

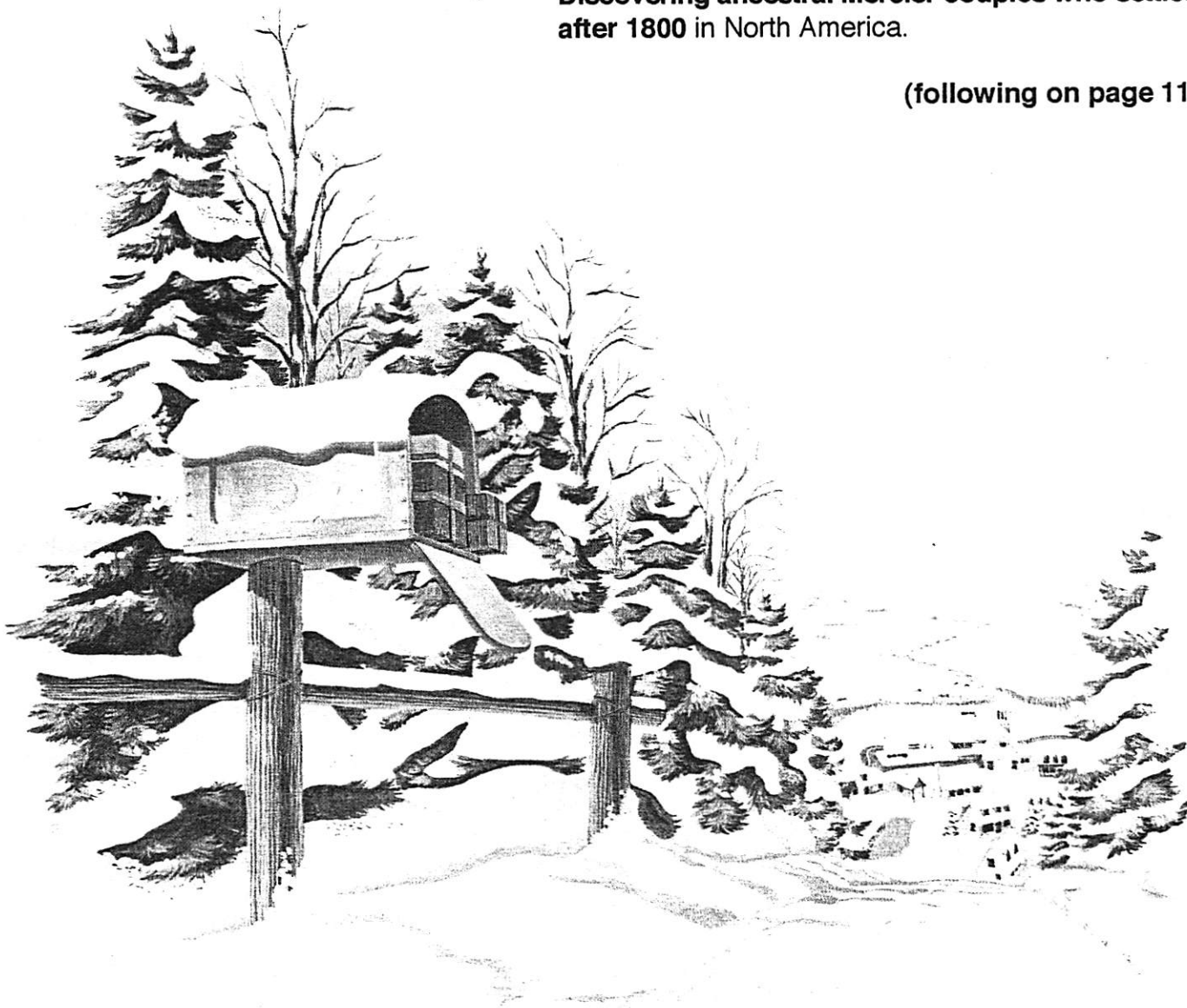


## *Message from the president*

In 1993 **ANAM** will continue to work on its major projects, namely :

- **Consolidating regional committees;**
  - **Updating family genealogical records;**
  - **Expanding genealogy services offered to members;**
  - **Discovering ancestral Mercier couples who settled after 1800 in North America.**

(following on page 11)



# SITES ET GÉNÉALOGIES — SITES AND GENEALOGY

On the trace of Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec  
by Roland Mercier<sup>1</sup>

Last July I lived a dream — a visit to the native land of my ancestors — more stimulating than those lived by radical nationalists in parish halls during the peaceful Revolution. Effectively, from July 17th to August 1st, 1992, during the activities of pairings «**Coutances in Normandie, France and La Pocatière in Québec**», I travelled to the land of my forebear Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec.

The bachelor, who was my host during those five days spent in **Coutances**, was on vacation at the time. After agreement, the day following my arrival, on July 20th, he and I went to **Barneville-sur-Seine** some 275 kilometres east of **Coutances**.

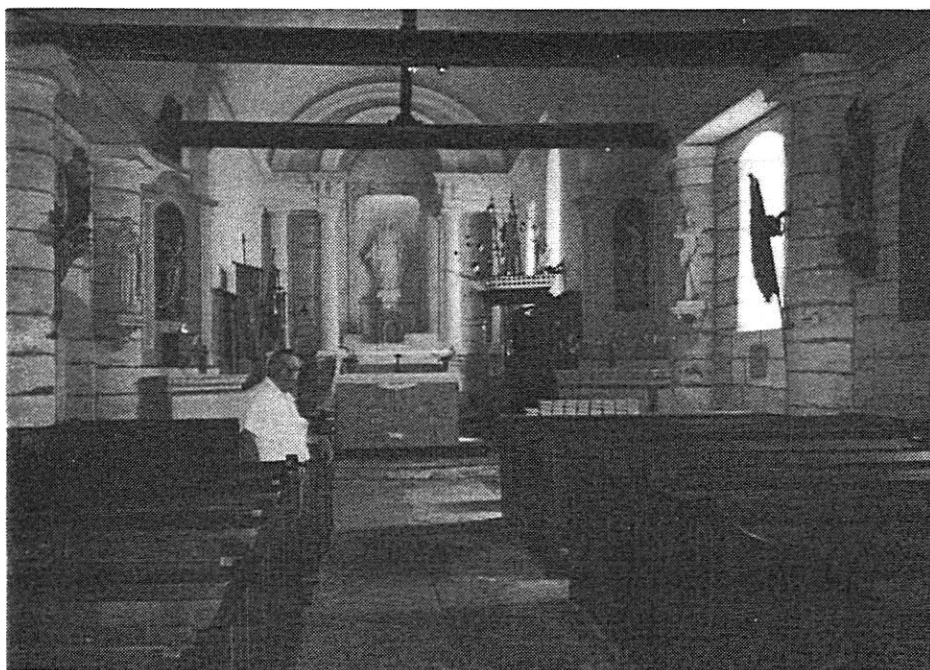
I was, and still am, searching for the birth certificate of my ancestor Pierre Mercier known

as Caudebec. Unfortunately the civil servants of the «**Services des Archives de la Préfecture d'Évreux**» were also, during July, on vacation and it was impossible to contact a person of authority. Those we addressed were not authorised to supply us with information.

Nevertheless, due to the graciousness of a good lady of **Barneville-sur-Seine** I had the opportunity of taking pictures of the interior as well as the exterior of the church. A 6-feet high forged iron fence limits the grounds in the centre of which stands the small church, built with large cut stones from the rock of the Caux area, which can sit some 500 persons.

The information gathered is to the effect — it appears on the banner suspended from the south wall of choir — that the church was built in 1450 and named «**La Charité de Barneville-sur-Seine**». In 1644, the birth year of my ancestor, the church was renovated and enlarged on the left side of the nave where the baptismal funds are situated.

In the right lateral choir of the church is a suspended ship that pays tribute to the numerous sailors and recalls to memory those who lost their lives during storms and shipwrecks on the Seine. I quickly established a bond between the sailors "**marins**" from **Barneville-sur-Seine** and the sailors "**marins Mercier**" from Saint-Jean, Ile d'Orléans, and from Rivière-Ouelle in Québec. In the cemetery I did not find any tombstone to the name of **MERCIER** but there are many to the name **LEMERCIER**. I took

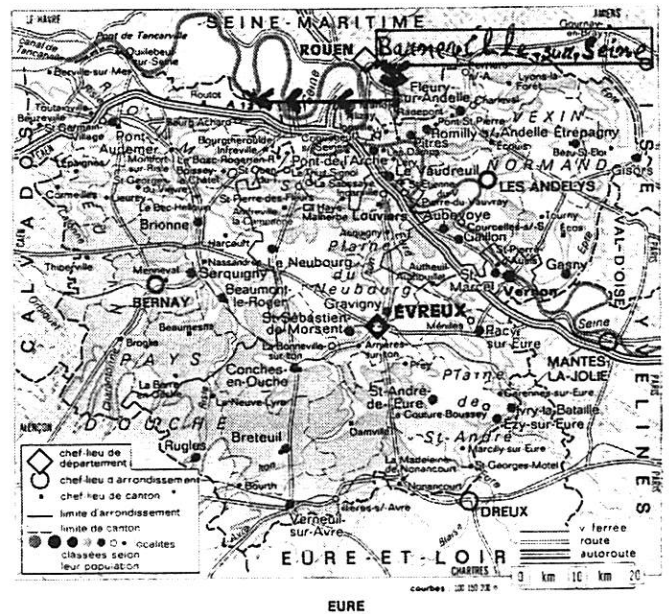


Roland Mercier inside the church of Barneville-sur-Seine in France. One can see the miniature boat suspended on the east side of the chair of this church dating back to Renaissance (15th century)

pictures of some of them. The restaurant owner could not give other explanations than the following: «Mercier and Le Mercier it means the same thing».

I noted, among others, the names of Joséphine Aubé, wife of Pierre Lemercier, deceased January 25th, 1911; Mrs. Germaine Lemercier, deceased in 1908; Alphonse Théodore Lemercier, died July 12th 1914 in his 24th year; André Lemercier passed away on September 1st 1925; Amandine Blanchon wife of P. Lemercier deceased May 23rd, 1926, at the age of 71 year; Ferdinand Lemercier 1904-1981; and many others.

I did not gather all the information that I would have liked to get, due to the vacation of civil employees in July, but I came back satisfied of my stay in the country of my ancestor Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec.



A french soldier named François Marc Antoine Le Mercier (Mercier). native of **Caudebec-en-Caux** in the **Seine-Maritime** department played a major role - - from 1740 to 1760 - - in the french armed forces posted in **Nouvelle-France**. Was this son of Nicolas François Le Mercier, a lieutenant-colonel of infantry in the regiment of «**Argenois and of Chartes-le-Rebours, France**», related to Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec? Good luck in your quest Roland.

As for myself, I will continue my research to localize the land that Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec and his son Alexandre Codbec, cleared and owned between 1700(?) and 1748 in the North concession of the river, in **Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**, county of Montmagny.<sup>1 and 2</sup>

To date I have decisively established that:

- Half of the farmland -- the western portion-- granted retroactively on May 17th 1718, to Alexandre Codbec by the *Seigneur-de-l'Espinay*, fronted four arpents on the *Rivière-du-Sud* and extended to the Saint-Laurent River;
- This land, owned by Pierre Mercier and Andrée Martin, joined, on the north-east side, the one of Augustin Malbeuf and, on

### Comments from Ernest Mercier

Congratulations to Roland Mercier who does research on his own to obtain copy of the baptismal certificate of his ancestor Pierre. Contrary to the belief of Bergeron (Adrien), who wrote that the ancestor Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec was from **Barneville-Carteret**, it seems more probable that it is from **Barneville-sur-Seine**. It must be noted that the latter is a very small community whose name is not listed in most "**Dictionnaires des noms de lieux de France**". This will force me to correct pages 166-174 of my book *Mercier depuis des siècles (1987)*. Let it be sufficient, for the time being, to say that **Barneville-sur-Seine** is located in the **department de l'Eure** at the south of the second bend of the Seine from Rouen to the west (the Atlantic). The small burg is situated between Autoroute A13 of **La Normandie** and the bottom of the loop of the river a few kilometres east of Routot.

the south-west, the one of Pierre Morin III (neighbour and son of Pierre Morin II) established in the seigneurie of Bellechasse and corresponds to lots 47 and 48 of the actual cadastre of the parish of **Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**;

- On August 8th, 1724, Agnès Mercier Codbec wedded to Augustin Malbeuf since November 22nd, 1716, was deeded by her father Pierre and her mother Andrée Martin the eastern portion (lot 47) of the original family land;
- Some 20 years after, on January 3rd 1748, Agrès Mercier and her husband Augustin Malbeuf gave their property to their son Jean Baptiste Malbeuf (Rousselot, acte 581);
- On April 23 rd, 1748, took place the inventory after death of Agrès Mercier widow of Augustin Malbeuf (Rousselot, acte 622);
- Only after the date mentioned above did Michel Blais become owner, -- still to be proved -- of the land (lots 47 and 48), cleared and owned during half a century by the members of the Mercier-Caubec family;
- Michel Blais built, near the **Rivière-du-Sud**, the stone house where, in 1776, happened the skirmish of **Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**, that is to say the battle in which 48 british militiamen - - recruited in the Côte-du-Sud parishes from Rivière-Ouelle upriver - - faced 80 american soldiers and 154 allies recruited locally and inclined to integrate the canadian territory to the american project of **independence** from England.

The **Association des Mercier d'Amérique du Nord** recognised that the ancestral couple Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec and Andrée Martin came from Beaubassin (Anherst, N.S.) in *l'Acadie*, and assisted by their children (Alexandre, Agnès and their spouse) cleared and owned the land where was held the *Saint-Pierre-du-Sud* skirmish.

1. MERCIER, Ernest (1987). *Mercier depuis des siècles*, pages 166-202 et 454-463.
2. Idem, pages 183-184.
3. Idem, pages 35-37.

With the authorization of René Blais, actual owner of the historical site, ANAM installed in the summer of 1990 a panel certifying the occupation of the land by the fore mentioned family.

The National Battlefield Commission officially unveiled November 20th, 1992, in the presence of the honourable Pierre Blais federal minister of Justice, a panel of interpretation that will be installed on lot 47 a few meters west of the existing panel of ANAM.

Congratulations to the National Battlefield Commission for its concern in developing regional history.

- (1) The author of this article is a direct descendant to the 9th generation in North America of the ancestral couple Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec and Andrée Martin (see *Mercier depuis des siècles*)



It was in 1990. Roland Mercier buries the base of the monument while Paul H Mercier the suspended panel on lot 47 actually owned by René Blais. The inscription is : «Land cleared by the families of Pierre and Alexandre Mercier known as Caudebec around 1700.» AMAN 1990

ASCENDANTS  
de  
*Simon Mercier*

Parent(e)	Date et lieu de mariage	Conjoint(e)
<b>en France</b>		
<i>Nicolas Mercier</i>	↑ – Barneville-sur-Seine, France	<i>Jacqueline Tieneau-Picart</i>
<b>en Amérique du Nord</b>		
<i>Pierre Mercier dit Caudebec</i>	I 1679-04-2 – Beaubassin, Acadie	<i>Andrée Martin</i>
<i>Alexandre Mercier</i>	II 1717-01-29-11-08 – Saint-Thomas (Montmagny)	<i>M. Josephte Godin</i>
<i>Jean Simon Mercier</i>	III 1751-02-01 – Saint-Pierre-du-Sud (Montmagny)	<i>M. Madeleine Picard dit Destroimaisons</i>
<i>Simon Mercier</i>	IV 1786-08-01 – Saint-Charles (Bellechasse)	<i>M. Geneviève Lepage</i>
<i>Simon Mercier</i>	V 1821-10-08 – Saint-Jean, Île d'Orléans	<i>Élisabeth Fortier</i>
<i>Gilbert Mercier</i>	VI 1881-02-15 – Rivière-Ouelle (Kamouraska)	<i>M. Zoé Levesque</i>
<i>William Mercier</i>	VII 1893-10-18 – Lac Mégantic	<i>M. Georgianna Sirois</i>
<i>Joseph Émile Mercier</i>	VIII 1919-10-13 – Rivière-Ouelle (Kamouraska)	<i>M. Laura Bélanger</i>
* <i>Roland Mercier</i>	IX 1945-09-10 – Saint-Perpétue, L'Ileste	<i>M. Paule Pelletier</i>
<i>Gilles Mercier</i>	X 1973-06-29 – La Pocatière, Kamouraska	<i>M. Jacqueline Cloutier</i>
<i>Simon Mercier</i>	XI	

\* Roland est issu à la 9e génération en Amérique du Nord du couple ancestral Pierre Mercier dit Caudebec et Andrée Martin. Il est de la lignée d'Alexandre et Marie Josephte Godin.

Retracé par Roland et Ernest Mercier  
1987-07-15

Authentifié par ERNEST MERCIER à Québec, le 2 décembre 1992  
pour l'AMAN., C.P. 6700, Sillery (Québec), G1T 2W2, Tél. : (418) 653-2137

# Glanures – Gleanings

This page contains news on various subjects that have not been published in previous numbers of Le Mercien.

## Deaths in the Montreal area

Mrs. Denyse Proulx Saint-Jean, whose paternal grandmother was Catherine Mercier, has sent to the founder and first president Ernest a full envelope of newspaper clips dealing with the death of Merciers and allied in the Montreal area since several years.

These newspaper clips are of some use to the **Genealogy Service**. They sometime enable members to discover relatives they are related to.

Thanks to Denyse for her gesture.

## AMAN membership variation

AMAN'S membership has varied a great deal between 1985 and 1992. The graph below shows a rapid growth from the incorporation date in April 1985, to August 87 when the first large Mercier gathering took place at Sainte-Anne-de-Baupré, Qc, Canada. Then membership decreased rapidly during the next three years and reached its lowest point in July 1990. Since this date there is a small growth trend.

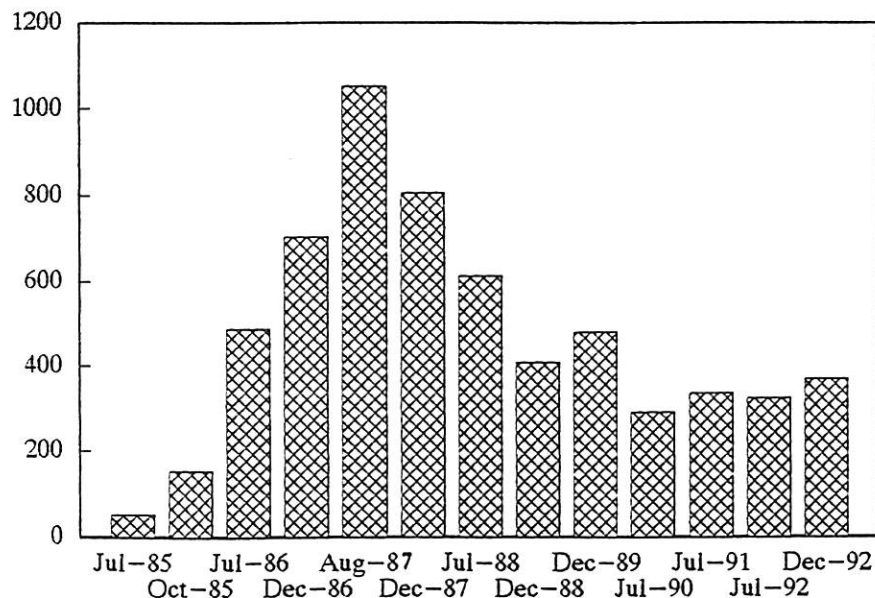
## Ralph Mercier reelected

The mayor of Charlesbourg (Quebec), Ralph Mercier, has been reelected for a third 4-year term in November 1992. He is mayor of Charlesbourg since 1984. Furthermore, he is president of the *Union des municipalités du Québec*.

## Dynamism of some Merciers

A symposium on Mercier's dynamism took place in Montréal on sunday August 16th, 1992. Three Merciers of our family association told members and allied present at the AMAN's annual meeting the secret of their success in life. More details will be reported in a subsequent issue of Le Mercien.

**Trends in the AMAN'S membership**



# *Histoire de famille – Family History*

Mercier Pioneers of *Sainte-Agathe-de-Lotbinière*

by Marie-Reine Mercier Morin <sup>(1)</sup>

Henri(Henry) Mercier, my paternal great-grandfather, married Julie Lebrun(Carrier) in *Saint-Henri*, Levis county, on October 11th, 1831. After their wedding, the newlywed settled on a land lot farm in *Saint-Anselme* (Dorchester county) where they lived for some twenty years.

Henry, who was of adventurous spirit, went toward *Sainte-Agathe* to explore the lands. At the time, the only means of travel was by foot as there were no other means of transportation, that means crossing the wet lands from *Saint-Gilles* and *Sainte-Agathe* through wooded area. He was accompanied by the oldest three of his sons.

The parish was not yet in existence. It was founded in 1853 and the first priest in charge came in 1857. Previous to the arrival of the first priest the parish was served by priests from *Saint-Gilles*.

After exploring the sites Henry decided to exchange his farm in *Saint-Anselme* for a wooded lot in *Sainte-Agathe*, in the seigneurie of *Sainte-Croix*. In December 1851, with Hubert Ruel II, he occupied the lot situated today along the road going to the **Bois-Franc** concession, between the **Grande Ligne** road and the Nelson township. With the help of his sons he started to cut trees in the fall in order to clear the land.

After sometime, he brought along the other members of the family. Roads were impossible. They had to cross the wet land of the *Beaurivage* seigneurie. At the time it was the bull drawn wagon that was used as transportation means. The great grandmother, Julie, did not appreciate the trip , with all the luggage and the children of which some were very young. There is one of the boys (Louis) who was born in *Sainte-Agathe*, on March the 14th, 1857, Henry and Julie finished raising their family and established

some of their sons on neighbouring lots. The daughters married neighbourhood boys like the Lamberts, the Bolducs, the Enoufs. Others migrated toward *Sainte-Julie* and surroundings, all over the area.

Their son Henri II took over the paternal land. He married Céline Marceau, in *Saint-Isidore*, on October 1st, 1854. The couple continued to clear the land and raise its family. His first wife died in December 1878. He remarried on September 8th, 1879 with Marcelline Demers of *Saint-Bernard*. From his first wedding Henri fathered six children and two from his second wedding: a son named Joseph and a daughter who died at the age of five months. After his second wedding, Henri continued for some time to live on the ancestral land and later established himself on a farm near the village where his son Joseph — who is my father — continued the tradition. Joseph married on December 12th 1900, Délima Langlois from *Saint-Narcisse*. Henri and Marcelline lived for some years with Joseph and Délima. Henri passed away in 1906 and Marcelline around 1920.

Joseph and Délima continued to cultivate the two farms and raised their large family numbering 16 children: 6 girls and 10 boys. Joseph died in August 1946 and Délima in March 1958. My brother Napoléon took over until his death. His son, Isidore, is actually farming the land. He has four boys.

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(1) The author is a direct descendant to the 9th generation of the ancestral couple Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain (branch Jean Mercier and Barbe Monmainier).



Joseph Henri and Délima Langlois (around (1940)

From the 16 children of the couple Joseph Mercier and Délima Langlois were born: 103 grandchildren, 270 great-grandchildren, and 82 great-great-grandchildren. That is a small resume of the history of the Mercier established in *Sainte-Agathe* in 1851. I am Marie-Reine Mercier Morin the sixteenth child of Joseph and Délima Langlois, and very proud of my Mercier ancestors in New-France.

### **Cyprien Mercier, brother of M. Reine Mercier Morin)**

Last July 9th, 1992, passed away, at the age of 87 year and 9 month, **Cyprien** Mercier. He is one of the 9th generation descendant of the ancestral couple Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain. He is the son of Joseph Henri Mercier and Rose-de-Lima (Délima) Langlois, grandson of Henri Mercier and Marcelline Demers. Cyprien is the third born of a family of 16 children, 6 daughters and 10 sons.

Cyprien was born in Sainte-Agathe and always lived in that parish. He studied at the village school and toiled the farm with his father.



Henry Mercier and Marcelline Demers. Grand-parents of Reine Mercier Morin

Still very young he started to cut wood on land know as the Gosford limits. He sold this lot some years later to buy another larger and more wooded farm at the limits of the Armagh township. In the middle of the 1940's he bought a second farm in the same concession. During all those years he toiled the land; but timbering occupied his falls and winters until the maple syrup season.

In 1960, he sells the farm and moves to the village. He buys a truck to pick up farm milk. He sells and transport feeds and agricultural lime. In 1962 he builds the house on Drouin street. He sells it to his son Jean-Marie in 1976. Cyprien and Marie Anna Lambert then moved in the **Villa Gagné** next to the parish church.

Even after having officially retired, Cyprien continued to do timberwork until he was 83 years old. A well aligned cord of pulp wood, in a corner of forest where young saplings neighbour old trees, that is a sight that always greatly attracted this lover of nature. At the end of a hard day of work, he liked to take a few minutes to smoke his pipe and admire all this environmental beauty illuminated by the setting sun. His favourite sports were hunting, fishing and trapping.



An active member of the "**Union catholique des cultivateurs (U.C.C.)**" — now the "**Union des producteurs agricole (UPA)**" — he was a founding member of the farmer's Cooperative of his parish and also involved in the founding of the "**Caisse populaire de Sainte-Agathe**".

Cyprien had wedded in 1927, Marie-Anna Lambert, also from the parish. From their union were born 11 children: **Adrienne, Thérèse, Aurore, Napoléon, Annette, Lucienne, Henri-Georges**, (the twins) **Jean-Louis** and **Jean-Marie**, and **Joseph-Omer**. The family numbers 61 grandchildren and 56 great-grandchildren. Cyprien and Marie-Anna celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1987.

Cyprien was a man of hope, of the calibre of those that can be qualified of strength of Nature. He leaves to his family the remembrance of a man who always had confidence in life. He liked work and was courageous as well as tenacious. We like to believe that we inherited of his qualities.

Homage from his descendants  
*Sainte-Agathe-de-Lotbinière*  
 September 1st, 1991

The ANAM Management reiterates its condolences to the Cyprien Mercier family. He was one of those builders of rural communities to whom French Canadians owe so much.

-----

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**Comités régionaux (C.R.)  
 Regional Committees (R.C.)  
 Life of Mercier R.C. in North America**

1. Setting up of the «Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean» R.C. in July 1992.
2. Consolidation of the «Moyenne-Côte-Nord» R.C. at Sept-Iles, on Sunday, September 13th 1992.
3. Restructure of the Alberta R.C. by setting up a **subregional unit** in Edmonton.
4. Attempts to set up a R.C. in the following telephone districts : Beauce, Estrie (Eastern Townships), and Lafayette, Louisiana (USA).

**FIRST SUGAR MAPLE PARTY (1993)**

The AMAN'S Management organizes, for the first time in its history, a **sugar maple party** for its members and allied, on May 1st, 1993, at Plessisville, Qc.

Particulars regarding this social event are given in the loose circular letter (yellow page) enclosed in the present issue of Le Mercien.

**ATTENTION! ATTENTION!**

**Reservations must be made** and paid before March 1st, 1993.

Anglophone Merciers from USA and Canada are cordially invited to come North East and know their neighbour francophone cousins of Québec.

## Événements sociaux

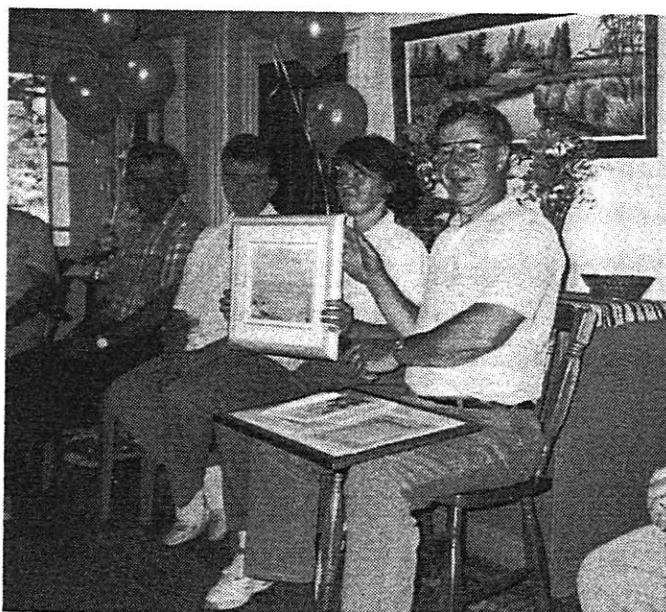


## Social events

### 25th Wedding anniversaries

Last July 14th, 1992, were celebrated two 25th wedding anniversaries in simplicity and privacy on the ancestral farm of J. Pascal Mercier, at Berthier-sur-Mer, Montmagny county,

Descendants to the 9th, 10th and 11th generations of the ancestral couple Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulin (married in *Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré* on January 18th, 1654,) celebrated the couple Maurice Mercier and Georgette Blais actual owners of the ancestral farm. Brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts, nephews and nieces, as well as cousins, wanted to tender homage to Maurice and Georgette who, with their daughter Nathalie, keep on improving the large family farm that is transmitted from father to son or daughter since 1709. Nathalie Mercier Blais read the address and presented the paintings to her parents in the name of all the participants.



From left to right : Maurice Mercier and his wife Georgette Blais; Jeannine Mercier and her husband, Kevin Broussard

At the same time the group underlined the 25th wedding anniversary of Jeannine Mercier, sister of Maurice, and of Kevin Broussard her husband. The couple lives in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. They were at the time visiting in the area.

Jeannine and Kevin are the happy parents of five children: three daughters and two sons from 12 to 24 years old.

For this happy occasion, address and painting were presented to the couple by their nephew Philippe.

The celebration evolved in an atmosphere of surprise, joy and love. Members of the family hope to gather again to celebrate the two couples 50th wedding anniversary.

Nathalie and Noël Mercier

The ANAM presents to the two couples its sincere congratulations and wishes them many year of continuous happiness.

**Are you interested to buy (individually or in group) loto-Québec tickets through a selling agent? Please, contact AMAN that is now officially accredited as agent. Details are found in the enclosed circular letter.**

## † Décès

## Deaths †

Condoléances aux familles Mercier dont l'un des membres est décédé récemment.  
Deepest sympathy to Mercier families that have lost a member recently.

Nom-Name	Inhumation - Burial	Endroit - Place
Robert Labrecque (Andrée Mercier)	1992-09-26	Sainte-Foy (Québec), Qc
Rosaire Mercier	1992-10-21	Sainte-Perpétue (L'Islet)
Marie-Dominique Mercier	1992-10-31	Beauceville, Qc
Alain Ouellet (Aline Mercier)	1992-11-14	Saint-Apolline (Montmagny)
J.-Émile Mercier	1992-11-14	Berthier-sur-Mer, Qc
Louis-Marie Mercier	1992-11-18	Mégantic, Qc
Clément Laberge (Marie-Laure Mercier)	1992-11-25	Courville (Beauport), Qc
Yvette Mercier Dufficy	1992-11-27	Saint-Augustin, Qc
Benoît Gonthier (Catherine Mercier)	1992-12-05	Saint-Charles (Bellechasse)
Napoléon Mercier	1992-12-10	Saint-Vallier (Bellechasse)
Stella Couture Mercier (Elzéar Mercier)	1992-12-28	Sainte-Marie (Beauce)
Olivine Mercier, s.c.s.l. (Sr Marie Alexandra)	1993-01-14	Bienville (Lévis)

Georges Mercier, responsable du Comité régional de la Moyenne Côte-Nord a fait part du décès de Léda-Dussaut Côté, soeur de feu sa mère, à Saint-Augustin (Courville), le 26 novembre 1992. Elle était âgée de 102 ans et 5 mois.

### Message from the president (following of page 1)

1992 was the year of the consolidation of existing **ANAM's regional committees**. 1993 will be the year of updating of the **family registers** of all **ANAM's** members and their allied.

Only the elders and adults can supply to the Secretariat, at affordable prices, pertinent data concerning date and place of birth, marriage or taking vows, as well as death (at any age) of all members of a given family in North America. These records are necessary for the consolidation of the **ANAM's** data bank.

In the past you generously and kindly supplied to the Secretariat numerous information required to establish rigorously the genealogical and historical data enabling **ANAM** to draw your Mercier ascendancy title.

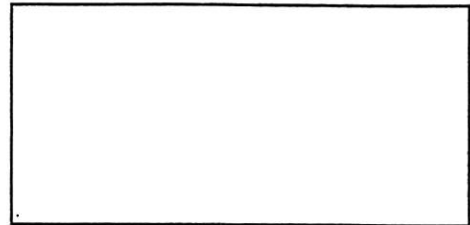
The **Genealogical service** and your **Regional comity leader** will contact and ask you to update your family registers. The Management counts on your habitual understanding and thanks you in advance.

In the name of the directors and volunteers of **ANAM** I extend to you the sincere wishes of a **GOOD** and **HAPPY** New Year.

Jean Mercier  
President

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### ***Merciers' Gathering and AMAN's Annual Meeting***

**Place :** Sherbrooke, Qc  
**Date :** Saturday September 25th 1993 (to be confirmed)

The annual gathering and members meeting will take place on saturday rather than sunday and in September rather than August. Rasons? First, to attract more members and allied. Second, to enjoy the fall colouring of tree leaves in the Eastern Townships.

Details on programs and activities to be found in April and July issues of Le Mercien.

Please! **reserve the date of September the 25th** to celebrate the official launching of the **Sherbrooke Regional Committee of AMAN.**

### ***Recall of the AMAN'S secretary treasurer***

Benoît Mercier invites you to indicate your card number on all correspondance addressed to the Secretariat, particularly on documents dealing with the payment of annual dues.

### **Summary**

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