

LE MERCIEN

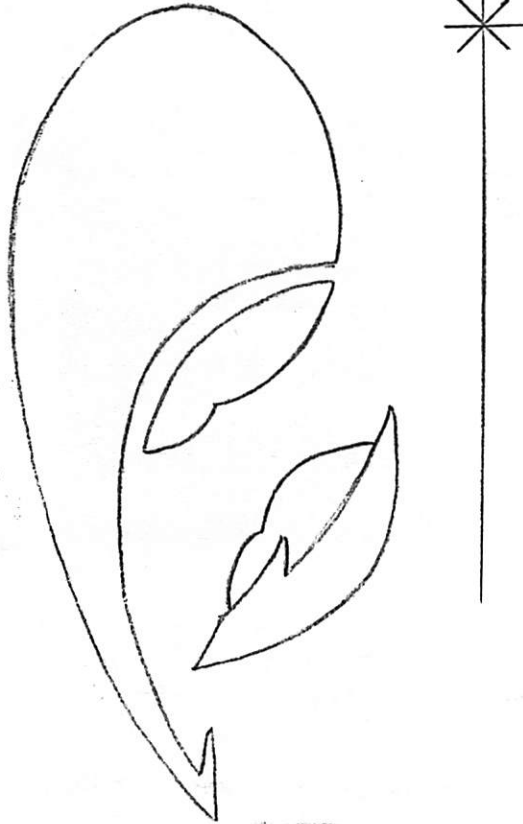


LA VOIX

DES MERCIER D'AMÉRIQUE

Volume 5, Number 1

January 1989



MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Board of Directors of AMAN wishes to all members and their families the best for 1989. May the New Year bring to everyone health, enjoyable life and peace.

FROM PRESIDENT ERNEST

On the whole, 1988 has been good to AMAN. Thanks to all and every one of you. Will 1989 be as good as the previous year? The answer is yours. Four regional committees may soon come to existence. Who are the volunteers?

Mrs. Lucienne E. Mercier-Croteau, Bonnyville, Alberta, Canada

Mrs. Madeleine La Pointe, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

Mr. Joseph Norbert Mercier, Glendora, California, USA

Mr. Maurice Mercier, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada.

There seems to be an increased desire from the anglophone Merciers from North America to join AMAN ranks. Is it the result of informing members that parts of the book "Mercier depuis des siècles" may soon be available in English? Will the joining of anglophone Merciers compensate for the loss of many francophone Merciers who have not yet paid their annual dues since their participation to the Mercier Retrouvailles in mid-August 1987? Future will tell. Try to recruit a member of your clan in 1989. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ernest Mercier

TRIBUTE TO HONORE MERCIER

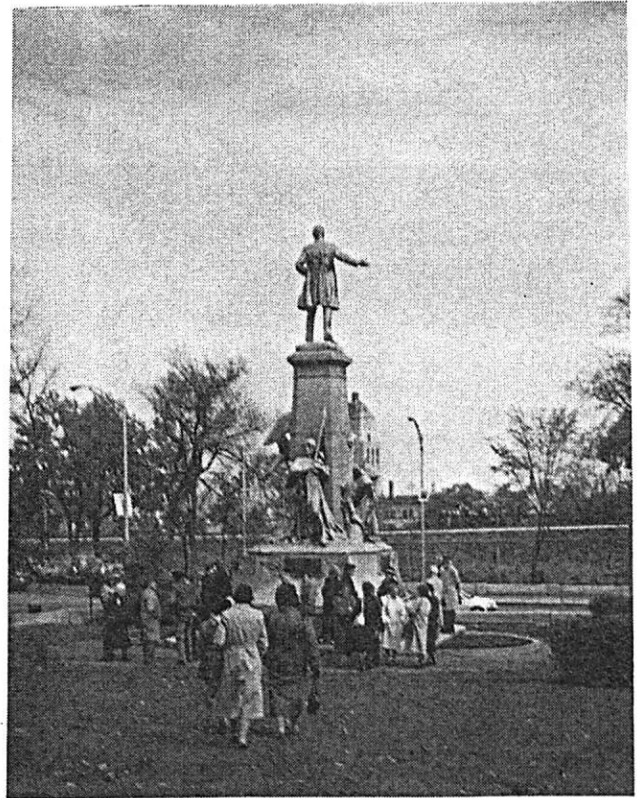
Some 70 Merciers including escorts attended the gathering around Honoré Mercier's monument in Québec City, on Sunday, October the 16th, 1988. The vice-president Paul H. Mercier welcomed and thanked those attending. President Ernest Mercier summarized briefly the reasons why AMAN had decided to pay tribute to this distinguished past premier of Québec (1888-1891).

"Honoré Mercier", he said, "worked, within the provincial jurisdiction of the Canadian constitution, for the development of the three societies which have immensely contributed for ages to the fascinating history of humanity: the **Family**, the **State** and the **Church**."

Honoré Mercier organized the first **Conference of the provincial premiers of Canada** held in Québec City in 1988. He strongly emphasized the proper use of **provincial powers** for the development of renewable resources in this country. He wisely solved, directly with Rome, the **problem of reimbursing the Jesuits** whose belongings had been confiscated by the Canadian Government in 1801, following the British decision taken in 1791 to disband the Jesuit Society".

André Mercier then described the stately monument erected in homage to Honoré Mercier on June the 25th 1912, nearby **Grande-Allée**, in front of "**L'Assemblée nationale du Québec**". André was assisted by Isabelle Mercier-Dufour who read the inscriptions written in bronze on the four sides of the monument base. Three of these four inscriptions are quotations taken from the Premier's speeches.

The shortest one is on the front (East) side: "**Let us stop our brotherly disputes and unite**". The one on the South side deals with the necessity of making **Education** available to all classes of the Québec society, including city and farming workers. The last, on the North side is a **pledge for justice** that rulers of any country must be guided by at all times. In brief, Premier Mercier strongly believed in **provincial autonomy**, and the necessity for Québec to act constantly as leading agent in the various fields of renewable resources development: agriculture,



Honoré Mercier's monument in front of the Nationale Assembly in Québec City.

industry, communications, and human populations. He helped large families by granting a 100-acre woodlot to any one counting 12 children or more. He greatly endeavoured to civilize politics.

After the ceremony around the monument, most people went to the **Hôtel Lowes le Concorde**, first to have their Lunch, and then to look at photos and videocassettes taken during the Mercier trip in Europe. Around 4 P.M., the traveling agency **Voyages Lambert inc.** graciously served cake and coffee to participants before their returning home.

Thanks to every participant; to **Roger Mercier and his wife, Christiane**, for the showing of their videocassette on the Mercier trip; to **Voyage Lambert** for its snack and the "**Hôtel Lowes le Concorde**" for the free use of a meeting room.

OLD THINGS, OLD FOLKS

Miss Marie-Reine Mercier -- she is 86 years age -- from Saint-Jean-Port-Joly, Québec, has recently sold the Mercier Family Home. This house witnessed a strange murder during the 19th century. Miss Marie-Reine has a wonderful collection of transcribed letters she received from people who roomed and boarded there while studying wood carving at the local Bourgault Shop. She also owns a collection of photos which should be saved for posterity.

All of us, Mercier friends should endeavour by all means to preserve these family stories and souvenirs. We should be sure that they are transmitted to future generations. Who has such collections to offer to AMAN? The Association will see that it stays in good hands. Thank you sincerely.

COAT OF ARMS

Mgr. Jean-Paul Gélinas, who designed the Coat of Arms of AMAN, offers to duplicate them. The cost of reproducing these will depend upon the number and the size of copies ordered. It should not exceed 150 dollars. If you are interested, please communicate your wish by writing to AMAN's Secretariate before February the 28th, 1989. Small folders (postcard size) are available at the Secretariate.

THANKS

The Genealogical Service of AMAN thanks most sincerely all Merciers and friends who have already compiled and sent to the Secretariate their genealogical family records. The list of these benevolent people will be given in the April issue of Le Mercien.

SECOND TRIP TO EUROPE

The Board of directors of AMAN has decided to give to the travelling agency **Plein Soleil** (10650, boulevard l'Ormière, Loretteville (Québec), G2B 3H4, telephone -- 418 - (847-1023), the responsibility of organizing the second Mercier trip to Europe. This trip will take place in September 1989

if the number of participants permits it. If you are interested, please inform the Secretariate, C.P. 6700, Sillery (Québec) G1T 2W2. The Agency will communicate with you as soon as the itinerary is fixed. It may differ from the one submitted to you by the **Plein Soleil Agency** on January the 28th, 1988.

ANNIVERSARIES

To members of the Association who have celebrated in 1988 a special anniversary: wedding, religious dedication, professional services etc., the Board of Directors of AMAN respectfully offers its most sincere congratulations.

Wedding anniversaries

Elisabeth Mercier and Rosaire Laprise from Montmagny (pages 386 and 387 of the above mentioned book), as well as Gemma Mercier and André Plante, residing in Saint-Lambert, Beauce-Nord,

(same reference, pages 414 and 415), have celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary.

Religious life dedication

Aline and Gracia Mercier, sisters of Beatrice Mercier-Lacroix, secretary of AMAN (page 489 of "Mercier depuis des siècles"), have serviced La Congrétation de Notre-Dame for 50 years.

MARRIAGES

Carole Mercier, daughter of Réal and Noella Laliberté were married in Saint-Lambert (Beauce-Nord), Québec (page 415 of the same reference).

WHAT ARE YOUR ROOTS?

Most of the Merciers living in North America -- at least 25 000 people -- originate from six french bachelors who took land and wife and left descendants in New France between 1630 and 1765. One of them had the lion's share in the fairly **Large** north american Mercier family.

- . **Jullien Mercier** from Tourouve, Perche, married **Marie Poulain** in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. The couple had 10 children, six boys and four girls. Eight of the children (five boys and three girls) had offspring who are found in all provinces of Canada and most areas of the United States. 85 %
- . **Pierre Mercier** known as Caudebec from Barneville-Carteret Normandy, married André Martin in Beaubassin, Acadia (Amherst, N.S.). Being banished from Acadia, the couple settled in Saint-Pierre-du-Sud (Montmagny County). Descendants from Alexandre, their son, are limited in number. 1 %
- . The miller **Pierre Mercier**, from Saint-Denis-de-la-Chevasse, Poitou (vendée), married Marguerite Lemain from Neuville, a locality west of Québec city. Out of the eight children, only two boys survived. Their descendants are found mostly in Eastern Ontario and, to a lesser extent, in some areas of Québec. 3 %
- . **Pierre-Simon Mercier** from Ile-de-France (Paris) married Marie Renée Pineau in Verchères, on the south shore of the Saint-Lawrence River, in front of Montréal. Descendants from Joseph, one of their two sons, are found in the valleys of the Richelieu and Yamaska rivers and likely in the United States. 1 %
- . **Charles Mercier** known as Lajoie came from Beaumont-la-Ronce (north of Tours). He was married to Marianne Lahayse in L'Assomption (town named Legardeur today) east of Montréal. Seven children (five boys and two girls) had large families whose offspring are found nowadays in saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan, in Montréal, on the south shore of the Saint-Lawrence River and probably in the United States. 5 %
- . **Jean Mercier**, from Saint-Jean-de-Cubzac, close to Bordeaux, was probably married to a young lady of New-Orleans, Louisiana. Descendants of this couple are found mostly in the southern and western states of USA. 5 %

The percent figures on the right side of the page indicate the chances that you may be related to one of these six Mercier ancestors. Now that you are aware of the name and place of origin of these Mercier ancestors, why not enter in a family genealogical register all you know about members of your family: dates and places of marriage, birth and burial of your parents, sisters and brothers; of your aunts and uncles. In so doing you will transmit valuable data to your descendants. AMAN can help you in keeping accurate family genealogical records. Fill these records yourself and give a copy to the family Association (AMAN). Some of you have already done that. The Management thanks you most sincerely for your help to AMAN.

Where should AMAN hold its 1989 annual meeting? Are members of the following regions willing to give a hand in helping to organize this great annual event? Could it be held in Trois-Rivières, Sherbrooke or Montmagny? Québec and Montréal are not the only two cities which count active members of AMAN. Managers of the Association are expecting an invitation. Which region is willing to cooperate?

Following the resolution adopted during the last **Annual Meeting**, held on Sunday, July the 10th, 1988 in Sabrevois, the **Board of directors** has appointed two members. Mr. Jean Mercier is an accountant living in Saint-David (Charny), Québec, and Mr. Jacques H. Mercier, manages in Rimouski a life insurance bureau servicing the Gaspé Peninsula and the lower Saint-Lawrence North Shore. Congratulations and long services.

REGIONAL COMMITTEES

Four AMAN members are presently endeavouring to establish a **regional committee**. It is most interesting to realize that they live in different corners of North America. Here are their full name, address and telephone number. You may like to get in touch with them.

Madeleine La Pointe
150, Lake Shore Road West, app. 506
Mississauga, Ontario
L5H 3R2 tél. (416) 278-9071

Joseph Norbert Mercier
625, North Akely Drive
Glendora, 91740, Ca, USA
tél. (818) 335-2936

Lucienne E. Mercier-Croteau
4104, 47e Rue, Bonnyville, Alberta
T9N 1P9 tél. (403) 826-7447

Maurice Mercier
4, rue Côté, Châteauguay, Qc
J6R 2W7 tél. (514) 691-9391

DEATHS

In 1988, AMAN expressed its condolences to some Mercier families that lost a member.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of death</u>	<u>Place</u>
Mrs. Eileen Dobbin-Mercier (1)	26 December 1987	Québec
Mr. Sarto Mercier	06 March 1988	Montréal
Mrs. Romulus Mercier	07 March 1988	Québec
Mrs. Evelynna Bouchard-Mercier	12 March 1988	Québec
Brother Joseph Mercier	24 March 1988	Château-Richer
Mr. Pierre Mercier (2)	04 July 1988	Québec
Mr. Honoré Mercier (3)	14 July 1988	Montréal
Mrs. Marthe Mercier	29 July 1988	Beauport
Mr. Jacques Hamel (4)	04 August 1988	Baie Saint-Paul
Mr. Gérard Mercier	09 September 1988	Lévis
Mrs. Yvette L'arrivée-Mercier	18 September 1988	Thetford Mines
Mrs. Marguerite Mercier-Verrault	04 October 1988	Québec
Mr. Georges H. Mercier	26 October 1988	Québec
Mr. Jean-Charles Mercier	19 November 1988	Québec
Mr. François Mercier	20 November 1988	Montmagny
Mrs. Jeanne Duclos-Mercier (5)	21 November 1988	Charlesbourg

(1) Mother of Ralph Mercier, mayor of Charlesbourg (page 320, of the book **Mercier depuis des siècles**).

(2) Son of Irenée Mercier and Alice Roy (page 486 of the book).

(3) Grandson of the past Premier of Québec, Honoré Mercier (page 349 and 350 of the book).

(4) Relatives mentioned on Page 423 of the book.

(5) Mother of Jacques Mercier, Legal advisor of AMAN.

NEWS FROM FRANCE

On September the 12th 1988, Jacques Nortier, mayor of Tourouve, Perche, France, sent a warm letter to president Ernest in wich he thanked immensely AMAN for its great symbolic contribution of 1000 dollars to the organization of the "**Musée de l'histoire de la colonisation percheronne au Canada**". This contribution, made possible through financial assistance from the Québec Gouvernement, represented about a dollar per active member of the Association in 1988.

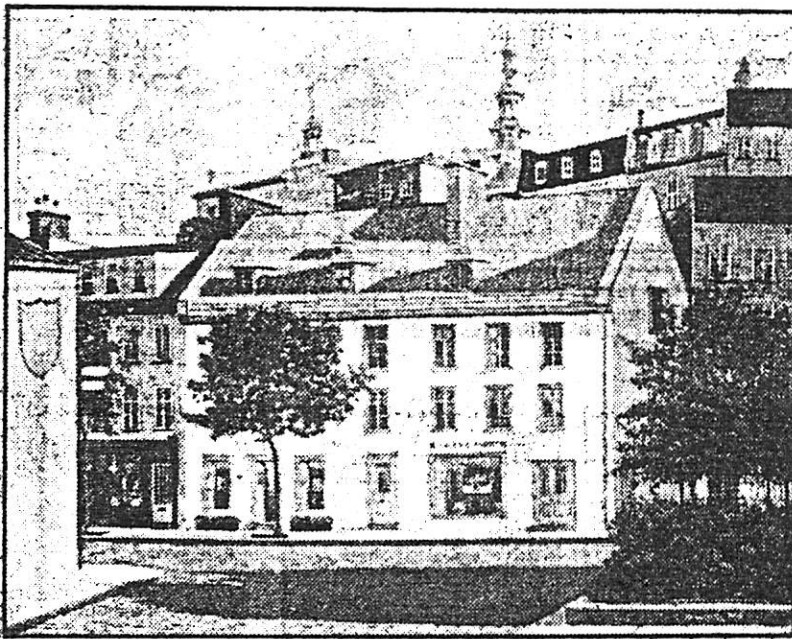
Sincere thanks to all AMAN supporters. Part of Mayor's Nortier's Letter is reproduced in the January number (volume 5) of **Le Mercien**.

WHY NOT KEEP FAMILY RECORDS?

We are proud to have descendants from Mercier in our family tree. Congratulations AMAN is endeavouring to dig out historical facts related to this very ancient surname. It points out achievements of women and men who are related to the Merciers. It can help us to complete some parts of our family tree.

Aman will survive as long as benevolent Mercier are willing to help each other in finding their roats and telling each other their little family story. This objective can be achieved easily in organizing **local telephone committes** grouping Merciers and associates who want to learn about their relatives and have someting to tell about the Merciers. Why not begin by letting AMAN know about our children, our sisters and brothers, our parents, aunts and uncles, our grand parents and so on. We will be provided with genealogical family record forms to collect these data in the April number of **Le Mercien**.

■ Rockefeller et nos peintres



The **Mercier historic House**, located on Saint-Paul Street (113-115-117), Québec City, was painted by Anne Beauchemin. It was bought during the summer 1987 by a member of the New York Rockefeller Family. The Christian name of and the price paid by the buyer are not known. This painting had been ordered by the **Brisson family** owner of the **Galerie Christian** operating in the above mentioned house.

Photo Le Soleil, jeudi 22 octobre 1987.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER YVONNE MERCIER

Sister Yvonne Mercier, from Sherbrooke, is a direct descendant at the 9th generation, through Pierre and Marie Chamberland, from Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain. Having joined in 1932, at 16 years of age, the religious congregation of "Les filles de la charité du Sacre-coeur-de-Jésus", she was soon sent to Angers, France, in September 1934, in order to increase cooperation between French and Québec provinces of the said congregation.

During the Second World war (1939-1945) she was displaced, with other non belligerent Canadians, by the German Armed Forces, rulers of France, on December 8th 1940, from Angers to Besançon and lived during four months the abject conditions of concentration camps: sleeping on straw infested by bed bugs; lacking toilet facilities; eating day after day potatoes, broth and black German bread; being forced to eat by hand without utensils.

Suffering from acute otitis (ear infection), Sr. Yvonne was sent to the infirmary and finally returned to Angers in June 1941 where she was welcomed as a war hero by her religious society.

Sr. Yvonne witnessed twice the horrors of the air-force bombardments. German planes raided Angers to displace weakened French armed forces in June 1940. She was in Angers when American allied armed forces took away the city from German troops in the fall of 1944.

In February 1946, she came back by boat to her native land suffering again from the same sea sickness she violently experienced in September 1934. Sr.

Yvonne presently helps young girls in the Sherbrooke area to go through their university years without suffering the inconveniencies of home separation.

AMAN directors had asked Sr. Yvonne to be one of their **guests of honour** at the Mercier Retrouvailles in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. She could not attend.

Long life to this faithful Mercier Lady.



GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Mrs. Elisabeth Mercier and her husband, Mr. Rosaire Laprise, are transcribing the parish records (birth, marriage and burial) of **Saint-Thomas de Montmagny**. Congratulations! There are surely other Merciers and escorts who accomplish, sometimes with magnifying-glass assistance, similar works in other north american parishes. Who are you? Tell **Le Mercier Committee** about the wonderful task you do in order to help parish employees, genealogists and increase your health conditions by helping others.

ELECTIONS

Congratulations to all descendants from or associated with Merciers who have been elected for the first time or re-elected as mayors at municipal elections held in the Province of Québec or elsewhere. Same applies to church wardens. The Merciers have always served their community.

Ralph Mercier has been re-elected mayor of **Charlesbourg, Qc**, with a majority of 86% of the citizens who casted their vote on November the 6th 1988. (More details on Ralph ancestry are found on page 320 of **Mercier depuis des siècles**).

"Courrier de deuxième classe"

Permis no. 7784

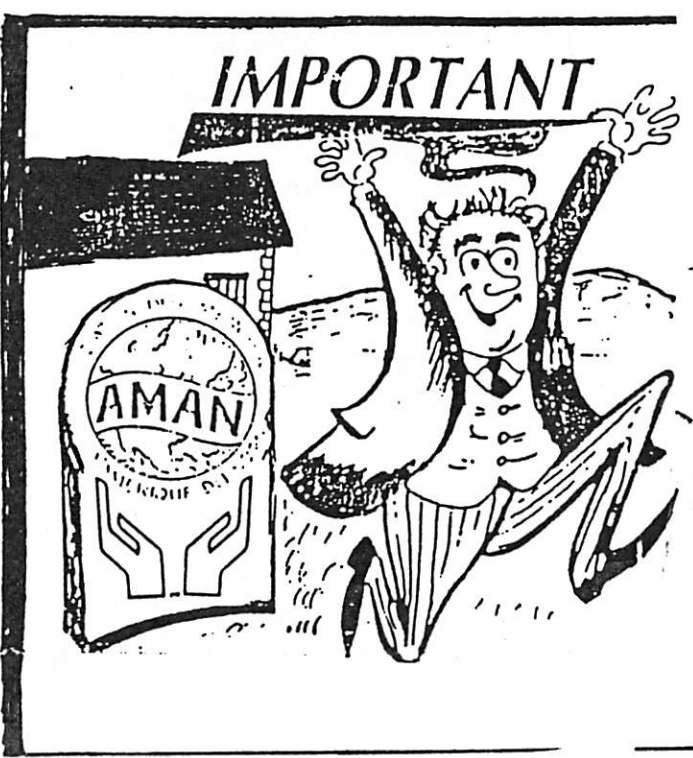
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Canada
G1T 2W2

Port de retour garanti

Prière de livrer cet exemplaire

du *Le Mercien* à:



WHY NOT HELP KEEPING AMAN ALIVE?

From the language point of view, AMAN has three categories of members: francophone, bilingual and anglophone. The Association can serve its membership either in French or in English if numbers warrant it.

Do you need AMAN's assistance to help you know more about your roots and discover the Merciers' patrimony in North America and Western Europe? (See coloured page in the center).

AMAN may have to stop publishing the English summary of Le Mercien if anglophone.

**LAST CALL FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE
ENGLISH SUMMARY OF Le Mercien
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION
The Management**

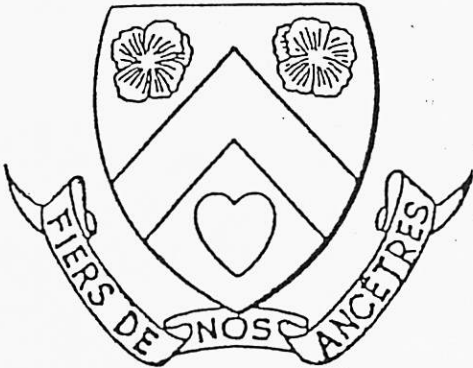
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AMAN GIVES YOU THE OPPORTUNITY OF:

- Discovering your family roots in North America and Western Europe;
- Helping to build its genealogical family data bank;
- Obtaining, at moderate cost, your Mercier's ancestry title including, for each generation, the collaterals between you and your ancestor Mercier who came to New France between 1647 and 1770.
- Leaving to national archives the history of your relatives and family.
- Belonging to a family foundation that wants to make know achievements of Merciers in the Western World.
- Being a member of a dynamic family association deeply involved in the survival of democratic institutions in the world.



ATTESTATION

I, undersigned, agree to join AMAN - - to pay my annual dues - - . Enclosed is my cheque of 12,00 \$.

First Name _____ Family name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Phone number _____

If you already are member of AMAN, please indicate the number mentioned on your card
_____.

Return to: AMAN, C.P. 6700, Sillery (Québec), Canada, G1T 2W2

IMPORTANT



WHERE ARE AMAN'S MEMBERS

Out of the 1193 members listed on October 1987, about one third of them have paid their 1987-1988 annual dues. What is happening to AMAN's members? **Le Mercien** costs you about four cents per day. Are you too poor to remain connected with roots in North America and Europe? The benevolent workers of AMAN believe that you must give a hand to the Mercier's family Association if you want it to develop. Your 12-dollar annual fee is most essential for the survival of AMAN. Do you want AMAN to survive? Do you wish to receive the English quarterly summary of **Le Mercien**? If not, please let AMAN

know. The payment of your annual dues is your answer. The Association will pass out quietly if the Merciers and friends do not move. Solidarity is the word to be spoken. What is your choice? Thank you for your cooperation.

Pierre Georges Roy said one day: "Let us proclaim it once more: Patrimony of a race, of any one people is an accumulation over centuries of all efforts, the work and sacrifices of all members, small and great".

Your AMAN card number gives you the date of your last annual dues payment. This date is also indicated on the last line of your address sticker. For example, the codification 458-1988-08 means that your association number is 458 and that your last annual membership dues should have been paid before August 1988. Did you do it?

AMAN HAS FOR SALE

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Unit / Price</u>
.....	Etiquette à vin / Vintage label2,00 \$
.....	Tire-bouchon / Corkscrew	3,00 \$
.....	Bouton de revers / Lapel pin	3,00 \$
.....	Porte-clef / Key-ring	3,00 \$
.....	Chanson-thème sur cassette / Theme song	10,00 \$
.....	Vidéo du rassemblement / Reunion vidéo	40,00 \$
.....	Album souvenir "MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIECLES"	45,00 \$

Enclosed is my personal cheque or money order to the amount of _____ \$

To: AMAN, C.P. 6700, Sillery, Québec, Canada G1T 2W2.

P.S. AMAN Secretariate still has a limited quantity of post cards illustrating AMAN's coats of arms at 10,00 \$ per dozen.