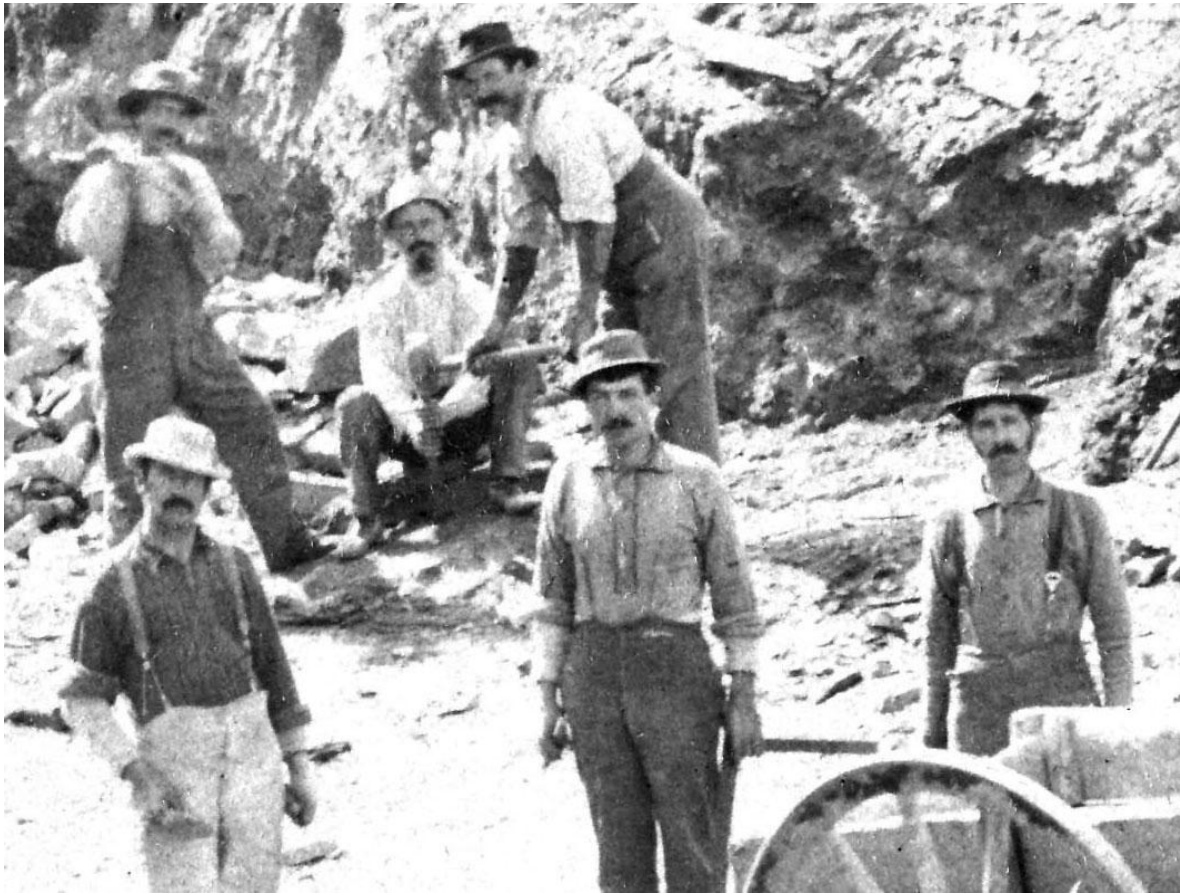
Note: Not of brick, but of redstone. Was this an error by the press?

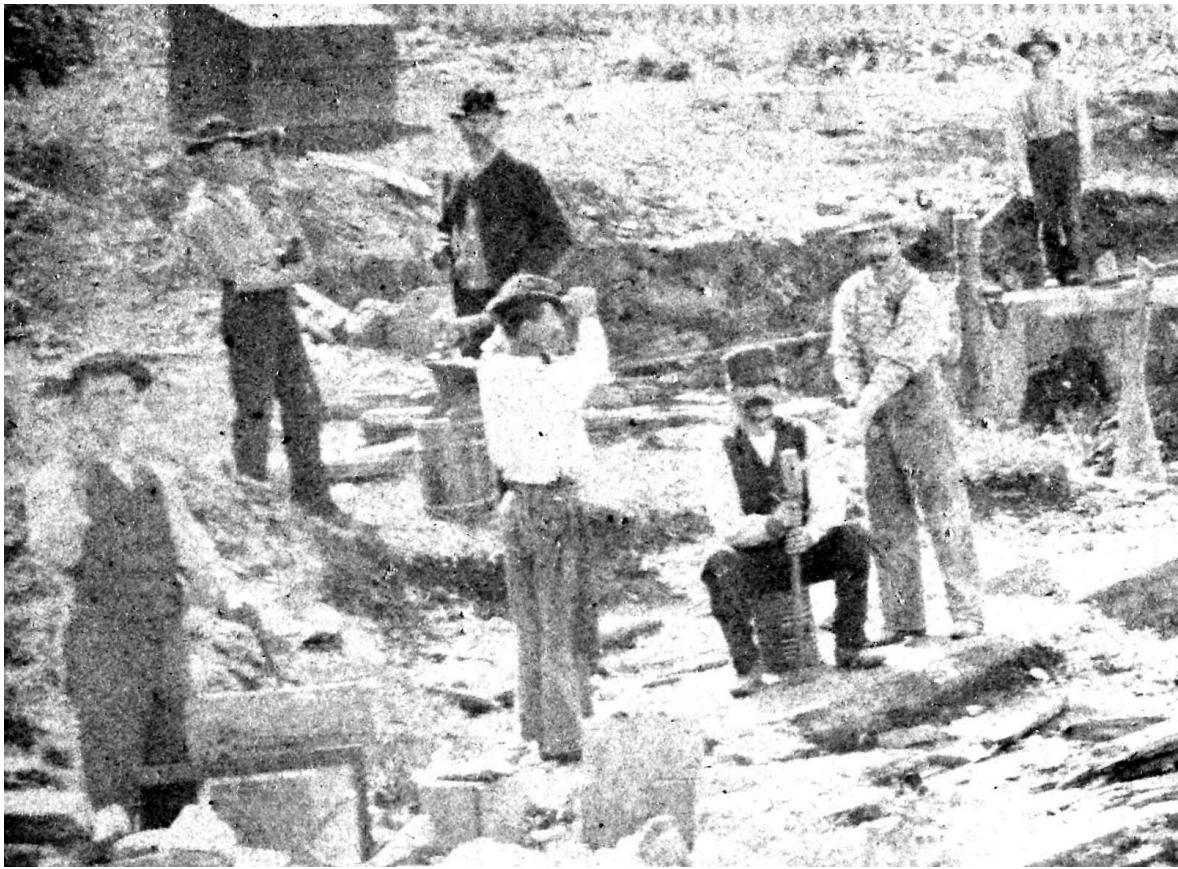
A closer look

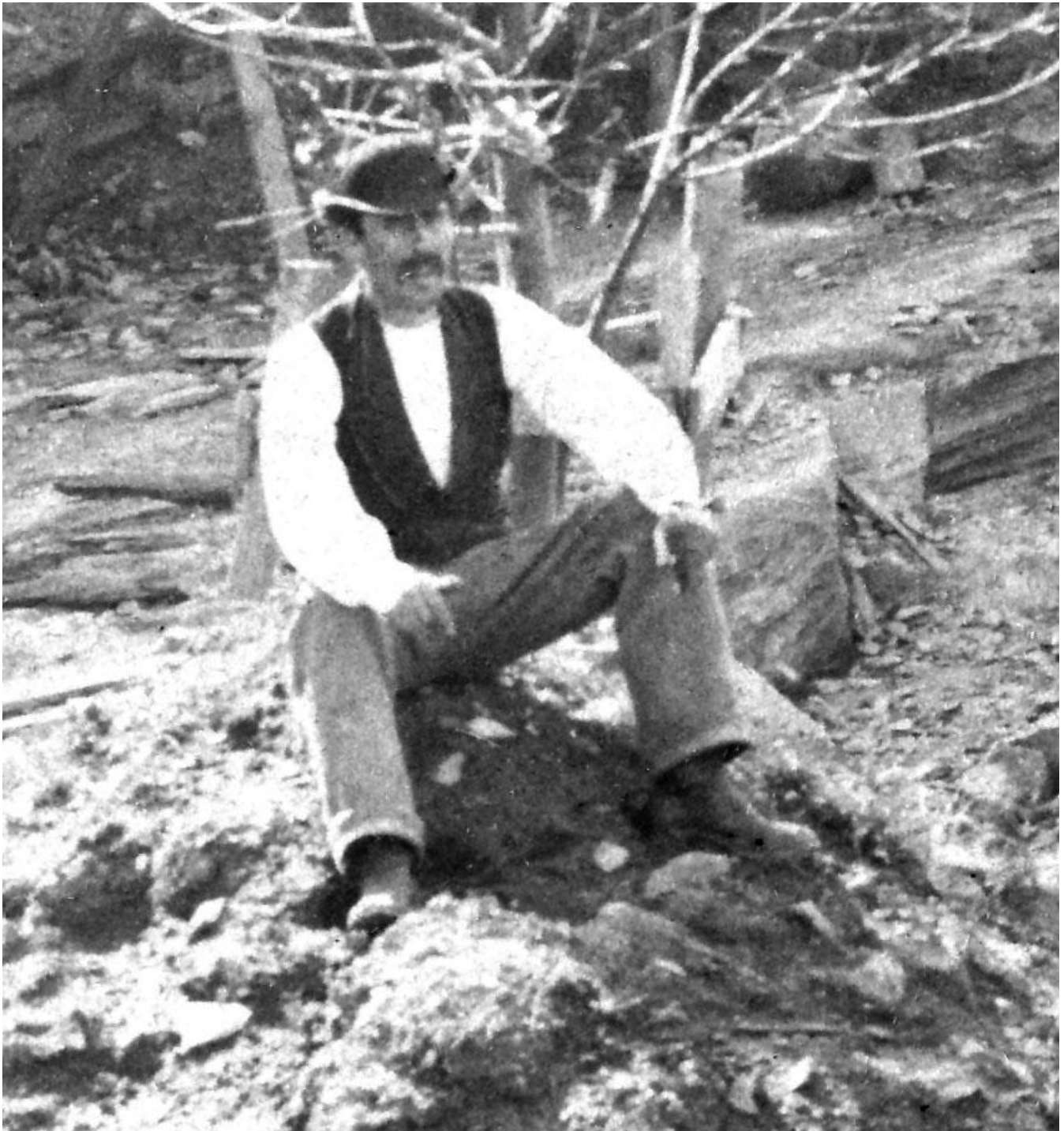


Even closer









It is my assumption that this is Jerry Benoit, posing for the photograph. However, since Father Cloarec had other parishioners doing the cutting and loading of the stone, this could be a supervisor and Jerry may be one of the teamsters.

In January, 1884, Father Jerome M. Cloarec obtains the right to harvest the stone for the new church from Mr. and Mrs. William Root.

City Clerk's Office
W.H. Root, City Clerk.
Burlington, Vt., January 7, 1884

This paper grants to Rev. Jerome M. Cloarec the right to quarry stone from my premises east side of Willard Street, at such places as I or my son may indicate to him, and the right, also, to hammer such stone on the premises, provided that he, said Cloarec causes the chips to be shoveled or put back into the hole made in quarrying. And it is further provided that said Cloarec shall be, and hereby agrees to be responsible for any and all damage that may be done to persons or property while engaged in taking out said stone. And this permission is granted for such quantity of stone as said Cloarec may desire for the use in building the new French Catholic Church on Allen Street. And this right is granted subject to no payment for the stone.

Jane M. Root
Wm H. Root
State of Vermont
Chittenden County SS Burlington, Vt. January 24, 1885

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original paper.
William H. Heare
Justice of the Peace

Note by John. Fisher in 2015: The Root residence at that time was on the corner of Willard and Bradley Streets; and the Redstone Quarry is located at the far end of Hoover Street, off Shelburne Road.

Nancy Benway Devoid found out from her Uncle that Jerry was the only one that had two full teams of horses in the area.

Contract between Jerry Benoit of Burlington and Jerome M. Cloarec also of Burlington.

This Agreement made this 1st day of June 1884, by and between Rev. J.M. Cloarec of Burlington, Vermont, party of the first part, and Jerry Benoit of said Burlington, party of the second part.—

Witnesseth: That whereas the said party of the first part has arranged for the quarrying on the grounds of Mrs. Jane Root, on South Willard Street, in said Burlington, for the erection of a church on Allen Street, in said Burlington, which said stone he is desirous of having delivered on the grounds where said church is being built.

Now therefore, the parties above named have mutually agreed as follows:

First. The said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, hereby agrees to draw and deliver said stone, as rapidly as they are quarried, from said quarry to the church grounds on Allen Street, and deposit the same in such place or places, on said church grounds as shall be designated by said party of the first part of his agents.

That he will furnish the men, horses and wagons required for such work so that there shall be no unnecessary delay in inconvenience to said party of the first part or any of his agents, by reason of the failure of said party of the second part to deliver said stone on said church grounds, as fast as they are quarried and ready for transfer.

Second. The said party of the first part hereby agrees to furnish help to assist the party of the second part, in loading the stone at said quarry: And further to pay to said party of the second part, the sum of seventy cents for each and every load so delivered upon said church grounds, by said party of the second part, or any of his agents. Which said sum shall be due and payable by said party of the first part to said party of the second part, at the end of each week during which said stone shall be delivered on said church grounds.

And when said party of the second part shall have completed his delivery of all the stone required for said Church building, by said party of the first part, as above set forth, the entire quantity of stone, so delivered on said church grounds, by said party of the second part, or any of his agents, shall be carefully measured by some competent person, to be agreed upon by the parties to this agreement, and said party of the first part shall pay to said party of the second part, the sum of thirty five cents for each and every perch of stone, so delivered by said party of the second part, less the aggregate amount paid by said part of the first part, to said party of the second part for load, from time to time, during the work of delivery of said stone by said party of the second part, as above specified. The sum due said party of the second part from said party of the first part, for the drawing of said stone, shall be the balance remaining after deducting the whole amount received by said party of the second part at the rate of seventy cents per load, from the whole amount due at the rate of thirty five cents per perch of stone delivered on said church grounds, by said party of the second part, after the same has been measured as above specified, on the conclusion of the work.

This agreement is executed in duplicate. I witness whereof, the parties above named have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

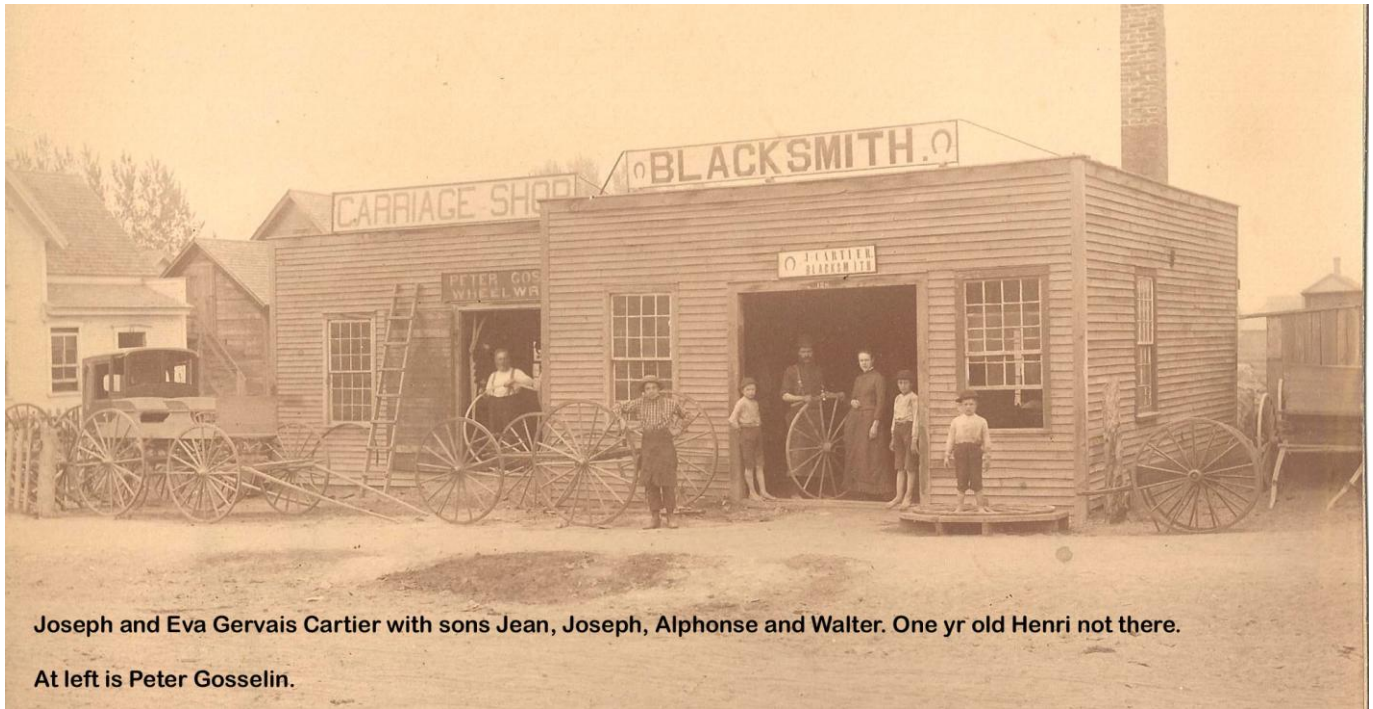
(s) Jerome M. Cloarec
his

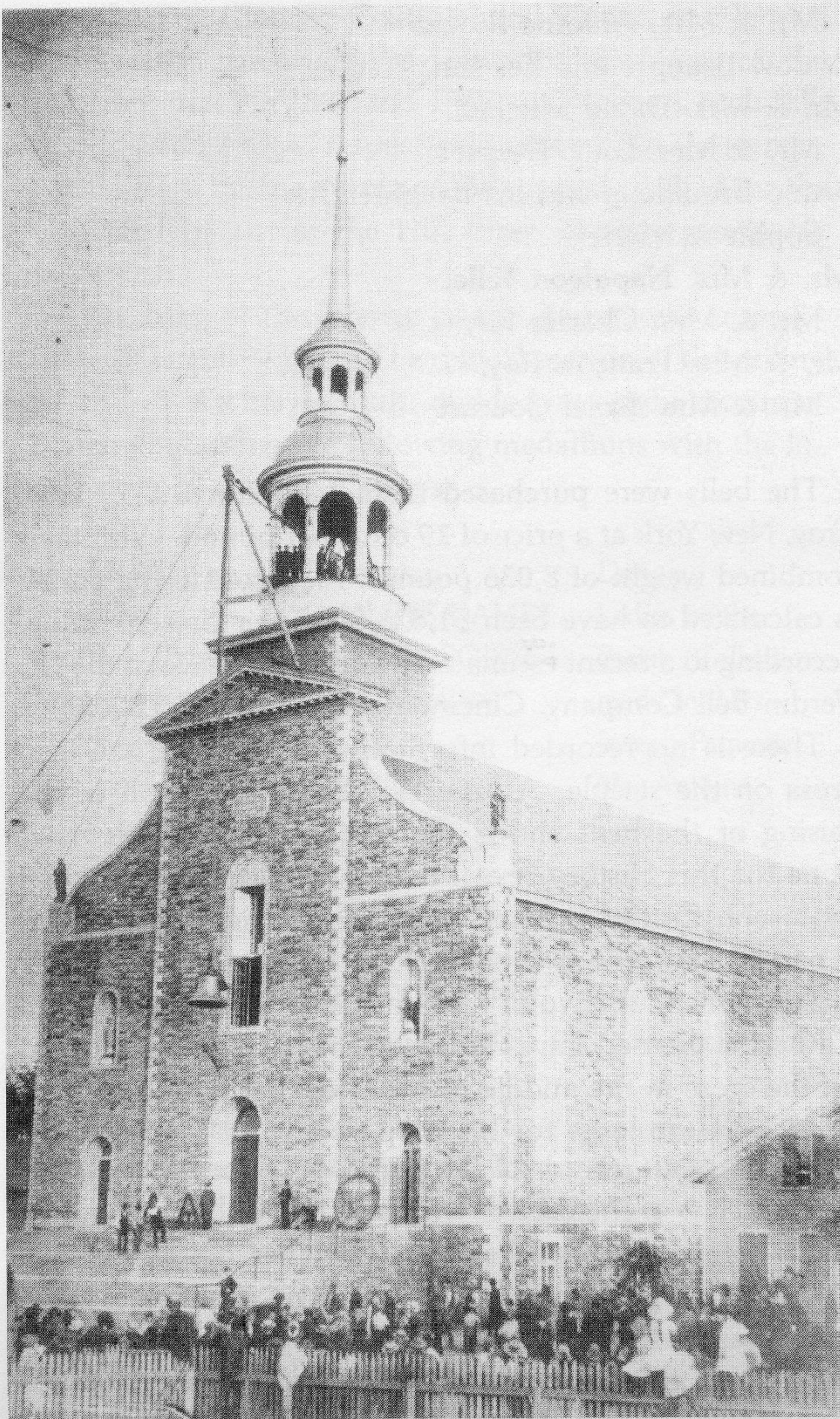
In presence of

Jerry X Benoit
Mark

Note: A perch of stone equals 24 cubic feet.

Since the Cartier Blacksmith and Wheelwright shop was directly across the street at 128 North Street from Jeremie Benoit, who lived at 127 North Street from 1879 until he died in 1897, I must also assume that Jeremie had a lot of help repairing his wagons from Joseph Cartier and Peter Gosselin. Note that Joseph Cartier also fabricated the steel cross that is on top of the steeple of St Joseph Church. It was reported that he made it in the middle of North Street because it was too large for the shop. The rooster or cock wind vane was reportedly made by J. Ernest Lanou whose shop was at North and Lafountain Streets. The cock is a reminder of the cock that crowed after St. Peter had denied the Lord. It is a traditional feature on older French Canadian churches.





Raising of the bells at St. Joseph Church in June 1887



F. X. THIBAUT.

PHOTOGRAPHER

12 Carpenters at work in early 1887

Mr & Mrs Remi Benoit are listed as "Godparents" of the largest bell weighing 4,457 pounds, named "Joseph Louis Baptiste."

HISTORY OF THE ST. JOSEPH CHURCH BELLS

On Sunday, June 19, 1887, three new bells of St. Joseph Church were blessed by the Very Reverend Thomas Lynch, Vicar General of the Diocese, delegated for the ceremony by Bishop de Goesbriand.

The bells were purchased from Meneely & Co., West Troy, New York at a price of 19 cents per pound. With their combined weight of 8,036 pounds, their cost to the parish is calculated to have been \$1,526.84. Today, these bells would be available only in Germany and would cost over \$100,000.00 installed.

According to custom, each bell was given a name: Joseph Louis Baptiste, 4,457 pounds; Marie Jerome Francois, 2,243 pounds; and Anne Antoine, 1,336 pounds.

Each bell bears the following inscription (in French):

Most Rev. L. de Goesbriand, 1st Bishop of Burlington
Jerome M. Cloarec, Pastor
Francois M. Yvinec, Curate

and

Meneely Co., West Troy, NY 1887

Each bell has godparents whose names are molded onto and are a part of the bell; these persons were chosen in recognition for their service to the Church.

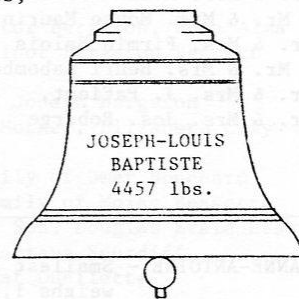
JOSEPH LOUIS BAPTISTE - Largest Bell
weighs 4,457 pounds (2 1/4) tons
rings the "C" note

Godfathers & Godmothers:

Mr. & Mrs. Leonide Duhamel	listed on the bell as
Mr. & Mrs. Jean-Marie Hebert	"Marguilliers" - ("Wardens"
Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse Rousseau	of the church)

Soc. of St. Jean Baptiste by its President,
St. Joseph's Soc. by its 3 Presidents
Soc. of the Sacred Heart, by C. deVarennnes,
F. Latour and F. Dion

Mr. & Mrs. Olivier de Varennnes,
Mr. & Mrs. Olivier Cabana
Mrs. Regis St. Pierre, widow,
and son, Arthur
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Parent,
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Paquette
Mr. & Mrs. Jean Bapt. Thomas,
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Leveille
Mr. & Mrs. Edouard Germian,
Joseph Delorme (grandfather)
Mr. & Mrs. Francois Guimond,
Mr. & Mrs. Remi Benoit



Jeremie (Remi) Benoit - Birth, Baptism, Marriage and Death
Jeremie was born and baptized on 9 May 1846


Baptême

[St-Dominique \(Bagot\)](#)

1846-05-09

Naissance : 1846-05-09

Acte du Fonds Drouin :

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BENOIT, JEREMIE

Sujet

sexe

m.

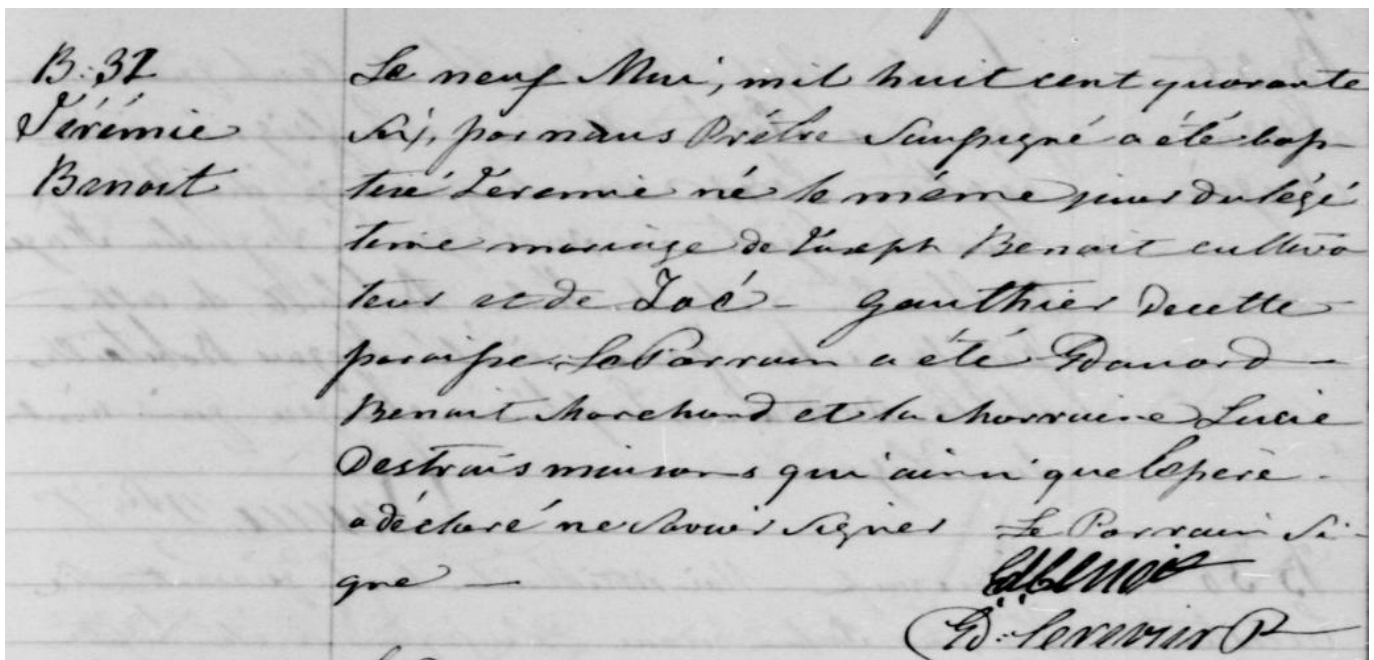
BENOIT, JOSEPH

Père

GAUTHIER, ZOE

Mère

See the actual Baptism Act



The image shows a handwritten document, likely a baptismal record, written in French. The text is written in cursive and is somewhat faded. On the left side, there is a vertical column of text that reads: "B: 37", "Jeremie", "Benoit". The main body of the text describes the baptism of Jeremie Benoit on May 9, 1846, by the undersigned priest. It mentions the parents, Joseph Benoit and Zoe Gauthier, and the godparents, Ranord Benoit and Lucie Destroismaison. The text concludes with a declaration that the father has declared not knowing how to sign his name, and the godfather's signature is provided.

The 9th of May, 1846, by me the undersigned Priest have baptized Jeremie, born the same day of the legitimate marriage of Joseph Benoit, farmer, and of Zoe Gauthier of this parish. The godfather is Ranord Benoit, merchant, and the godmother Lucie Destroismaison of whom only the father has declared not knowing how to sign his name. The godfather signed. _____

**Jeremie Benoit Married Eleonore Beaupre on 19 Nov 1867
at St Hyacinthe, Quebec**

Mariage		1867-11-19
St-Hyacinthe		Acte du Fonds Drouin : d1p_03911419.jpg
BENOIT, JEREMIE Sujet Résidence : ST DOMINIQUE DE BAGOT	Ét. civ. âge célib. maj	
BEAUPRE, ELEONORE Sujet Résidence : ST HYACINTHE	Ét. civ. âge célib. min	
BENOIT, JOSEPH Père de l'époux Résidence : ST DOMINIQUE DE BAGOT	décès décédé	
GAUTHIER, ZOE Mère de l'époux Résidence : ST DOMINIQUE DE BAGOT		
BEAUPRE, PIERRE Père de l'épouse Résidence : ST HYACINTHE		
METIVIER, ELEONORE Mère de l'épouse	décès décédée	

Here is the actual Marriage Act
He was a farmer residing at St Dominique, as was his father Joseph.

No. 14

Le jourd'hui de dimanche Novembre mil huit cent soixante sept,
Jeremie Benoit et Eleonore Beaupre au pres de nos mesmes paroisses les semblable publication ayant
été faite au St Dominique Jonthe Benoit cultivateur -
domicilié à St Dominique, fils majeur de feu Joseph Benoit en
son vivant cultivateur de St Dominique et de son frere Gauthier d'une
part, et Eleonore Beaupre domiciliée en cette paroisse fille mineure
de Pierre Beaupre cultivateur de cette paroisse, et de defunte Eleonore
Metivier, d'autre part, ne s'étant découvert aucun empêchement,
nous prêtre soussigné sur le double paroisse, avons reçu le mutuel
consentement des parties contractantes et leur avons donné la
bénédiction nuptiale en présence de Joseph Beaupre et de
Joseph Benoit qui, ainsi que les autres, ont signé
P. de Secours prêtre

Baptisms of the Benoit / Benway Line performed at St Joseph, Burlington, VT Jeremie & Eleonore's first child, Joseph, was born in 1868 in Vermont


Name	Father	Mother	Date Born	Date Baptized	Godfather	Godmother
Benoit, Joseph	Benoit, Jerome	Beaupre, Eleonore	22 Nov 1868	23 Nov 1868	Benoit, Joseph	Beaulieu, Zoe
Benoit, Marie Jeanne	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	18 (...)	22 May 1870	Fitzgerald, John	Fitzrowel?, Sara
Benoit, Pierre Magloire Joseph	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	6 Feb 1872	25 Feb 1872	Harbour, Guillaume	Harbour, Sophie
Benoit, Jeremie	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	28 Nov 1873	07 Dec 1873	Laurence, Joseph	Benoit, Marie
Benoit, Josephine	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	23 Aug 1875	29 Aug 1875	Benoit, Jean-Baptiste	Benoit, Cordelie
Benoit, J. Bte.	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	13 Aug 1878	18 Aug 1878	Benoit, Alexandre	Lavoie, Emelie
Benoit, Edouard Sylvain Jos.	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	30 Apr 1880	2 May 1880	Gospand, Sylvan	Noblet, Marie
Benoit, Alfred Jos.	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	9 Apr 1882	9 Apr 1882	Brouillet, Bruno	Blondin, Rosalie
Benoit, Jos. Henri	Benoit, Remi	Beaupre, Anna	27 Sep 1883	30 Sep 1883	Roberge, Joseph	Desjardins, Elisabeth
Benoit, M. Eleonore	Benoit, Remi	Beaupre, Eleonore	27 Sep 1884	28 Sep 1884	Bedard, Felix	Robin, Adeline
Benoit, Francois	Benoit, Jeremie	Beaupre, Eleonore	23 Nov 1885	29 Nov 1885	Guilmont, Frs.	Croto, Sophie
Benoit, Frederic	Benoit, Pierre	McTiermey, Mary	21 Nov 1897	28 Nov 1897	Benoit, Frederic	Benoit, Lea
Benoit, Wm. Henri	Benoit, Pierre	McTiermey, Mary	27 Sep 1899	25 Nov 1900	Morin, Jean	Teamy, Marie
Benoit, Frank Eugene	Benoit, Pierre Jos.	McTiermey, Mary	18 Sep 1902	19 Sep 1902	Arpin, Frs. Eugene	(...)
Benoit, Walter J. Bte.	Benoit, Pierre Jos.	McTiermey, Mary	18 Sep 1902	19 Sep 1902	Benoit, J. Bte.	Martin, M. Julie
Benoit, Catherine Cecile	Benoit, Pierre Joseph	McTiermey, Mary	19 Apr 1913	20 Jul 1913	Benoit, Albert	Francis, Cecile
Benoit, Mildred Helene	Benoit, Pierre	McTiermey, Mary	14 Oct 1908	28 Jun 1919	Viens, Joseph	Benoit, Stella
Benoit, William Charles Henri	Benoit, William Henr.	Gelinas, Viola	18 Apr 1921	8 May 1921	Cormier, Jean	Benoit, Stella
Benoit, Raymond Robert	Benoit, William	Gelinas, Viola	23 Mar 1924	06 Apr 1924	Benoit, Peter	McGreevey, Mary
Benoit, Joseph Ronald Kenneth	Benoit, William H.	Gelinas, Viola M.	05 Jul 1926	16 Jul 1926	Dennis, Wilfred	Benoit, Catherine
Benway, Joseph Ronald Kenneth	Benway, William H.	Gelinas, Viola M.	05 Jul 1926	16 Jul 1926	Dennis, Wilfred	Benway, Catherine
Benoit, Joseph Vernon Roy	Benoit, William	Gelinas, Viola	14 Feb 1928	26 Feb 1928	Benoit, Roy	Benoit, Mildred
Benway, Bonnie Marie	Benway, Ronald Ken	Fontaine, Lucille Irene	30 Nov 1950	24 Dec 1950	Robare, Loren Matthew	Wilbur, Mildred Helene
Benway, Nancy Jean	Benway, Ronald Ken	Fontaine, Lucille Irene	20 Jul 1954	01 Aug 1954	Chastenay, Horace	Chastenay, Theresa

Mariage

1910-09-24

Notre Dame des Sept Douleurs (Verdun)

Acte du Fonds Drouin

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BENOIT, JEREMIE

Sujet

Résidence : VERDUN

Ét. civ. | âge
célib. | maj

VIENS, MARIE LOUISE

Sujet

Résidence : VERDUN

Ét. civ. | âge
célib. | maj

BENOIT, JEREMIE

Père de l'époux

Résidence : BURLINGTON EU (ETATS UNIS)

décès
décédé

BEAUPRE, ELEONORE

Mère de l'époux

Résidence : BURLINGTON EU (ETATS UNIS)

VIENS, VICTOR

Père de l'épouse

Résidence : BURLINGTON EU (ETATS UNIS)

décès
décédé

ROUSSEAU, LOUISA

Mère de l'épouse

Résidence : BURLINGTON EU (ETATS UNIS)

Jeremie Junior

Their son Jeremie who was born in Vermont in 1873 lived in Verdun, Quebec in 1910 and married Marie Louise Viens there.

You can see that both sets of parents were living in Burlington at that time. Both of their fathers were deceased at that time.

Jeremie jr was employed as a briquetier or Brick Maker in Verdun. Earlier in Burlington he was a brick layer in 1905.

Marie Louise Viens was able to sign the marriage act.



Jeremie (Remi) Benoit died on 11 Dec 1897 at age 52 and is buried at the old Mount Calvary Cemetery in Burlington, owned by St Joseph Church.

Eleonore (Nora) Beaupre Benoit died in 1927.

Along with Peter J Benway, and his wife Mary B. McTierney.

Along with some children.

Benoit - Benway Lineage		
Francois Benoit dit Livernois	Dimanche Chappelain	From Chatillon-en-Bazois, arrondissement of Chateau-Chinon, diocese of Nevers, Nivernais (Nievre) France
Paul Benoit dit Livernois	Elisabeth Gobinet	Arrived in Montreal on 16 Nov 1653 (Master Carpenter) Wed 16 Sep 1658 at Montreal, Quebec
Etienne Benoit dit Livernois	Jeanne Campeau	Wed on 3 Feb 1699 Montreal, Quebec
Etienne Benoit dit Livernois	M. Charlotte Clement (Charles) dit Lajeunesse	Wed on 19 Mar 1726 Terrebone, Quebec
Daniel Benoit dit Livernois	M. Marg. Neveux	Wed on 19 Jan 1768 Chambly, Quebec
Paul Benoit dit Livernois	Marg. Deniau	Wed on 8 Oct 1798 Chambly, Quebec
Joseph Benoit	Zoe Gauthier	Wed on 15 May 1843 St Dominique, Bagot Cty, Quebec
Jeremie Benoit	Eleonore Beaupre	Wed on 19 Nov 1867 at St Hyacinthe, Quebec
Pierre Benoit/Benway	Mary McTierney	Wed about 1893 (Mary from Mooers, NY area) Wed 1st on 16 Sep 1890 at St Joseph's, Burlington, VT to Mary Bisson - (Lepage) 1 child Peter 10 Aug 1891
William Henry Benway	Violet Mildred Gelinas	Wed on 28 Aug 1923 at the Cathedral, Burlington, VT Occ: Ice Business
Ronald Kenneth Benway	Lucille Mary Irene Fontaine	Wed on 19 Nov 1946 at St Joseph's, Burlington, VT Occ: Ice Dealer
Nancy Jean Benway	Frank G. Devoid	Wed on 28 Apr 1984 Burlington, VT

Ronald K. Benway, 84, of Destin, Fla., was born in Burlington on July 5, 1926, to William and Viola Benway formerly of Burlington, and died on April 5, 2011. Lucille I. Benway was born Jan. 6, 1927, in Sheffield, Vt., to Euclide and Blanche Fontaine and died Sept. 25, 2007.

Le Grande Recrue de 1653 (Great Recruitment)

Montreal was founded in 1642 and in 1651, the need to defend the newly created town of Montreal (Ville-Marie) from the attacking Iroquois became apparent. M. Paul Chomedey de Maisonneuve went to France to enlist one hundred men to protect the perimeter of the town and, two years later, he returned with these brave men.

The First Benoit Pioneer in Quebec

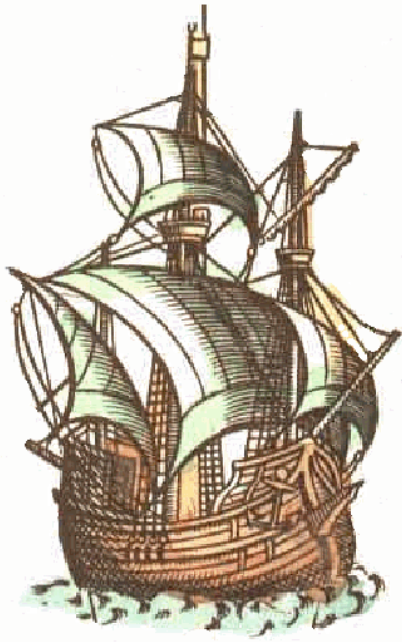


It was at Chatillon that Paul Benoit was born about 1626. Le Bazois, a tiny region of France, occupied the Eastern part of the French province of Nivernais. Paul brought the surname of Nivernois to New France and it was replaced by that of Livernois. How did Paul Benoit, raised in the interior of his country, get the idea to come to Canada? Paul, intelligent but not educated, looked for work as a carpenter outside of his village. He was about 25 years old when he was interviewed by a recruiter of Maisonneuve, probably at Nevers where he was working at the beginning of 1653.

Paul de Chomedey (Maisonneuve) had been in France since the Autumn of 1651 trying to hire 200 colonists-soldiers, first to save and then develop Ville-Marie (Montreal). It would be a difficult task. He succeeded in obtaining the consent of 154 indentured servants, 120 of whom, like Paul Benoit, honored their signatures. Paul signed a commitment of 5 years in the presence of Notary Lafousse, at Lafleche, on 23 March 1653. Because he was a carpenter, he was promised 100 livres as an annual salary. On 20 June, at the port of St-Nazaire, in the presence of notary Belliotte, he obtained a salary advance of 123 livres.

That same day he boarded the ship Saint-Nicolas. The son of Francois Benoit and of Dimanche Chappelain looked for the last time at the shores of his country in order to turn towards the horizon of the future which he so hoped would be promising. The sailors hoisted anchor, unfurled the sails and pointed the bow toward New France.

L'église de Châtillon en Bazois - Canal du Nivernais



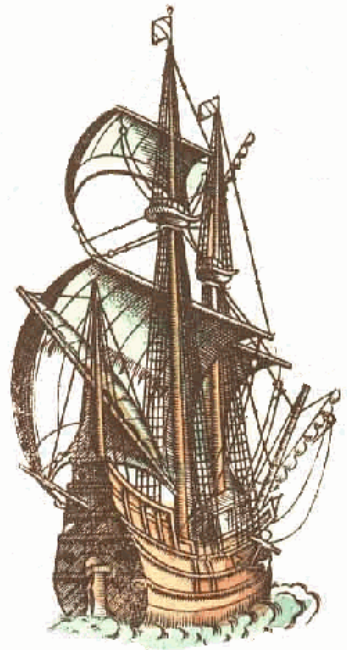
DIFFICULT CROSSING

Could the good ship Saint-Nicolas out of Nantes face the ocean squalls? the fact that the ship was not water-tight, was worm-eaten and rotten, might make a difference. All the men, including Paul Benoit, were mobilized to make the ship safe - a wasted effort and completely useless! And having traveled 350 leagues at sea, it was necessary to turn back. Water seeped into the hold and threatened to spoil the provisions. Sister Marguerite Bourgeois wrote that everyone would perish without help from the people ashore. Because he strongly feared that his engages would run away, Maisonneuve placed them on an island before docking at St-Nazaire. Experts examined the ship. Could it be salvaged? They declared it to be beyond hope. It was necessary to find another ship, to transport the baggage and supplies, to replace what was missing, and to feed all the passengers while waiting, at the expense of the Compagnie de Montreal. Only on 20 July did the replacement ship Saint-Marguerite set sail for the

New World. Alas, to add insult to injury, illness broke out aboard ship. There were a great number of sick people and eight of them died at sea, again according to Sister Bourgeois. We do not know if Maisonneuve suffered from the epidemic.

Finally, after 64 days at sea, the contingent reached the port of Quebec on Monday, 22 September 1653. It was indeed a deliverance. As a post-script to the ill fated journey, it is to be noted that the pilot was not aware of a shoal which grounded the ship as it was arriving at Quebec; the great tides could not refloat it, and so it was necessary to burn the ill-fated ship on the spot.

Paul Benoit and his friends proceeded on foot to Ville-Marie because Governor Lauzon did not want to provide barges to Maisonneuve, appointed to relieve him as Governor the previous 8 April. It was only on 16 November 1653 that Paul Benoit and the other members of the recruitment set foot in Ville-Marie, in the midst of the inexpressible joy of the whole population on Montreal.



WEDDING AT VILLE-MARIE

Paul Benoit had to fend for himself. As a carpenter, work was not lacking. It seems that by 1655, only 2 years later, he owned a site along the Rue St-Paul, between neighbors Etienne Bouchard and Andre Dumets. Paul must have been about 32 years old in the summer of 1658. The time to set up a home had sounded a long time ago. He courted a young girl, newly arrived from France, one Elisabeth Gobinet, daughter of the late Nicolas Gobinet and of Marguerite Largeleux, from Gondesse au Vexin, arrondissement of Montmorency, archdiocese of Paris. His fiancé was about 17 years old. Elisabeth and Paul had their marriage contract drawn up by the notary Benigne Basset. The nuptial blessing took place on 16 November, 1658.

Over the years, Paul and Elisabeth obtained more land. In the next 20 years, they had 11 children; Elisabeth, Laurent, Etienne, twins Barbe and Marie, Anne, Helene, Marguerite, Genevieve, Jacques, Francois and Yves. Three of their sons, Laurent, Etienne and Francois, married and together they had 31 children to pass on the name Benoit dit Livernois.

Paul Benoit died on the first of January, 1686 at Boucherville, Elisabeth Gobinet, his strong and courageous wife, took charge of the family farm for 28 years and she died on 2 April 1715 at Longueuil, Quebec.

The Benoit family name has had many variations; such as Abel, Beniglet, Bennet, Decourville, Labonte, Laforest, Laguerre, Lajeunesse, Larcher, Livernois and Vaillancourt. And also Benway and Benoure in the United States.

The above information was excerpted from Volume XVI of "our French-Canadian Ancestors" written by Thomas J. Laforest.

How did this saga begin?

I was browsing my Facebook page on 13 March 2015 and saw a photo that was submitted by Nancy Benway Devold. It was two teams of horses in what looked like a redstone quarry. I immediately thought of my St. Joseph church which was built in the 1883-1887 timeframe. There were never any photos found of the construction of the church, until the photo's of the 12 carpenters was given to me several years ago. It is now proudly displayed in the St. Joseph rectory; where this photo will also be. There were at least a couple dozen photographers in Burlington in 1884, it seemed to me that there should be more photos out there, and I have always been on the lookout for them. I reviewed the St. Joseph History book and saw that the contract for bringing the redstone from the quarry was contracted to Jerry Benoit in 1884. Seeing that Benway was an anglicization for Benoit here in Vermont, I decided to trace Nancy's lineage and found that Jeremie was her great great grandfather! Now I was really excited about this photo. I sent Nancy a message and she immediately sent me a scan of the photo. After several more emails, she graciously mailed the photo to me. I received it yesterday, the 22nd of March, and immediately scanned it at a 600 and then an 800 bits per inch level and began enhancing and then cropping various sections. I am happy with the results.

I lived near the Leo Benway family who were at 32 Intervale Avenue and I walked by there daily on the way to Nazareth elementary school. They were in the ice business also, and they had horses that I admired because there were no longer many horses within the city limits. When I was young I always watched the men deliver ice to our house for our ice box refrigerator. They always had a heavy leather or rubber pad over their shoulders, which the ice was held upon, by using large tongs to carry the ice. They always had a pick that they used to chip off pieces. On warm days children would follow the ice wagon and beg the iceman for small pieces of ice that would break off from the blocks. In looking at the Leo Benway and Marion Landers lineage, I see they also descend from Peter Benway and Mary McTierney; making their son Earl and Ronald Benway 1st cousins.

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