

LE MERCIEN



VOLUME 9

NUMBER 3

JULY 1993

LA VOIX

DES MERCIER D'AMÉRIQUE

A word from the president

In a few weeks only, we will have the opportunity to meet in Sherbrooke to examine the activities of our young association during the financial year 1992-1993.

Last year, the directors emphasized on the consolidation of regional committees. The year 1993 will be the one of updating of AMAN members and allies family registers.

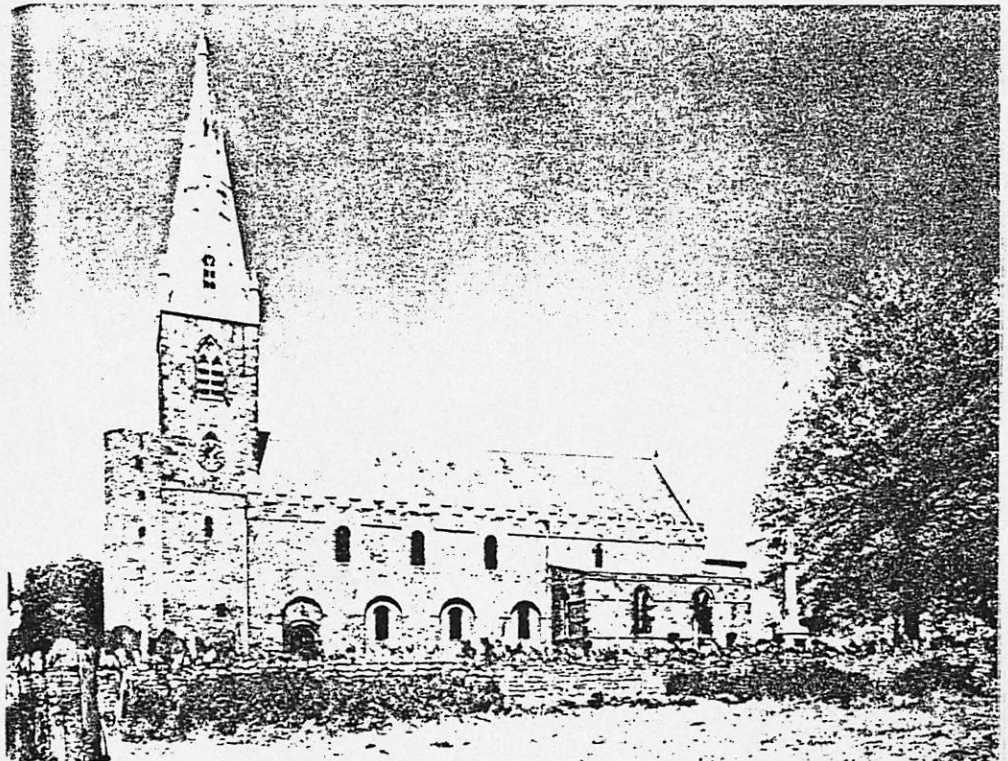
At the beginning of the last the term, *Le Mercien* developed on the main ongoing matters at AMAN. We will report on the results of our interventions at the general annual meeting on september 25, 1993 in Sherbrooke. At this occasion, we will exchange on the realisation of the last financial year and determine objectives for the next term and the future.

(see page 11 : president)

THE MINSTER CHURCH AT BRIXWORTH, NORTHAMP- TONSHIRE

This is by far the most important eight-century building remaining in England. It is possible that Brixworth was the unidentified *Clofesho* where several synods met under the Mercian kings.

From *The London Encyclopedia*, Edited by Ben Wiener and Christopher Hibbert, Mac Millan Ltd, 1995, page 81



Sites et généalogie — Sites and Genealogy

Land of Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec on Côte-du-Sud

by Ernest Mercier

1. Introduction

January 1993 *Le Mercien* contained, on page two and following, an article in which Roland Mercier reported results of his research in France, during the summer 1992, to establish without a doubt the place and date of birth of his ancestor **Pierre Mercier (known as Caudebec)**.

1.1 Official gesture of Canada

At the end of the article the **A MAN's management** expressed its satisfaction towards the authorities of the **National Battlefields Commission**. They installed, in 1993, on the actual land of René Blais of **Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**, an interpretation table relating the battle between the **Canadian British militia** and the **American congressman of Arnold and Montgomery on march 25, 1776**.

This unforgettable «**battle of Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**» was the foreshadow of the American Secession war of 1861 - 1865. Related citizens, brothers engaged in military operations inexplicable in our times in North-America.

1.2 Official gesture of AMAN

The AMAN had erected a commemorative panel, in 1990, certifying that the ancestral couple **Pierre Mercier (Codebec) and his wife Andrée Martin**, as well as their children — especially **Alexandre and Agnès Mercier (Codebec)** — originating from Acadia after 1686 — cleared peacefully before 1709 and the following years, the **land where the american-british military skirmish of 1776** took place.

1.3 The object of this article

The **aim of this article is to specify once and for all**, the presence in 1709 of the enlarged family Mercier/Martin — related to the Morin/Martin expelled from Acadia in 1686 — on lot 47 of the actual land registry of the municipal parish of **Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**. This contribution of AMAN aims to be a testimony of appreciation to the direct descendants and collaterals of the couple Mercier/Martin and, amongst them Roland Mercier, of the 9th generation, who **contributed to the establishment of his enlarged ascendancy title, the preparation**

Text on the interpretation panel THE AMERICANS IN QUEBEC

«The americans had been at Quebec since the autumn of 1775, trying to bring Canada into their plans for independence. After their abortive attempt to take the town on December 31, they set up encampments, including one at Pointe Levy.

«On March 25, 1776, just south of this spot, in the area around Michel Blais' house near the road bordering Rivière du Sud, 48 militiamen recruited from neighbouring parishes and commanded by Seigneur Couillard of Rivière du Sud, encountered 80 American soldiers and 154 of their Canadian allies.

«At the end of the skirmish, three militiamen had been killed, 10 wounded and 22 taken prisoner. The pionners were released the following summer at Berthierville, during the American retreat.»

Text supplied by the National Battlefields Commission, Quebec City.

of the family history: and the recruitment of AMAN members.

1.4 Preliminary studies

In the following pages, the author summarizes the historic facts and conclusions on a study on the actions that marked the settling of the enlarged family of **Pierre Mercier and Andrée Martin** in the grey zone of the **Côte-du-Sud**, in the Saint-Lawrence valley.

2.1 Reminder of facts

Many actions done by the parents **Mercier/Martin** between 1709 and 1724 leave a certain doubt on the date of arrival and the place of residence of the fore-mentioned couple in the parish **Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**.

In place before 1709, **they own a piece of land** previously taken as woodland that they cleared and improved with the help of their son **Alexandre** and their daughter **Agnès**. **They give by authenticated deed all their personal and real estate to their children** in 1716. The deed is drawn in front of **Abel Michon, public notary, in the home of the parents Mercier/Martin in the parish of Saint-Pierre-du-Sud**, in the seigneurie of Rivière-du-Sud.

2.2 Retroactive concession of land

The squire Couillard de l'Espinay concedes, retroactively, in 1718, the **western half of the land** of the parents Mercier/Martin to their son **Alexandre Mercier (Codebec)**. Six years later, the squire of Rigauville, owner of the seigneurie Berthier-Bellechasse — who claims some granted land in the North side of the Rivière du Sud in the seigneurie of Rivière-du-Sud — states in 1724 that there are no buildings and little cleared on lots 47 and 48 granted to the daughter and son of the parents Mercier/Martin.

3. Discussion

It is impossible to reconcile the previous arguments without admitting the following conclusions:

3.1 The long strip of land owned by the parents Mercier/Martin and their children (Alexandre and Agnès) spread from the Saint-Lawrence River to the Rivière du Sud.

3.2 This long strip of land comprised two parts joined each other at the border line of two ranges of the same seigneurie or two distinct adjacent seigneuries.

3.3 The Pierre Mercier, who in 1709, was supposed to clear lot number 3 corresponding to lot number 30 of the actual land registry of the parish Berthier-en-Bas is not the same Pierre Mercier who was clearing lot number 16 of the Bord-de-l'Eau concession road in the same parish. These two persons were not related. **The first one (on lot number 3) is none other than Pierre Mercier known as Caudebec. The second (on lot number 16) is one of the three sons of the second generation couple Paschal Mercier and Anne Cloutier** who came from Côte-de-Beaupré.

3.4 The house of the Mercier/Martin parents

The house of the **ancestral couple Pierre Mercier and Andrée Martin** was on a granted lot adjacent to the Saint-Lawrence River. Searches will be required to localize this ancient residence.

3.5 House of son Alexandre Mercier (Codebec)

The actual house situated near the old King's road on lot 48 — on the banks of the Rivière-du-Sud — is a house of second generation built by the couple Alexandre Mercier and Marie-Josephte Gaudin between 1724 and 1732.

3.6 House of Agnès Mercier(Codebec)

The couple **Augustin Malbeuf and Agnès Mercier** did not have, in 1724, a house on lot 47 contiguous to the Rivière-du-Sud. Were the daughter and son-in-law living with the parents

Mercier/Martin as was the custom at the time? There was a house on that lot in 1732.

3.7 Historical home of Michel Blais

The stone house on lot 47 — that american congressmen bombed on march 25, 1776 — was in probability previously built by Michel Blais after he acquired the land around 1750.

4. Conclusions

4.1 Ownership of two lots

The solution to the **historical and geographic puzzle** regarding the residence of the ancestral couple **Pierre Mercier (known as Caudebec)** and **Andrée Martin** established in the **grey zone of Côte-du-Sud** — after the banishment of the related family of Pierre Morin from Acadia in 1686 — is surprisingly easy. One has to admit that his land comprised **two land grants overlapping two ranges of the same seignury or two distinct seigneuries**.

The lot bordering the Saint-Lawrence river always was the **site of residence of the fore-mentioned couple and family**.

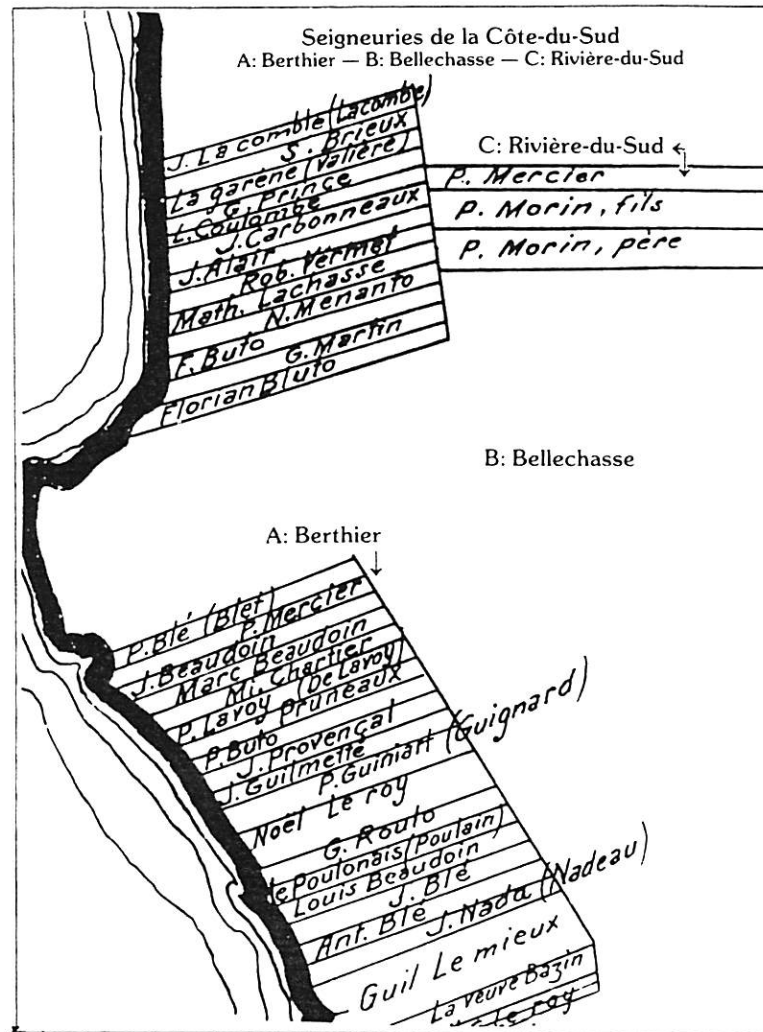
4.2 The lots 47 and 48 of the North concession road of the actual land registry of Saint-Pierre parish (Montmagny) are adjacent to the Rivière-du-Sud. These lots were given and retroactively conceded to the **younger daughter Agnès** and to the **elder brother Alexandre** of the Mercier/Martin ancestral couple.

The enlarged family Mercier/Martin then owned, in 1709, three lots of total area of some 480 arpents (1 arpent = 36 802 square feet) of land: of which 258 were adjacent to the Rivière-du-Sud and the rest were adjacent to the Saint Lawrence River.

4.3 The settlement of the ancestral couple Pierre Mercier and Andrée Martin, as well as their children in the **grey zone of the Côte-du-Sud** may have happened during the 1690's before the Sovereign Council of Québec defined in 1700 the delimitation line between the two seigneuries. How did the parents Mercier/Martin

acquired the lot number adjacent to the Saint-Lawrence River? Did they buy it from a qualified owner? Did the seigneur granted it at the time of their arrival? Further research will be required to answer adequately these questions.

MAP OF CATALOGNE SHOWING THE GREY ZONE OF LA RIVIERE-DU-SUD SEIGNEURY



Source: Archives of the Government of Quebec 1709

Seventh annual meeting of AMAN in Sherbrooke

NOTICE OF CONVOCATION

The annual meeting of the AMAN members will be held on Saturday September 25, 1993 in the reception hall of the **Granada Theatre**, 53 Wellington North, Sherbrooke, QC.

The secretary-treasurer

AGENDA OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

- 1- Opening remarks
- 2- Reading and adoption of the agenda
- 3- Reading and adopting of the minutes of the 6th general meeting
- 4- President report
- 5- Secretary-Treasurer report and financial report for the term 1992-1993
- 6- Approving administrators decisions
- 7- Naming the accountant-auditor
- 8- Election of administrators
- 9- Presentation of the new administrators
- 10- Election of the board of directors
- 11- Other subjects
 - a) regional comity reports
 - b) 1994 general meeting
 - c) end of meeting

PROGRAMME OF THE GATHERING

The Mercier gathering of 1993 will include, as well as the general meeting, the activities listed on the loose leaf inserted in the liaison bulletin, ***Le Mercien***.

The meeting will be the occasion to decide on the creation of an AMAN regional comity in Sherbrooke.

During the group supper, AMAN will honour Jean Mercier, **priest, patriot and defender of the poor.**

Histoire de famille – Family History

Biographic notice of Olivine Mercier
by a first cousin and admirer

1. Introduction

On tuesday january 12, 1993, **Sr. Olivine Mercier** gently passed away at the age of 96 years and 9 months. Her funerals were held the same week in the magnificent chapel of the provincial house of the **Sisters de la Charité de-Saint-Louis**, in Bienville (Lévis, Québec) and her inhumation took place at the Lévis public cemetery.

2. Ascendancy and training

2.1 Ascendancy title

This nun is a direct descendant to the 10th generation of the ancestral couple Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain married on Côte-de-Beaupré (Sainte-Anne today), january 18, 1654. She is of the line of Paschal Mercier and Anne Cloutier married at Chateau-Richer november 11, 1681.

2.2 Rural origin

Fifth of fifteen children of the **9th generation couple, Alexandre Mercier and Césarie Godbout**, married in Saint-Damien (Bellechasse) november 5, 1889, Olivine was born in a humble house of a settler concession, situated near **lake Dion** on the 9th concession of the parish of Saint-Lazare in the seigneurie of Taschereau, Québec.

Thirteen of the children born from the parents Alexandre and Césarie reached adulthood after surviving the usual epidemics and children illnesses current at the beginning of this century. The abridged history of the family can be found on page 427 of the book *Mercier depuis des siècles (1987)*.

2.3 Education

Olivine attended the grade school — beginning in the rural parishes — in the Roy

house situated at the south corner of the 9th concession road and the road going to the village of Saint-Damien.

Following the **destruction by fire of their first house** during the winter of 1903-1904, the parents Alexandre and Césarie, as well as their young progeny, shared for some months the home of Georges Mercier and Williamine Dion near the primary school of the **Neuvième concession**. The numerous Mercier brothers were sturdy man who cleared their land and in autumn and winter worked in the **timber camps of Maine** — to earn the meagre revenue supplement required to feed their young family. The women remained at home during that time to care for the house, the livestock and educate the children.

In the summer of 1904, Alexandre and Césarie with their young children moved to Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire, (Montmagny county) to join the Mercier parents — Jean and Agnès Durebois — and eight of their ten sons who established in this adoption parish between 1902 and 1908. The family lived with Jean Mercier, jr and Léda Lavertu during the time their second house was built. That is where Olivine completed her primary schooling at the convent of the **Soeurs de la Charité-de-Saint-Louis** arrived there during the summer of 1904 (See *Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire, Étape de l'amitié*. 1983).

3. Olivine funeral oration

During the homely of Olivine funeral service presided by the chaplain of the convent, Marcel Dubé, priest, sketched the career of this brave countrywoman. The president praised the greatness of heart of these women, sometime

L'AMAN

FAMILLES MERCIER

On s'apprête à célébrer en Estrie, le 25 septembre 1993, les Retrouvailles des familles Mercier.

Une certaine solidarité, beaucoup de fierté, la convivialité au moins occasionnelle, en un mot, un esprit de famille unit ceux qui portent ce nom.

Parmi les grandes familles francophones d'Amérique du Nord, se retrouvent les Mercier qui se sont formés en Association et qui illustrent quelques belles pages de notre histoire qui ont fait la grandeur de ce pays.

À la fin du dix-huitième siècle, l'Estrie accueillait les Loyalistes, fidèles à la Couronne Anglaise qui se voyaient contraints de fuir la "république libre" des États-Unis.

Au milieu du dix-huitième siècle, les Québécois francophones commencèrent à s'installer dans cette région. Nombreux vinrent de la Beauce, du Richelieu et des Bois-Francs. Parmi les nouveaux Estriens, on compte beaucoup de Mercier réunis dans une section régionale de l'Association des Mercier de l'Amérique du Nord (AMAN).

Cette association fut fondée en 1985 par Ernest Mercier, Docteur ès Sciences, conseiller en développement agricole, sous-ministre de l'agriculture, officier de l'Ordre du Canada, membre du Panthéon de l'Agriculture du Canada, membre du Temple de la Renommée de l'Agriculture du Québec et auteur du livre **MERCIER DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES** où il note, entre autres données, qu'il y a six souches de Mercier enracinées en Amérique, avant 1770, dont cinq dans la Vallée du Saint-Laurent :

- Jullien Mercier et Marie Poulain;
- Pierre Mercier dit Caudebec et Andrée Martin;
- Pierre Mercier et Marguerite Lemain;
- Pierre-Simon Mercier et Marie-Renée Pineau;
- Charles Mercier dit Lajoie et Marianne Lahayse.

Jullien Mercier (1621-1676), originaire de la commune française de Tourouvre, comme un grand nombre des ancêtres des Québécois, marié à Marie Poulain en 1652, agriculteur, marguillier, père de six fils et de quatre filles, a donné la plus nombreuse descendance des Mercier en Amérique. Sa maison existe toujours à Beaupré et elle est encore habitée.

TOUROUVRE : Le grand départ

Le plus beau souvenir qui loge encore dans ma mémoire, lors d'une tournée au pays des ancêtres en 1950, se campe dans l'église de Saint-Aubin de Tourouvre. Deux verrières brillent de mille feux multicolores. La première marque le départ d'une vingtaine de colons de Tourouvre dans la décennie de 1640. Au bas du tableau, figure l'écriteau : "N'oubliez ni Dieu, ni la France".

2.

La seconde nous montre, en 1891, le retour d'Honoré Mercier, premier Ministre du Québec. Au bas, nous lisons : "Nous n'avons oublié ni Dieu, ni la France".

Je fus demandé par le recteur, à prononcer le sermon du dimanche. Que pensent les Québécois de ce flot des Mercier? J'ai repris le tryptique : "Nous n'avons oublié ni Dieu, ni la France dans le passé, ni dans le présent, et j'espère qu'il en sera ainsi dans l'avenir". Et les Français d'applaudir...

Le Champagne MERCIER

En parcourant les routes de la Normandie, du Poitou, de la Touraine, de Bordeaux, de Perche, des placards annoncent le Champagne Mercier. J'ai même remarqué sur la devanture d'un bistro, un immense globe terrestre arrosé généreusement de bulles de "Champagne Mercier". On y lisait : "Dans le monde entier un bouchon Mercier saute toutes les 12 secondes". De quoi étancher la soif de tous les Mercier de l'univers! Mes compagnons de voyage peuvent le confirmer (Elzéar Brouillard, René Lefebvre) Vapda!

Le monde de la généalogie

En relisant mon vieux volume d'Histoire du Canada, mon regard s'arrête sur cette note signée de Florence Martel, présidente de la Société généalogique du pays : "Quand on consulte les archives, aussi paradoxal que cela puisse paraître, nous pénétrons dans un monde vivant. Nous oublions complètement la notion du temps. Nous nous retrouvons en présence des personnes vivantes connaissant les mêmes joies et les mêmes soucis que les nôtres car pouvant être habillés différemment, ces soucis et ces joies demeurent essentiellement les mêmes à travers les âges. Souvent aussi nous prenons connaissance d'anecdotes amusantes notées dans un français pittoresque. En somme, nous faisons de la petite histoire" (Le Devoir, 4 février 1960).

L'un de ces descendants, rassembleur de notre famille, s'est mérité l'hommage du généalogiste Gérard Lebel, C.Ss.R., en ces termes : Il ne connaît pas "une famille qui ait pu retracer - à l'exception de celle des Tremblay, - comme Ernest Mercier l'a si bien fait, l'origine de son patronyme jusqu'au Moyen Âge. Recherche longue et difficile, pleine d'embûches. Avec succès, il a établi une relation entre le nom de famille et celui du Royaume de Mercie" (Mercier depuis des siècles, p. 1).

À part les Mercier et leurs conjointes dont je viens d'évoquer le souvenir, beaucoup d'autres se sont illustrés dans les domaines de la religion, de l'héroïsme, des sciences, des lettres, des arts, de la magistrature, aussi bien que dans l'industrie, le commerce, l'agriculture et la politique.

Catherine Mercier, première martyre canadienne?

Au dire du jésuite Ragueneau, notre héroïne Mercier a subi des traitements identiques à ceux du père Brébeuf, mutilations et brûlage (cf. Relations des jésuites, 1651).



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

MISE EN CANDIDATURE

Veillez écrire en caractères d'imprimerie

Je _____
Prénom Nom No de carte de membre

désire, par la présente, poser ma candidature à un poste de directeur (trice) du Conseil d'administration de l'Association des Mercier d'Amérique du Nord (AMAN) pour un terme de deux ans (1993-1995).

Signature du (de la) candidat (e) Date

Je suis appuyé (e) par les membres suivants:

Signature	Prénom et Nom en caractère d'imprimerie	No de carte de membre	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Veillez retourner cette circulaire avant le 31 août 1993 à:

Paul-H. Mercier
2800, Lanoraie
Sainte-Foy (Québec)
G1W 1M4

Je suis également intéressé (e) à la mise sur pied d'un comité régional de l'AMAN

Signature Date

English on the other side

"Pourquoi Catherine Mercier n'est pas montée sur les autels en même temps que les Pères Jésuites et leur "donné" René Goupil qui ont été martyrisés vers le même temps en terre nord-américaine et canonisés au début du siècle en cours? Probablement parce qu'elle était une femme et qu'elle était mariée" (Mercier depuis des siècles, p. 42).

Un cousin multimillionnaire

Dans le journal beauceron, "L'Eclaireur, du 4 décembre 1952, on écrit : "un certain Blaise-Pascal Mercier, baptisé à St-Ignace le 16 avril 1762, fils de Jos Paschal (sic) Mercier et Marie-Joseph Bernier avait émigré aux États-Unis et aurait changé son nom en celui d'EMERICK. Associé à John Jacob Astor, il fait fortune dans le commerce de la fourrure et dans des entreprises célèbres dont l'hôtel sélect Walford Astoria de New-York.

Un testament trouvé par hasard en 1928, révèle qu'une partie importante de son empire financier revenait aux descendants d'Emerick dit Mercier. Quand le Québec retrouvera-t-il ces nouveaux millionnaires?

Les Mercier d'aujourd'hui

On peut rappeler quelques noms : Ernest Mercier, Docteur en Sciences, fondateur de l'AMAN, Oscar Mercier, médecin célèbre et auteur d'ouvrages scientifiques; l'actrice Hélène Mercier; le professeur d'éducation physique, François Mercier qui a écrit "LE JUDO AU QUÉBEC"; Monique Mercier, peintre de réputation internationale; Alfred Mercier, ancien directeur des quotidiens L'Action Catholique et Le Soleil; Luc Mercier, juge et écrivain, auteur d'une dizaine d'ouvrages.

Après avoir ventilé la liste de hauts personnages de la politique, de la magistrature et du clergé, je n'ai pas retenu de grands noms sinon celui d'Honoré Mercier, ancien premier ministre.

Les Mercier ont accompli modestement de grandes choses ou attiré l'attention du public au cours d'un événement spécial. J'en note quelques-uns :

L'abbé Joseph-Napoléon Mercier (1859-1895), ancien vicaire de Richmond qui décède à 35 ans, suite à un tamponnement du Québec Central, au chemin Craig - Grand émoi dans les cantons!

Plus près de moi, je regarde défiler des gens de tête et de coeur: Ralph Mercier, président de l'Union des Municipalités; Renald Mercier, directeur général de la Société de développement industriel de la région de Sherbrooke; Jean-Paul Mercier, grand commissaire du scoutisme; Dom Gérard Mercier, bénédictin et écrivain-rechercheur; Hugues Mercier, ébéniste de renom (Wotton); André Mercier et Associés, firme de comptabilité (Sherbrooke); sergent Normand Mercier (Sherbrooke) et Paul Mercier, héros de guerre à Dieppe.

La région compte un réseau de PME dirigées par des Mercier : Léandre Mercier, entrepreneur en construction; Réjean Mercier Sport; Philippe Mercier, entrepreneur-électricien; Renaud Mercier, spécialiste en électro-ménagers; Alphonse Mercier, propriétaire d'un camping à Weedon et Maurice Mercier, dirigeant d'un atelier d'usinage.

4.

La famille de douze enfants de Léonidas Mercier et de Rosalie Talbot de St-Isidore d'Auckland a un trait bien particulier. Cet heureux couple a donné à l'Église cinq religieux, encore vivants et cumulant 301 années de vie religieuse. Avec fierté, nous les saluons : Soeur Lucienne (68 ans), de la Communauté des Soeurs de St-Joseph, Soeur Marie (62 ans), Soeur Jeannette (60 ans), Soeur Marguerite (52 ans), de la Communauté des Filles de la Charité ainsi que Père Bruno, rédemptoriste à Port-au-Prince en Haïti (59 ans dont 52 années de sacerdoce).

La rencontre des Mercier fournira l'occasion de connaître d'autres personnalités qui ont aidé à bâtir ce beau coin de pays. Dans l'attente de lendemains qui chantent, nous nous satisfaisons de la présente nomenclature.

Invitation chaleureuse

L'équipe de **AMAN-ESTRIE** vous convie à ces retrouvailles des Mercier le **samedi 25 septembre 1993** (salle Granada). Le président du Comité organisateur du rassemblement, André Mercier, espère que les Mercier et leurs alliés y viendront nombreux et enthousiastes.

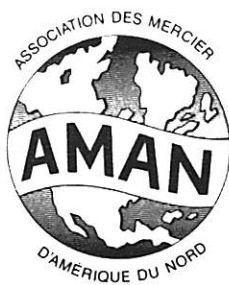
Une assemblée fraternelle, une incursion dans le passé des Mercier, entrecoupées d'un buffet et d'un copieux banquet vous attendent. Une veillée suivra, animée par Claire Jolicoeur, folkloriste de renom qui mettra en vedette les talents des Mercier.

Grandeur de la famille Mercier

On a bien raison d'attacher beaucoup d'importance à la famille, à son histoire et à ses célébrités: elle est une inspiration et un modèle pour la société en général qui, lorsqu'elle l'oublie, tombe dans la petitesse, la mesquinerie et la médiocrité.

"Toute puissance nationale sort de la famille, a constaté l'écrivain Philippe Hériat. La grandeur des familles fait la grandeur des pays, en dépit des gouvernements".

Le chant de ralliement des Mercier, paroles et musique de Jacques Mercier, cible déjà la joie de cette rencontre.



"À toi! Mercier de l'Amérique
À toi! Je veux te dire
L'amour que tu m'inspires.
Pour toi, je deviens romantique
Chante loin tes souvenirs".

Jean Mercier, prêtre

forgotten, who contribute to the building of Québec, their parish, their local church, their province, their country (Canada) and some developing countries. I quote some extracts.

3.1 Olivine musical career

«Tuesday afternoon, while celebrating mass in the infirmary, I was commenting the Gospel where Jésus told us: 'There is no greater love than giving our life for those we love.' I was speaking of careers in the world that last 20, 30 or 40 years. Sister Olivine taught music for 53 years adding at the beginning regular teaching and, during six years the responsibility of Mother Superior, school director and organist in Val Alain, Saint-Pacôme(3 years), Breakeyville(3 years) and Black Lake(33 years).

3.2 Founder of convents

«I was told that she was one of the founders of the Bienville convent because in 1912 she was, at 16 and a probationer, teaching with Sister Agnès-Marie on Bégin street. Ninety years ago the french sisters were arriving to this country and ten year later, a seed was planted that would become the main house in North America. Sister Olivine was also the founder in Val Alain in 1957.

3.3 Parish organist

«She was the organist at Saint-Pacôme, Breakeyville, Black Lake, Val Alain in addition to all the music lessons that she was giving. Sister Simone Lauzon, our organist, was telling me that in Black Lake, Sister Olivine saw each of her students in a room where there were 6 or 7 pianos. I imagine that she must have been tired as well as slightly dazzled when returning to her cell where there was a piano and a bed.

3.4 Pianist in spirit

«I had the gall when I came here to ask to play a piece of music for me on the piano. She played magnificently at 89 years old, probably because I was the nephew of her friend sister

Sainte-Blandine. Shortly before her death, I told sister Olivine: 'Sainte-Blandine is tired of playing solo in heaven. She is anxious to have you to play duo.' The communion chant will tell you: 'Blessed are those who crave justice, they will change the world in music.»

4. Conclusion

Yvonne Mercier, younger sister of Olivine, is also a member of the forementioned order. She nursed her sister Olivine and witnessed her death with companion sisters, as well as chaplain Dubé on the morning of January 12th. Here is his testimony.

4.1 Gentle transition

«We saw Jésus die again in this christian woman and, even if she did not know the agony of Jésus, her face helped us imagine that of Jésus at the time he was saying: 'Father all is done, I put my soul into your hands'.

«Sister Olivine, you are now nearer to God in the sense that you see him face to face hence you are staying near us. We love to believe that you will spend your time in heaven doing good on earth. We hope that you ask our Father to make vibrate in our hearts a few notes of celestial music that give joyce, peace and hope. Amen.»

5. Adolescent memories

In 1924 — I was 10 years old —, I sat on the knees of Sister Olivine Mercier and those of Sister Alexis-de-Jésus, superior of the convent of Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire. My young sisters and brothers teased me on the subject. It was early May. My parents had charged me with the task of getting the five sisters at the convent and bring them (in light four wheeler), drawn by a black very docile horse, **Bilou**, to the saphouse of Frank Langevin and his wife in the Sud concession (Saint-Paul now) where I started school in 1920. Madam Langevin was school mistress of the concession and hostess of the convent sisters for the day.

ASCENDANTS
de
Olivine Mercier

Parent(e)	Date et lieu de mariage	Conjoint(e)
en France		
<i>Jehan Mercier</i>	↑ 1557-06-20 — Perche, France	<i>Thienette Le Blond</i>
<i>Marin Mercier</i>	↑ 1571-12-?? — Tourouvre	<i>Jehanne Brisson</i>
<i>François Mercier</i>	↑ 1605-??-?? — Tourouvre	<i>Roberde Cornillau</i>
en Amérique du Nord		
<i>Jullien Mercier</i>	I 1654-01-18 — Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, Québec, Canada	<i>Marie Poulain</i>
<i>Paschal Mercier</i>	II 1681-11-11 — Château-Richer, Québec	<i>Anne Cloutier</i>
<i>J. Pascal Mercier</i>	III 1705-02-16 — contrat Jacob	<i>Madeleine Boucher</i>
<i>Joseph Mercier</i>	IV <i>Élisabeth Carrier dit Lebrun</i> 1729-01-31 — Saint-Vallier, Bellechasse	
<i>Jean-Baptiste Mercier</i>	V 1757-11-07 — Berthier-en-Grève, Montmagny	<i>Élisabeth Blais</i>
<i>Jean-Baptiste Mercier</i>	VI 1778-11-24 — Saint-Charles, Bellechasse	<i>Cécile Turgeon</i>
<i>Alexandre Mercier</i>	VII 1839-02-11 — Saint-Gervais, Bellechasse	<i>Archange Audet</i>
<i>Jean Mercier</i>	VIII 1863-11-24 — Saint-Lazare, Bellechasse	<i>Agnès Durbois</i>
<i>Alexandre Mercier</i>	IX 1895-08-26 — Saint-Damien, Bellechasse	<i>Césarie Godbout</i>
<i>Olivine Mercier, s.c.s.l.</i> (Soeur Alexandra)	X	



Retracé par l'Institut Généalogique Drouin et Ernest Mercier

Authentifié par *Ernest Mercier* à Québec, le *15 juillet* 19*93*
pour l'AMAN., C.P. 6700, Sillery (Québec), G1T 2W2, Tél. : (418) 653-2137

5.1 Unforgettable maple sugar party

What was my surprise to discover that the sisters had replaced their beautiful white starched headdress by an old frizzly bonnet and put on rubber boots. They tied the bottom of their long robe to their belt to walk the few arpents separating the farm road of the saphouse! They dared throw snowballs at each other around the saphouse, as the boys and girls did, in the spring, in the convent yard.

5.2 Consideration for Olivine

I often visited Olivine Mercier — with her school friend (Anna Mercier, my sister) of the

1903-1904 years in Saint-Damien — while she was in Val Alain and later retired at Bienville. Many memories were exchanged!

5.3 Thankfulness

In appreciation of this first cousin so devoted, I donate to the order a copy of my book *Mercier depuis des siècles*(1987) and the ascendancy title of this admirable woman whom the large Mercier family and the religious order have reasons to be proud of. She passed on earth while doing a great deal of good.

The AMAN reiterates its condolences to the family and the order.

Ernest Mercier

Nouveaux membres — New members

Exercice du 1er juillet 1992-1993 — Fiscal Year 1992-1993

Nom — Surname	Prénom — First name	Domicile — Residence	Profession — Occupation
Mercier	André	Sherbrooke, QC	Comptable - Accountant
M.-Bilodeau	M.-Claire	Plessisville, QC	Retraitée - Retired
Mercier	Robert	St-Ferdinand, QC	Agent - Dealer
Mercier	Noëlla	Brossard, QC	Retraitée - Retired
Mercier	Jacques	Plessisville, QC	Commerçant - Business man
Morin	Dolorès	St-Étienne, QC	Professeure - Teacher
Lambert-M.	M.-Anna	Ste-Agathe, QC	Retraitée - Retired
Mercier	Germain	St-Ferdinand, QC	Retraité - Retired
Mercier	Lucien	Ste-Julie, QC	Retraité - Retired
Mercier	Paul-Émile	Black-Lake, QC	Retraité - Retired
M.-Grégoire	France	Plessisville, QC	Secrétaire - Secretary
Mercier	Alain	St-Paul-du-Nord, QC	T. forestier - T. forester
Blais	Pierre	Berthier-sur-Mer, QC	Député fédéral - Federal Minister
Fortier	Pierre J.	Lafayette, LA	Revendeur - Dealer
Mercier	Émile	St.Catherine, ON	Menuisier - Carpenter
Mercier	Léopold	St-Georges, QC	Menuisier - Carpenter
Mercier	Réal	St-R.-de-l'Achigan, QC	Menuisier - Carpenter
Mercier	Laurent D.	Fort Lauderdale, FL	Cuisinier - Cook
Mercier	Mariette	Moisie, QC	Entraîneur - Coach
Mercier	Claude	Boucherville, QC	Directeur - Director
Mercier	Dominique	Beloeil, QC	Secrétaire - Secretary
Mercier	Réjean	Jonquière, QC	
Gélinas	Sylvain	Chambly, QC	
Walls	Suzanne L.	Chantilly, VA	Superviseur - Manager
Mercier	Diane	Jonquière, QC	
Mercier	Micheline	Chicoutimi, QC	Directrice(Clinique) - Director
Mercier	Sylvie	Jonquière, QC	
Dumont	Laurette B.	Lévis, QC	Vendeuse - Seller

Nouvelles et potins



News and gossip

Pierre Mercier

Pierre Mercier, president-general and director of Pierre Mercier and Associates, of Québec, has been named **full-time member** of the **Quebec Transport Commission**. The mandate is for five (5) years and took effect on november 20th, 1992. Congratulation and good luck, Pierre!



Pierre Mercier

Last May 1st, a memorable day — The Merciers met in Plessisville

It is on last may 1st, that the Bois-Francs region gathered the Merciers for a maple sugaring party at the **Invernois** in Inverness and at the same time take account of Plessisville and its Maple syrup festival.

At 10h. Madam the mayor received the group at City Hall. After there was a visit to the Maple museum that was appreciated by all.

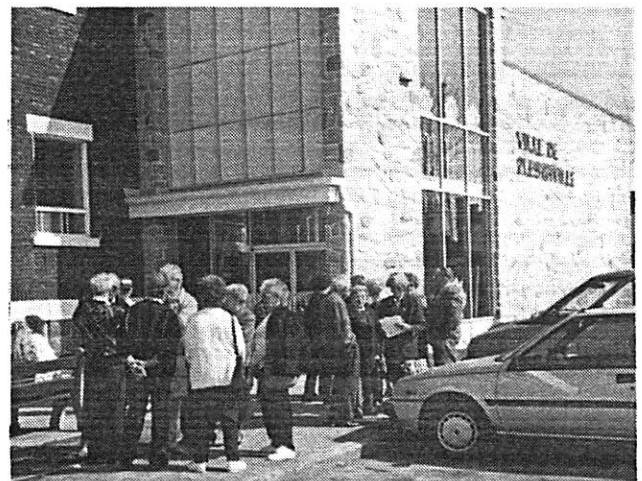
Later , the sugaring party at the Invernois where a succulent meal was served animated by Annette and Colette. Their music is unique and full of warmth. Until 15h. it was maple taffy on snow and, yes, there was still some snow on may 1st.

At 16h. everybody went to the Maple festival at the Plessisville arena to visit the stands and attend at the fair.

The supper at the Motel Le Phare, the evening for the elders with the Golden age club at the Community hall and the youngest at the Country night at the arena. The day was well filled. Everyone seemed satisfied and happy. We may repeat the experiment next year, may be in Beauce or at Saint-Pierre-Baptiste.

Thank you to all those who helped organize this reunion and to the City of Plessisville for its welcome.

Cécile Mercier, regional leader



Benoît Mercier, the secretary-treasurer of AMAN, welcomes members of his family and friends at Plessisville, Qc, on May 1, 1993. On the left : Paul-Émile, Benoît, Noëlla Laliberté (Réal Mercier), Clairette Richard (Julien Mercier); on the right: Fernand Daigle, Lise Mercier Demers, Lucie Mercier Daigle et Claude Dufour.

† 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
Marguerite Mercier Bernatchez	1993-03-19	Mont Saint-Pierre, QC
Rosaire Mercier	1993-04-02	Windsor, QC
Antoinette Martel Mercier	1993-04-09	Louiseville, QC
Luc Mercier	1993-04-17	Inverness, QC
Bernadette Lamontagne Mercier	1993-04-24	Saint-Nicolas, QC
Michel Mercier	1993-05-08	Saint-Georges, QC
Émilie Dion Mercier	1993-05-08	Québec, QC
Edgar Mercier	1993-05-16	Ste-Marie de Beauce, QC

PRESIDENT (Following of page 1)

In the name of the AMAN directors, I invite all Merciers and allies to gather in Sherbrooke for the 1993 meeting. The detailed activity program is on page 5 and the loose leaf of the present edition of **Le Mercien**.

Let us answer generously and in a large number to the invitation of Sister Marie Mercier's team responsible for the event. The directors will be there to assist the team in welcoming you and answer your questions. The creation of a regional comity for the Eastern Townships will be discussed.

Jean Mercier
 President

Encourageons nos annonceurs

Tél.: (819) 362362-6388 Michel et Hélène Vallée
 (819) 362-2544 propriétaires

Motel à la Claire Fontaine Inc.

30 unités • Téléphone

Bar salon • Coquette salle à manger

Salle de réceptions

Piscine • Marelle

2105, Saint-Calixte Nord (est) • PLESSISVILLE (QUÉBEC)

2 personnes par chambre : 30 \$ par personne

3 personnes par chambre : 25 \$ par personne

4 personnes par chambre : 20 \$ par personne

NEWS (following of page 10)

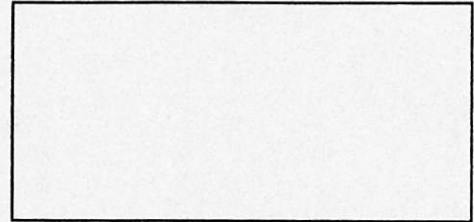
Helth wishes

Béatrice Mercier's husband, **Bernard Lacroix**, suffered a minor brain stroke in early april. After a month stay at the hospital, he is taking regularly proper exercices to recover his voice and left arm strength. Béatrice the second AMAN secretary and Bernard have helped our young family association to develop and still give a hand occasionally. Best of health to you Bernard and Béatrice.

Canadienne Publication
Contract number 94 676

Published by : L'Association des Mercier
de l'Amérique du Nord
Éditée by : La Fédération des familles-
souches québécoises inc.
C.P. 700
Sillery (Québec)
Canada
G1T 2W2

Please deliver this copy to



Return postage guaranteed

Will AMAN survive?

1. AMAN was officialloy created in 1985
2. AMAN exists benevolently since 1987
3. AMAN may survive gloriously if...

if...if...if...

4. If Merciers and allied are proud of their ancestors
5. If Merciers and allied believe in the family, in the largest sense of the word(child, mother and father).
6. If Merciers and allied recognize the noble origin of this family name that dates back to the Middle Ages.

if...if...if...

7. If one person Mercier and allied on 10 joins the ranks of AMAN
 8. If one person Mercier and allied on 50 accepts to promote AMAN
 9. If one person Mercier and allied on 100 assists the regional committees of AMAN
- There are some 18,000 Mercier and allied homes in North America; approximately 9,000 in Québec; some 3,000 in the rest of Canada and 6,000 in the United State of America (USA).

I WANT TO HELP AMAN SURVIVE BECAUSE:

1. The name Mercier appears in my ascendancy title.
2. My family has nice stories to narrate on the Mercier parenthood.
3. I believe in the obligation for the **elders, the adults and the youngs** to narrate the family history and to bridge the gap, to maintain liaison in between generations.

Sommaire

1	Word from the president	9	New members
2	Land of Pierre Mercier (Caudebec)	10	News and gossip
5	AMAN general meeting	11	Deaths
6	Family History Olivine Mercier, s.c.s.l.	12	AMAN survival
		12	Summary