

SAMPSON FAMILY HISTORY



A FAMILY GENEALOGY COMPILED BY SISTER ANN THOMASINE SAMPSON,
CSJ, (1915– 2008)



chez nous

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Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson, author of the article at right, grew up in Minneapolis, but her French-Canadian roots were deep in Dayton MN and area.

Her adult life was as a CSJ Nun. She died August 18, 2008 at age 93. Her career was as a teacher, and later in life historian for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

The accompanying article was printed in Chez Nous in 1995.

All of the Chez Nous articles are accessible at <http://fahfminn.org>, the website of French-American Heritage Foundation. Click library, click chez nous, to access all articles, completely indexed.

Chez Nous and its companion Nouvelles Villes Jumelles were published for 22 years, for an audience primarily in the Twin Cities area.

On Writing a Family History

by Sr. Ann Thomasine Sampson, CSJ

From the Editor: Sr. Ann is an historian for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, and continues to be involved in history projects at Bethany Convent in St. Paul where she is writing a book, Seeds on Good Ground, about pioneer Sisters of St. Joseph for the community's sesquicentennial in St. Paul 2001 A.D. She is a loyal member of LaSociete and is well-rooted in the French-Canadian culture of Quebec and the Twin Cities (she grew up in southeast Minneapolis). Here, Sister Ann shares her thoughts on writing a family history, which she shared with her own family in 1984. She provides a useful, common-sense, framework for anyone who has ever thought of writing their own history. **The editor would urge particular note to her comments about the relative lack of historical record of women. We perhaps can not rewrite the past, but we can make certain that the women we remember in our lives can be more completely described for the benefit of those who follow us. Thank you, Sister Ann.**

"[For] Christmas [1984] I gave a present of a family history to members of my immediate family consisting of three brothers, a sister, nine nephews and nieces. The present was a result of a question my oldest nephew posed when he asked, "Is there something wrong with my father's father? I have never heard anything about him." It struck me that my nephew was talking about my own father and that my parents died when the generation to which

the nephew belonged were either very young or had not yet been born.

Now, I had been collecting genealogical material about my family since college days when any psychology teacher asked for information about that subject. Gradually through the years, I had acquired a massive array of materials: ancestor/pedigree charts, documents, newspaper clippings, maps, certificates, letters, pictures of places and people, names and dates, census/cemetery/church/government records, etc., gotten through extensive correspondence, oral history interviews, exchange of data, trips, telephone calls plus membership and meetings with members of genealogical societies (Minnesota Genealogical Society; NWTF&CHI; Urbain Baudreau Graveline Genealogical Association). In order to be able to know what I had, I organized this material into a number of three ring notebooks - each one having to do with a specific branch of our family.

Now, the question before me was: what to share with my family without becoming so bogged down with details that the reader would quickly lose interest. I had watched various methods and techniques people used in collecting data about ancestors. Some were mainly interested in names and dates. Some traced people who had a specific last name. Others loved to fill in ancestor/pedigree charts. Since I had been a history teacher for some 35 years and later spent nine years in intensive historical research about the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, a congregation to which I belong, I wanted my family to know much more about their ancestors than a collection of names and dates. Therefore, I set down some specific rules and criteria: A) the selected information had to be of primary interest to those receiving the gift; B) divide the material into two sections - one relating to my father and the other to my mother; C) establish an outline of questions to answer for each person I would write about. Once I had established my mode of procedure, I began to write in earnest.

Each section was divided into segments and the first segment was titled "Recollections about my Father, James Jacob Sampson, Sr." by Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson. I described in a succinct form everything I could about his parents, where/when he was born, names of his 12 brothers and sisters and whom they married, places where he moved, grew up, worked, education, work, marriages, death, etc.

I also xeroxed copies of pictures I had of him and was careful to type up information about each. There were many questions I could not answer; therefore, in my description, I suggested that my brothers and sisters could be of help since they lived with my father longer than I did (I entered the convent at the age of 19.) I was careful to see that the same title was used at the top of each typewritten page and each was numbered in correct numerical progression. I had seen too many loose-leaf notebooks come apart and pages mixed up because they were not marked correctly. At the end of my recollections, I listed all of my father's direct descendants and whom they married: children, grandchildren, great grandchildren - so the reader could know exactly where he/she fit into the picture.

Then I did the same for his father: "Zepherin Samson, Father of James Jacob Sampson, Sr.", again being sure that this title was used on each succeeding page - but numbering each page all over again. This would allow for expansion of the first segment by the reader who might want to add data, etc. Again I used the same pattern and ended with the direct descendants. This time, the list was much longer since Zepherin was the father of 13 children. Then I did the third segment on his wife: Ellen LaVallee Sampson, Mother of James Jacob Sampson, Sr."

Since I had very little information about Zepherin's parents, other than what I wrote in his segment, I turned my attention to "Daniel Louis LaVallee, Grandfather of James Jacob Sampson, Sr." The information plus the pictures of this man who became the father of 12 daughters and step-father of his niece whose mother had died at childbirth, became more and more interesting and the list of direct descendants more exciting. Ten of his daughters grew to adulthood on a farm near French Lake and married men of French-Canadian descent, in St. Vincent's Church, Osseo, MN. Some of the names included: Zepherin Samson, Medard Arseneau, Francis Xavier LeClair, Moses Des Lauriers, Daniel Bottineau, Alexander Pouliot, Peter Dupuis, Felix Dansereau, Pierre Joly, Cyprien Gorham, Narcisse Counoyer, Sidney Potvin and Emile LeFebre. I will not attempt to give you the numerous ways these names were spelled. I also gave names and addresses of people who might be able to give more information about each of these families. I did the same for Daniel's wife: "Basiles

Baudreau Graveline LaVallee, Grandmother of James Jacob Sampson, Sr." I had a picture of her with 10 of her daughters and another where she was the oldest of five living generations - so I incorporated these into her segment - and listed the descendants again.

The last two segments had to do with "Joseph Baudreau Graveline, Great grandfather of James Jacob Sampson, Sr." And "Joseph Fortier Baudreau Graveline, Great grandmother of James Jacob Sampson, Sr." These two with a number of their children had come to St. Paul from Sorel, Quebec, about 1847. They were the only ones for whom I had no pictures; however, I had ancestor charts back to France and included a direct listing. I had the location about where they lived on Robert Street, St. Paul, and copies of marriage records of some of their children in the St. Paul log cabin Cathedral which later became St. Joseph's Academy where our Sisters taught. Other French names were added to my list - people whom their children had married: Michael Auger, Eleanor Donais, Emmanuel Dube, Edward Boisvert (Greenwood) and Pierre Turgeon. I again gave names and addresses of people who might aid the reader to know more about these people so that I would not be writing down information that would confuse the ones for who I was essentially writing. At this point, I felt I had fulfilled my goal of one half of the project, and I turned my attention to my mother's side of the family.

My mother, "Frances Blankenhorn, Wife of Thomas J. Shanahan; Wife of James Jacob Sampson, Sr." was married twice and her list of descendants was a bit different than those of my father because she had a son by her first marriage. I wrote a long recollection of her, then went on to her parents: "Richard Blankenhorn, Father of Frances Blankenhorn Sampson" and "Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn, Mother of Frances Blankenhorn Sampson". A different set of names began to emerge as I listed people who were married: Boughton, Kartak, Brombach, Egesberger, Hammer, Hauck, Hamack, Avery, etc. Then onto "Johann Christian Blankenhorn, Grandfather of Frances Blankenhorn", and "Katherine Schreiner Blankenhorn, Grandmother of Frances Blankenhorn Sampson". This whole section was much shorter due to the fact that A) the family relationship was much smaller; B) records were not that available; C)

much of the information was gotten through the oral history method from my mother's sisters before they died.

What did I personally learn from this Family History Project? A) outstanding characteristics, talents, physical traits I seem to have inherited from each side of my family; B) vast variety of ways of spelling names, particularly the French ones. This was due to the fact that when my ancestors came to Minnesota, they could speak little or no English. Those taking the census, wrote the names down as they heard them pronounced. As years went by, some went by nicknames and some changed their names to an English equivalent. My mother's side remained consistent because they were better educated and there were fewer names to change; C) the very small amount of documented information given about the women. They are usually referred to as mother, wife, daughter, and once in a while, they are mentioned in relationship to wills and dowries. Since a woman who marries, changes her name, I can see why so many genealogical enthusiasts track down people with a consistent last name. A number of interesting biographical sketches are now being written and published about the earliest settlers from France to new France. I have found three of my ancestors among them and had a cousin, Florence Sampson Fredricksen, professor of French for 40 years at Gustavus Adolphus College, MN, translate them into English for me. The paucity of information about women is very much in evidence. D) Learn how to separate myth from fact. Each family has stories that have been handed down. There seems to be an element of truth in them so I put them down and gave my sources. E) Dates vary. I have found people baptized before they were born! Put the various dates down; however, do not get an ulcer over which one is absolutely correct. F) Be sure to put down the names of direct descendants down after each person. I ran into the problem of second marriages, divorces, change of names, one parent families, etc. The listing of descendants for each person written about, helps to clarify the relationships.

What was the reaction of my family who received the three ring notebooks as a present? Absolutely delightful! A niece in Montana wrote to say that she spent three hours on Christmas Eve reading it and wished that a whole book of

recollections could be written about my mother. Her son has been asking her questions about the family and he can now make use of it for school projects as well as for his own knowledge. Another niece wanted to know what a milliner is. My mother had made her living as a widow by that profession. One brother who had worked for the telephone company became intrigued with the initials and numbers on a calling card I had xeroxed about my father's business. He did some research and found that at one time our area in Minneapolis had two telephone companies T.S. (Tri State) and E. (Bell). A man in business had to have two phone numbers. My sister in New York called to say that the present had generated much conversation and discussion between her and her children. Now the latter wanted to learn about their father's side of the family. All of the readers were amazed at the number of names that were listed and were interested to know more about them. Hopefully, some will take the time to jot down the information and add it to their family history.

Another whole group of relatives was interested in the project. A family reunion of the Jotvin/Podvin relations was and I was invited to come and show the fruits of my labor. Many wanted to purchase copies. This is where the idea of the segments comes in very handily. Since all of this research involved much time, money, etc., I had to work out an equitable amount of money to be charged - and I hoped they would have other information, pictures, documents, etc., to share with me. This is an unending project filled with surprises, fun, newly found relatives as well as many unanswered questions....

One last footnote. When I gave my present, I enclosed a letter to each recipient to explain what it was all about. I listed the people whom I had researched and advised them to read the contents slowly and at different times; otherwise they would get a good case of genealogical indigestion. Thus, the first page really has a table of contents so that other readers know in a few short paragraphs what the project is all about, and for whom it was essentially written. As other more distant relatives ask for copies, this letter will be revised to show what the essential relationship between them and the contents is all about."

Fete du St. Jean-Baptiste

by LeRoy DuBois



LeRoy DuBois, at right, waits his turn as Lauri Bernard twirls. Jane Peck, center, led.

Tuesday, 24 June, saw a reenactment of an 1840s French-Canadian Fete du St. Jean-Baptiste at the Sibley House in Mendota MN. This was a premier event at this new Minnesota Historical Society site.

When we arrived, a merry bonfire was already blazing in a spot behind the Sibley House. Couples in period costumes sat on benches and logs, clapping to jig music played by a slightly built young lad on an ancient fiddle.

Hey, I see Dick Bernard and his daughter, Lauri. And here come Ralph and Diane Germain and George and Bonnie LaBrosse. Looks like we'll have some fun after all. Hey, mon Vieux, Jane Peck is coming. She's an expert at native and period dances. I hear that she even studied in France.

Before I know what, Jane signals to the fiddler, two young damoiselles grab me by the arms, and I'm twirling around about a hundred miles an hour. Then come schottisches, more jigs, some American Indian dances, a Greek one, and maybe a Scotch and Irish one. Mon Dieu, these old 75-year old legs finally collapsed, but not before I had outdanced all of the kids. Quel fete! Quelle musique! Quel fun!

Prospective member? Checks for membership dues should be made to LSCF and sent to John England, 2002 Palace Ave St Paul 55105. Dues: \$10 (\$8 senior), Family \$15 (\$10 senior). Membership includes subscription to Chez Nous.



SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF CARONDELET

1880 RANDOLPH AVENUE ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105

CHRISTMAS OF 1984

Dear *Anthony*,

I hope you will like this present - a family genealogy collected throughout the past 40 years.

For those of you who are my brothers - James, Paul, Anthony, and my sister - Mary-
Ellen, you will find information about our parents, our grandparents, great grand-
parents and great great grandparents on our father's side. - And grandparents and
great grandparents on our mother's side.

For my niece and nephew: Fran (Frances-Anne and Michael: you will find infor-
mation on your mother's side of the family.

For my nieces and nephews: Thomas, Teresa, Matthew, Monica, Maria, Joseph and
Mary Frances: you will find information about your father's side of the family.

I hope you enjoy the information and the illustrations. Do not try to read the
book all at one time. You will become very confused. You are going to find out
that you are related to a lot of people. I do hope that you will continue this
research and write down what you learn about your other side of the family. This
is a beginning. I am responsible for misspelled words and other typing errors.
I spent hundreds of hours getting these books assembled,

The following are the people I researched and wrote about in this collection:

1. James Jacob Sampson (father of Frances-Anne, Mary Ellen, James, Paul, Matthew, Antho)
 2. Zepherin Samson (father of James Jacob Sampson)
 3. Helene LaVallee Samson (mother of James Jacob Sampson)
 4. Daniel LaVallee (father of Helene LaVallee Samson)
 5. Basilis Baudreau Graveline LaVallee (mother of Helene LaValle Samson)
 6. Joseph Baudreau Graveline (father of Basilis Baudreau Graveline LaVallee)
 7. Josephte Fortier Baudreau Graveline (mother of Basilis Baudreau Graveline LaVallee)
1. Frances Blankenhorn Shanahan Sampson (mother of Thomas J. Shanahan, Frances-Anne
Mary Ellen, James, Paul, Matthew, Anthony)
 2. Richard Blankenhorn (father of Frances Blankenhorn S. Sampson)
 3. Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn (mother of Frances Blankenhorn S. Sampson)
 4. Johann Christian Blankenhorn (father of Richard Blankenhorn)
 5. Katherine Schreiner Blankenhorn (mother of Richard Blankenhorn)

With love,

S. Anne Thomasine

FAMILY DATES AND ANNIVERSARIES TO REMEMBER - SAMPSON/SHANAHAN FAMILIES

Key: 1st - first generation 3rd - third generation
2nd - second " 4th - fourth generation
(b) - birthday (d) - death
(w) - wedding

JANUARY

3 Jeanette Mather (b) 4th
11 Joseph Sampson (b) 3rd
18 Mary Ellen Mather (b) 2nd
23 Frances M. Sampson (b) 1st
24 T. J. Shanahan (d) 2nd
19 Frank Mather (b) 2nd

FEBRUARY

3 Mary Frances Sampson (b) 3rd
7 Margaret Sampson (b) 2nd
10 Frances and T. J. Shanahan (w) 1st
12 Frances M. Sampson (d) 1st
21 Frank Mather (d) 2nd

MARCH

13 Stephen Mather (d) 3rd
14 Paul Sampson (b) 2nd
19 S. Ann Thomasine (vows) 2nd
26 Dustin Baer (b) 4th

APRIL

1 Mary Ellen Boswell (b) 4th
4 Frances Anne Mather (b) 3rd
25 Monica Sampson (b) 3rd

MAY

2 Rebecca Sampson (b) 4th

JUNE

8 Anthony Sampson (b) 2nd
9 T. J. Shanahan Ordination 2nd
18 James J. Sampson, (b) 1st
21 John Cisternino (b) 4th
24 Tom & Diane Sampson (w) 3rd
11 Don Pederson (b) 3rd

JULY

6 Teresa Sampson (b) 3rd
7 Paul and Margaret Sampson (w) 2nd
7 Matthew and Gisela Sampson (w) 3rd
7 Teresa and Don Pederson (w) 3rd
18 S. Ann Thomasine (b) 2nd
18 Michael and Maureen Mather (w) 3rd

AUGUST

6 T. J. Shanahan, Sr. (b) 1st
7 James J. Sampson (b) 2nd
7 Maria Sampson (b) 3rd

SEPTEMBER

3 James and Frances Sampson (w) 1st
3 James and Barea Sampson (w) 2nd
8 Thomas J. Sampson (b) 3rd

OCTOBER

8 Matthew Paul Sampson (b) 3rd
11 Frank and Mary Ellen Mather (w) 2nd
10 T. J. Shanahan, Sr. (d) 1st
28 Gisela Fricke Sampson (b) 3rd

NOVEMBER

14 Maureen Mather (b) 3rd
17 Monica Sampson (b) 4th
25 Stephen Thomas Mather (b) 4th

DECEMBER

1 Matthew J. Sampson (d) 2nd
3 Matthew J. Sampson (b) 2nd
11 Barea Sampson (b) 2nd
16. Thomas J. Shanahan (b) 2nd
17 Stephen Mather (b) 3rd
16 Teresa Sampson (b) 4th
21 Christopher Sampson (b) 4th
28 James Jude Sampson (b) 3rd
29 James Jude Sampson (d) 3rd
30 Michael Mather (b) 3rd

N.B. If there are any corrections to be made, please send them to me.
I did the best I could.

Suggestion: Each parent ought to make out a list of names and addresses so we know where everyone lives. This would refer to the parents and their children and grandchildren.

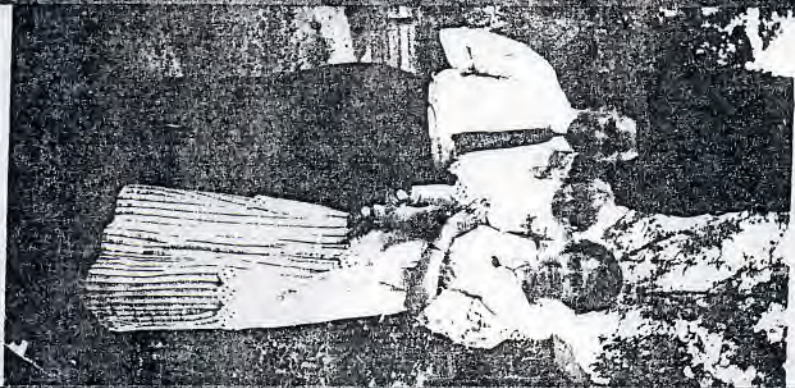
Submitted by Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson, CSJ
St. Joseph's Provincial House
1880 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul, Mn. 55105
tel. (612) 690 - 6990 Or 690 - 7093



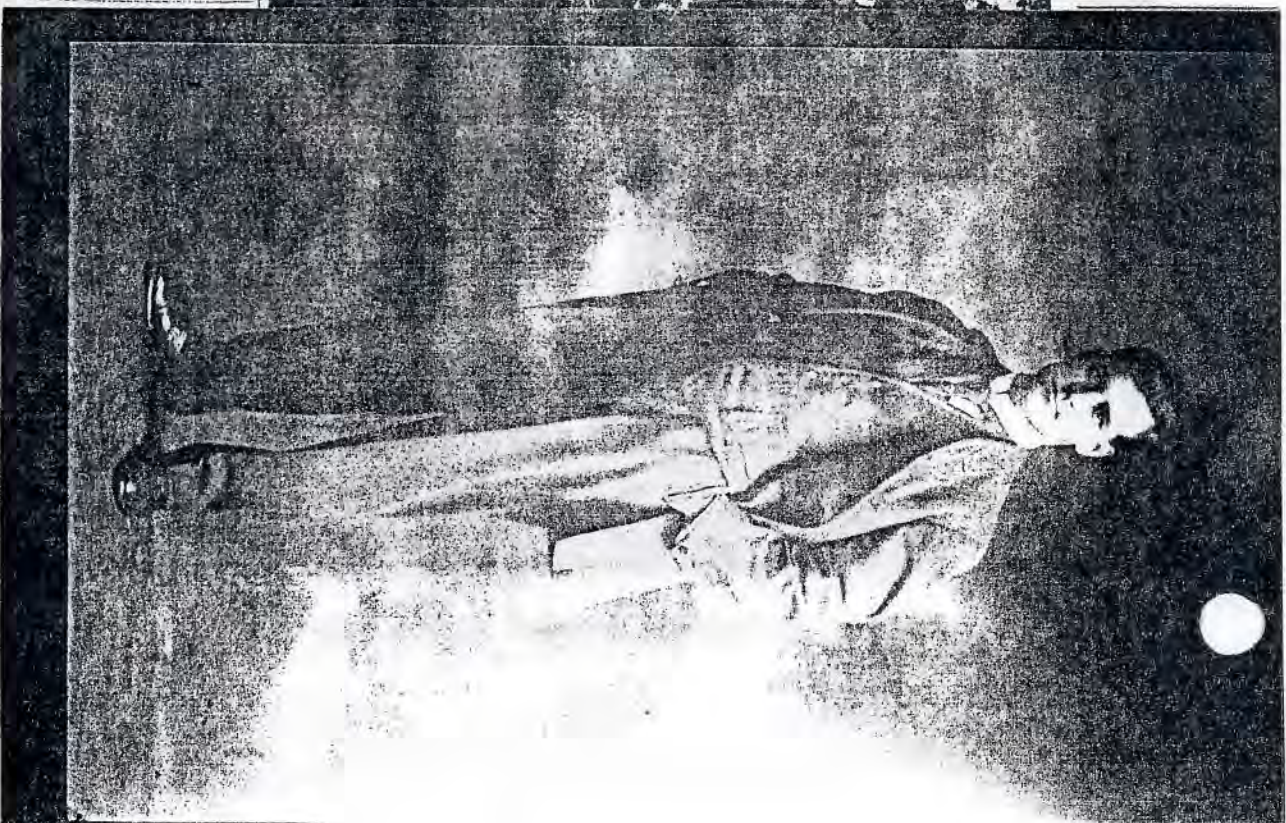
JAMES J. SAMPSON WHO MARRIED FRANCES BLANKENHORN SHANAHAN: DELLA POULIOT COMMERS



JAMES J. SAMPSON AS A YOUNG MAN



James J. Sampson with his future wife, Frances Blankenhorn Shanahan. The little girl has not been identified. Could it Aunt Kate's daughter Katherine (Babe)?



ANOTHER PICTURE OF JAMES J. SAMPSON



CAULDS BY

I never could understand why my mother made such a fuss about my father regarding his comfort, his birthday, etc. She told me later that he came from a poor family. He had never celebrated his birthday. I remember my father telling me that one Easter he could not leave his home because he had no shoes to wear. He also said that he had worked in the mills and in a logging camp. He got the latter job because he could sing! He also mentioned that the laborers were required to vote Republican because if they voted Democratic, they would lose their jobs. When I was growing up, we did not question our parents a great deal about their early lives. We were too engrossed in our own activities. Besides, many people wanted to forget their roots, particularly if they had a strong ethnic background. My father could speak French-Canadian and he could also converse with his brother, Eddie who was deaf and dumb as a result of scarlet fever.

My father was engaged to be married to a girl who later died of TB. He learned the plumber's trade from his brother-in-law, Henry Valencourt. Later, he went into business with a Mr. Wilson. A calling card I found years later, gave this information: Sampson and Wilson Plumbing and Heating
Gas Fitting, Hot Water Heating, Sewer
and Water Connections
202 Central Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.
T.S. 41641 (?) East 6670

My father loved to sing and had a glorious baritone voice. He took voice lessons from Hal Woodruff who for years was the director of the Apollo Club in Minneapolis. He also belonged to St. Anthony's Church choir for 25 years and became baritone soloist there.

My father met my mother at a wedding in either Cannon Falls or Hastings. Dad was the soloist at the Thill wedding and my mother was the matron of honor. They went together for approximately seven years and finally on September 3, 1914 they were married in St. Paul where my mother lived with her young son, Thomas James Shanahan.

After the wedding, they lived in the home my father had built at 1163-14th Avenue South East, Minneapolis. I was born in that home the following July 18, 1915. Five more children were born to my parents: Mary Ellen, James Jacob, Jr., Paul James, Matthew James and Anthony James. I asked my mother how she picked the names. She wanted to call me Ann after her girl friends. My brother wanted Frances and they compromised with Frances-Anne. Mary Ellen was named after the two grandmothers; James after our father; Anthony because of the 75th anniversary of St. Anthony's church. Mama said she went to the litany of the saints because she wanted good strong saints' names. She named the boys James because my father had been godfather to many children but no one was named after him - hence all the second names of James.

What do I remember about my father? He was about five feet eleven inches tall with dark eyes and gray to white hair. He was rather quiet, I think. He had a car - Chevrolet Baby Grand and a truck. When he drove into the yard for supper, my mother would say: girls, your father is home. Put the supper on the table. Shortly after the marriage, the business was brought home and a desk with a typewriter occupied a corner of the rather large kitchen. The telephone was in the pantry and the number was Dinsmore 6670 for many years. My father was a master plumber and belonged to that Association. He hired journeymen and a digger whom we called Uncle Mike. The latter had been born in Poland. According to pictures that I have of my father when he was best man at various weddings, he was very handsome and slim. Later on, he put on a lot of weight and at one time weighed about 210 pounds. He liked to eat round steak, potatoes that were not mashed, Bermuda onions. He drank a lot of green tea even if it was cold. My mother learned how to make French pea soup.

My father loved to sing and I can remember my mother sitting at the piano she had been given by her first husband, Thomas James Shanahan, Sr., playing the accompaniments for daddy. She played for him when he was asked to sing at many affairs. Later on when I was eleven and had taken piano lessons for six years, she taught me how to play these pieces and most of all, how to pause when my father held a note or took a breath. She would put her hand on my shoulder and I did not dare to go on to the next chord until that hand was lifted, It was marvelous training.

Dad faithfully went to rehearsals. I can recall when the St. Anthony choir would come over to my home and such singers as Anna Irving and Al Gratton accompanied by Mabel Bacon, the organist would rehearse such Masses as ones by Beethoven, Mozart, Gounod, etc. At noon time, Dad would sit at the piano and rehearse, beginning with some exercises, then going on to pieces he loved to sing. When he died, so many people came up to me to tell me how he had sung at weddings and funerals and other functions. He had a very special quality of voice so that when he sang, people became quiet. My most favorite pieces I can remember included: Le Cor; BECAUSE; HOME ON THE RANGE; HILLS OF HOME; I'LL TAKE YOU HOME, KATHLEEN, PANIS ANGELICUS and GOD, MY FATHER, famous solo from Dubois" SEVEN LAST WORDS.

The Apollo Club concerts were special affairs. Held at either the Lyceum Theatre or at the new Minnneapolis Auditorium, they were wonderful events to attend. It was here that I heard great choral masterpieces and soloists. I was about five years old when my mother took me to the concerts. I can still remember the men on the stage dressed in full dress attire: tails, white starched shirt, tie, cuff links - well-disciplined regarding singing, bowing, standing, etc. Later when I began my own career in choral work, I remembered the picture the Apollo Club made as they sang and copied many of the techniques. When we dismantled our home in South East Minneapolis, I found the dress suit in the attic. It recalled the many memories I had of my mother sending it to the cleaners and putting it on the bed so that my father would be impeccably attired for the program. The Apollo Club also sponsored an annual picnic and if I am correct, Dad sometimes got the prize for having the most children. Two numbers that I remember that were standard repertoires songs were: The Netherlands Hymn of Thanksgiving (always the opening number for the first program) and O Bone Jesu of Palestrina.

Rehearsals for the St. Lawrence choir were faithfully attended each Wednesday evening at that church. Church music began to change and emphasis was on choral rather than solo singing; however, my father always went to the rehearsals no matter how often he had sung the music. He also took time off his work to sing at the funerals and weddings. He was accompanied by Josephine Littel at the organ. Many people have accused me of being a perfectionist about anything I do. If this is so, chalk it up to the fact that I lived in a home where I was taught to play and sing well - which meant a great deal of practice - and I might add, a feeling of satisfaction .

Dad sang at the High Mass each Sunday at 11:00. He and mama would go to St. Lawrence for it while Mary Ellen and I who had attend the 9:00 Mass for children, were expected to prepare and have the noon meal ready when our parents returned home,

All was not working and singing in our family. My father had two recreational passions: card playing and fishing. When I was young, it was not uncommon for dad and three of his brothers to gather together in the kitchen and play cards. Or they would gather at some other brother's home to play. Later, I remember Dad playing solitaire each night after supper at the dining room table. While he was doing this, he smoked Camel's cigarettes - 15¢ a package or two for a quarter. I frequently bought them for him - even smoked a bit myself. There was not the great campaign on at that time about the harmful effects of smoking; however, he did give this up for awhile, went to chewing tobacco, then back again to smoking. It did not seem to harm his voice. He did suffer from bronchitis a lot and took some kind of medicine called Creoturpine which gave him relief.

Now about fishing. Every Saturday morning, about 5:00, dad departed for some lake. He would have his bamboo poles, a gorgeous lunch packed the night before which always consisted of porksteak sandwiches with lettuce and Bermuda onion. This was in the days of the Friday abstinence and I can attest to the fact that it was a real temptation not to nibble at a piece of the porksteak while we made the sandwiches after the meat had cooled. Dad went to many lakes where he could rent a boat from some farmer. He was an expert fisherman and had many companions. I could go if I kept quiet. I remember one time that he caught sunfish, croppies, perch, etc. at one end of the boat while I caught bull heads. I don't ever remember him coming home without having a wonderful catch. I learned how to clean fish behind the garage. At that time, we did not fillet them. My mother always saw to it that the youngest in the family got the tails of the fish so that the person would not get a bone in the throat. I do not remember any one of us ever having an accident of that kind. We had pan fish dipped in flour or corn meal, and many times we had stuffed baked pike and pickeral. During the Depression one summer, dad went fishing almost every afternoon because business was very bad. My brothers can tell much more about where my father went fishing.

During the summer months when the High Mass was discontinued, my mother would pack a lunch which was put in a container filled with ice and placed on the running board of our large car which could hold nine of us (three in the front; three on the jump seats and three in the back seat) and we would set out for a lake. Mama would have a roast, German potato salad, bread, cold drink, etc. She was a great cook and well organized. Then after the picnic, we might go swimming while mama would read - and end up riding around the area of Como Park to see the buffalo and deer. Sometimes we would go to Limestone Lake where Uncle Lawrence had a cottage. Once a year for a week, we would rent a cottage at Clearwater Lake where daddy would fish, we would swim and mama would tend the cottage. She made the family aware of the flora and fauna and liked to collect rocks, plants, etc. which she would bring home.

I left home to enter the convent on September 8, 1934. Dad, per usual never said much; however, I think he was happy with my decision. That day, a Saturday, he took to the lake early in the morning and when he got home that evening, he said to my mother, "Has she gone?". When my mother said Yes, he went into the bedroom, shut the door and threw himself on the bed. The next day happened to be a visiting Sunday (happened once a month in the novitiate) and he came. I just remember the tears in his eyes. The convent was very strict at that time so I did not have much contact with the family. Later on, when I was assigned to St. Joseph's Academy and put on many programs, he and mama faithfully attended them. One evening, on February 12, 1945 when I gave the final performance of the operetta, THE LADY OF THE TERRACE, the family came; however, my mother was not among them. She had died very suddenly of a stroke that afternoon. The



PICTURE OF THE SAMPSON FAMILY TAKEN AT ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY ABOUT 1948

Seated: Frances-Anne Sampson (S. Ann Thomasine) holding Frances-Anne Mather; Mary Ellen Sampson Mather holding her son Stephen; Margaret Zeis Sampson holding her son Matthew; Teresa Sampson; Thomas Sampson
 Standing: Anthony J. Sampson; Rev. Thomas J. Shanahan; Frank Mather, husband of Mary Ellen; Della Pouliot Commers who married James J. Sampson (first cousins); Paul J. Sampson, husband of Margaret; Michael Mather, son of Frank and Mary Ellen Mather; James J. Sampson.

This picture was taken on Easter Sunday by S. Mary Leo Kammeier. My father had recently married his first cousin who was a widow. This was taken during the time that Sisters were not allowed to go home except for one day a year. Sisters never went out on Sunday; hence families came to the convent to visit.

DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SAMPSON/SHANAHAN FAMILY



FRANCES M. SAMPSON

Born Jan. 23, 1882
Died Feb. 12, 1945



MSGR. T.J. SHANAHAN

Born Dec. 16, 1904
Died Jan. 24, 1968



JAMES J. SAMPSON

Born June 3, 1877
Died Dec. 17, 1950



MATTHEW JAMES SAMPSON

Born DEcember 3, 1923
Died DEcember 1, 1930

Matthew is holding the wrists of Anthony. He died as a result of pleurisy and diphtheria. He possessed a very beautiful voice and loved to sing.

ZEPHERIN SAMSON
(father of James J. Sampson)

Zepherin Samson, despite the many years I have researched him, remains somewhat of a mystery to me. When I was growing up, very little was said about one's ancestors. It was an era when families wanted to forget ethnic backgrounds and be very American. Only recently have Americans become very ancestor conscious. My father's parents died when I was very little. My interest in genealogy really began when an older first cousin, David Sampson, a newspaper man, gave me what he had unearthed about our ancestors. The interest was further whetted when my father remarried - this time to his first cousin who was a widow with thirteen children. It has taken me about 40 years to unravel the story of my parents' ancestry which I will now attempt to share.

In 1979 I had an opportunity to go to Quebec and see records kept in parish rectories. Each trip was preceded by much correspondence with the pastor so that he would know what I was looking for. Each of us had a problem: we could speak our native language and read English/French. The trip to Levi near the city of Quebec City revealed the following information in the Baptismal Records:

The 28th of January in the year 1838, we, undersigned, pastor of this parish (St. Henri), have baptised Zepherin, born yesterday, from the legal marriage of Francois Samson, blacksmith and Marguerite Blais of this parish. Godfather: Pierre Bouthillier; Godmother: Marguerite Noel who here declared they could not sign. Jos. Lacosse, pastor

According to some other sources that Zepherin had a number of brothers and sisters:

Francois	m. Anastasie Collet, 1844 St. Henri
Marcelline	m. Francois Audet, 1845, St. Henri
Marguerite	m. Hubert Couture, 1845, St. Henri
Desanges	m. Jean Bernier, 1852 in Dorchester
Alvine	m. Octave Duquet, 1872 in Frontenac
Locadie	m. Theodore Audet, 1874 in Frontenac.

The first three mentioned have their marriages recorded in St. Henri en Levi. Father Napoleon Gagne, pastor of St. Henri, wrote that "there are 41 Samsons married in St. Henri. Welcome home!"

These same records show that Zepherin's mother, Marguerite Blais was able to write/spell her name when she acted as sponsor. Later on, we find that Zepherin applying for a pension (he was in the Civil War) was able to write his name - and without the p in it.

Just when Zepherin came into Minnesota is not known or why. There were other Samsons around the areas of French Lake, Osseo and French Corcoran, Father Joseph Guillemette, pastor at Dayton, wrote to tell me that French Canadians moved into territory that had woods, lakes and available land. Canadian writers make mention of the fact that since families living there were large, it was difficult to own land. Other reasons like animosity towards the English, are also given.

Official War Records show that Zepherin served as a Private in Company B of the 11th Regiment of Minnesota Volunteers Infantry during the Civil War, enlisting on August 12, 1864 and was honorably discharged on June 26, 1865 at Gallatin, Tenn. at the age of 25.

He probably became well acquainted with the family of Daniel and Baziles LaVallee (Lavelle, Lavalee) who owned a farm near French Lake and had a family of thirteen daughters, one of whom was adopted. He and the oldest daughter, Helene (Ellen) applied for a marriage license (name spelled with a p) and married a month after he was discharged from the army.

Zepherin Samson - 2

Father Guillemette sent me the following information:

Church of St. John the Baptist, Dayton, Minnesota

This is to certify that Zepherin Samson and Helen Lavalle were lawfully married on the sixth day of August, 1865 according to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church and in conformity with the laws of the State of Minnesota by Rev. C. Genis officiating in the presence of Louis Bibeau and Emmanuel Dubee, witnesses as appears from the Marriage Register of this church, page 142, #9 of Vol I.

Just what Zepherin and his wife did following the marriage is difficult to figure out. Thirteen children were born of this union. We know that they moved around a great deal. Uncle Lawrence, one of the sons, told me that his father spent his time in logging, horse trading, building corduray roads and he liked to fish and hunt. Here are the places where the children were born:

Emma, French Lake, 1866; Anne (no place given, 1868; Edward, Princeton or Elk River, 1870; Francis Xavier (Frank), Minneapolis, 1872; Anne Delvina, Duluth, 1874; Daniel Louis (Dan), Rockland, Michigan, 1876; James Jacob, Rockland, Michigan, 1877; Mary Ellen, Calumet, Michigan, 1879; Lawrence Thomas, Calumet, 1880; and the last four in Minneapolis: Demeris (Lizzie), 1882; Zepherin Felix (Phil), 1883; Herbert, 1884; Henry, 1889. The baptismal record of the last child gives Our Lady of Lourdes as the church where he was baptised.

What did Zepherin look like? According to Uncle Lawrence, he had a long beard, blue eyes and was fair complexioned. The man who signed him up for the war must have had another pair of eyes or did not look too closely. He put down hazel eyes, dark hair, dark complexion, 5 ft, 7" in height. My father once mentioned that his father was of Norman French ancestry and since Normandy was invaded by the Vikings, he probably was on the blond side but had dark skin as a result of being out of doors.

Uncle Lawrence also volunteered the information that his father went to Drake, N.D. sometime before he died. Here he met a half-breed whom he liked and who had some property. I understand he staked a claim there. Uncle Henry's wife gave me a picture of her husband as a young man at Drake. Later on, Uncle Lawrence went to that town and brought his father home. Aunt Emma's daughter, Anne-Marie (Bun) said that Zepherin sometimes stayed with her mother.

Zepherin liked to sing and he also enjoyed a drink. In 1911 he went to the Old Soldiers' Home where he died May 9, 1917. He suffered from cancer of the throat. Raineville's took care of the funeral arrangements. He was waked at the home of James, his son at 1163-14th Avenue S. E. and the funeral took place at Our Lady of Lourdes. He was buried in the Soldiers' Section at St. Mary's Cemetery but his grave is unmarked. Cemetery records give the following information: Row 10, Grave 10, Block 3, Section 9. To locate the gravesite, find the following stones with these names: Foley to the left; Cameron, fourth to the right; Robideaux - below. There is a big tree near the area.

There are two extant pictures of him: one with his wife and 11 children who grew to adulthood; a small one attached to his Discharge War copy showing him standing with his son, Eddie, the latter's wife, Anna and their two children, David and Edith.

There are a number of Samsons who are related to Zepherin. The following chart constructed in 1978, shows who they are. The chart also shows Zepherin's ancestors back to France - Gatien des Bois in Calvados, of the diocese of Lisieux, Normandy, France.

FAMILY TREE OF SAMSONS WHOSE DESCENDANTS CAME INTO MINNESOTA (Dayton, Osseo, Corcoran, et
Toussaint Samson M. Catherine Chevalier: St. Gatien, des Bois (Calvados)
Jacques Samson m. Marie-Anne Metru Nov. 26, 1671 Quebec, PQ

Etienne Samson m. Madeleine Charron Feb. 3, 1739 Beaumont, PQ

Ambroise Samson m. Marguerite Letourneau Feb. 11, 1765 St. Pierre du Sud PQ

Joseph Samson m. Marie Marguerite Morin June 5, 1787 St. Pierre du Sud PQ

(came to Mn.) Etienne (Stephen) m. Francoise Samson m.
Marcelline Coucture Marguerite Blais
Flirmine Samson m.

Marie Samson
(Auguste Samson)
and Mary Gervais)

Zepherin Samson m. (to Mn.) Edward Samson m. (to Mn.)
Helene Lavallee Flora Gosselin
Charles Samson m.
Josette, Gautreau
Narcisse Samson m
Mary Gervais

James Samson m. Frank Samson m. Olymp m. Odell m.
Frances Blankenhorn Mae Anderson Frank Samson m. (to Mn.)
Frances Anne Samson Lloyd Samson Marcella
(S. Ann Thomasine) Esther Z. m. m.
Bethke

- This diagram was constructed by Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson, CSJ (April 25, 1978) with the help of:
1. Charest, Ruth 4618 Chouen Avenue North, Minneapolis, Mn. 55422 (612 - 535 - 6036)
 2. Bethke, Esther Zimmerman: 4737 Washburn Avenue South, Minneapolis, Mn. (612 - 926 - 4092)
 3. Charest, Sister Agnesine, OSB (Eva): St. Mary's Convent, 231 E. 3rd St., Duluth, Mn. 55805
 4. Lareau, Paul: 116 - 14th Avenue South, South St. Paul, Mn. 55705 (612 - 455-6792)
- Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson CSJ
 St. Joseph's Provincial House
 1880 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul, Mn. 55105
 612 - 698-0337

DESCENDANTS OF ZEPHERIN SAMSON

(Names obtained from various sources, Fill in what has been left out. S. Ann Thomasine, 1984)

Children:

Emma m. Peter Bastien
 Anne died at age of 3
 Edward m. Anna Arnold
 Francis Xavier (Frank) m. Anna Prenovost
 Anne Delvina m. Henry Valencourt
 Daniel Louis (Dan) m. Mayme van Rickley
 James Jacob (Jim) m. Frances Blankenhorn Shanahan; Della Pouliot Commers
 Mary Ellen m. Charles Swanson
 Lawrence m. Josie Skogy; Mae Ellis
 Demeris (Lizzie) m. Theodore Horsch
 Zepherin Felix (Phil) m. Marie Olmscheid
 Herbert died in infancy
 Henry m. Anna Schiltz

Grandchildren:

By Emma: Alice m. Emil Schnepfmuehler
 Lucille m. Max J. Alberts
 Charles m. Catherine ?
 Anne-Marie (Bun) m. Turnquist
 Clarence m. Dorothy McNamara
 By Edward: David
 Edith m. Betz
 By Frank: Florence m. George Myrum; Harry Fredricksen
 Raymond m.
 By Anne Delvina: (do not have a list at present)

By Dan: Evelyn m.
 Mabel m.
 Lawrence m.
 Helen m. Philippi
 Mildred
 Frank

By Jim: Frances-Anne (S. Ann Thomasine)
 Mary Ellen m. Frank Mather
 James m. Baree Nichawech
 Paul m. Margaret Zeis
 Matthew
 Anthony

By Mary Ellen: Irene m. Harold Corbett
 Clarence (Honey) m.

By Demeris (Lizzie): Theodore m.
 Corelia m. Louis Turgeon
 Margaret m. Burke
 Clement m.

By Zepherin Felix): George m.
 Estelle m. Les Henninger
 Clifford m.
 Philip m.

Great Grandchildren

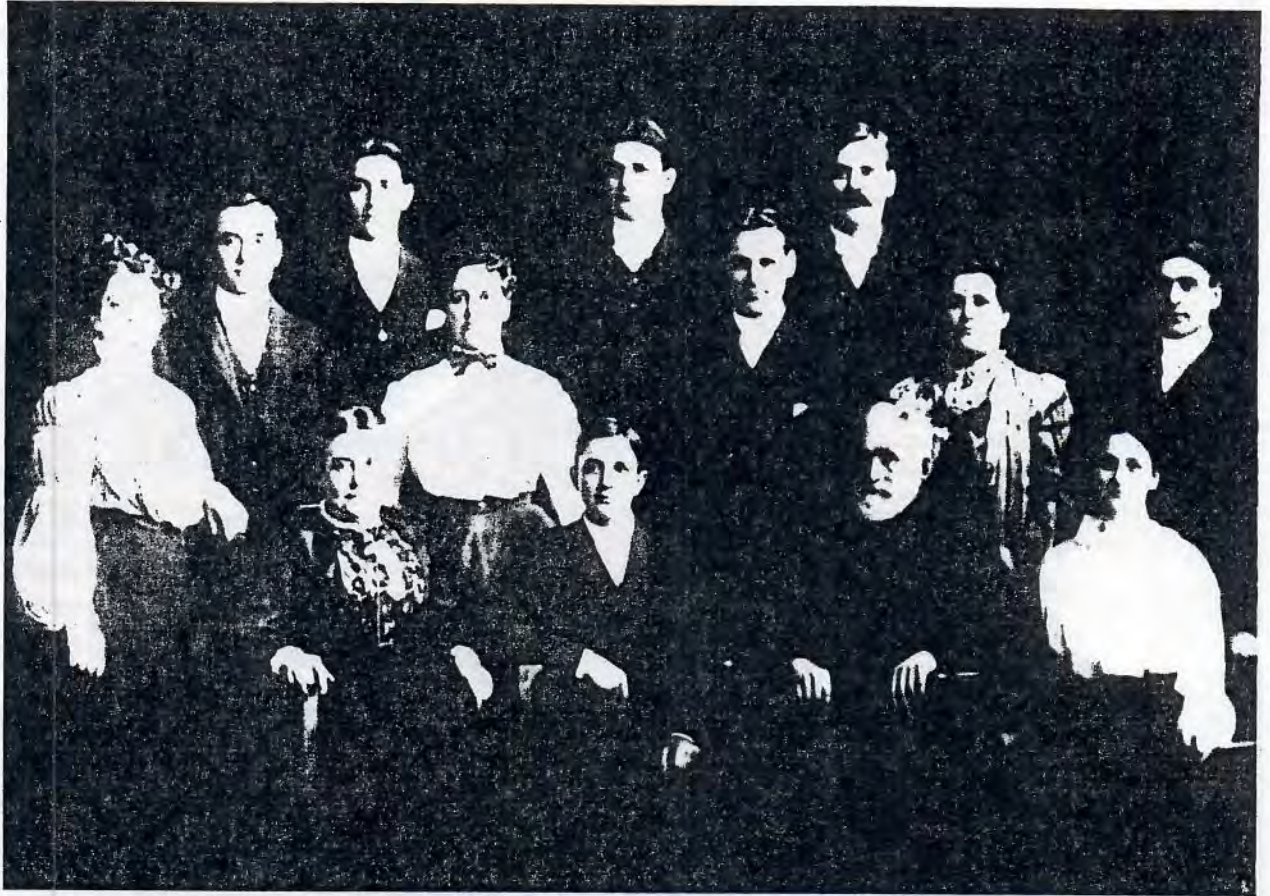
By Mary Ellen Mather:
 Michael
 Frances-Anne (Fran)
 Stephen

By James:
 Mary Frances
 James Jude

By Paul
 Thomas
 Teresa
 Matthew
 Monica
 Maria
 Joseph

Great, great grandchildren

By Michael: Jeanette; Stephen
 By Fran: Mary-Ellen Anne; John
 By Teresa: Dustin
 By Matthew: Christopher; Rebecca
 By Maria: Teresa; Monica



PICTURE OF ZEPHIRIN SAMSON FAMILY

Front row: Helene (Ellen), Henry, Zephirin, Mary
 Secondrow: Lizzie, Frank, Felix (Phil), Emma, Eddie, James (Jim), Dan with mustache
 Ann, Lawrence.

(Large pictures were made and framed. My father told me that he gave his to Uncle Lawrence who later had it mounted in a wrought-iron frame. Uncle Lawrence had it put in Larry Sampson's attic for safe keeping when Aunt Mae died and he did a lot of traveling to Fla. for the winter. He promised me the picture; however, after Larry's death, Betty, his wife disposed of it. Some cousin probably has it. The small pictures I had made were copies of a small one Estelle, Uncle Phil's daughter had made from the original

Zephirin (also spelled Zephyrn; Zephran) was admitted to the Old Soldiers' Home on August 19, 1911 and died there on May 9, 1917. He was waked at his son, Jim's home, 1163 - 14th Aveue, S.E. Minneapolis. He died of cancer of the throat. He was buried from Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Mpls. Rainvilles had charge of the funeral service. According to St. Mary's Cemetery records, the following information is given: Zephrain Sampson, 78 years old, Row 10, Grave 10, Block 3, Section 9 of the Civil War Soldiers section. (There is no marker. To determine his grave, a marker (Foley is to the left of him. Cameron is 4th to right. Robideaux is below him. There is a big tree near the area. I visited the site on July 24, 1956 and again June of 1972. SAT.)



FIRST CHAPEL OF ST. PAUL ERECTED BY FATHER GALTIER IN 1841 - COST ABOUT \$65

Located on what is now Kellogg Blvd, overlooking the Mississippi River, towards the Wabasha Bridge, across from the Radisson Hotel. The site is now marked by a large boulder with a marker. This is the church where Basilis Baudrea dit Graveline married Daniel LaVallee in 1849. Their first daughter Helene was baptised here in 1850.

In 1851 four Sisters of St. Joseph came to St. Paul via steamboat and began a school in the vestry of this log cabin and it became known as St. Joseph's Academy. In 1853, a severe cholera epidemic broke out in St. Paul. The students were removed from this building and it was turned into a hospital - now known as St. Joseph's Hospital, the oldest hospital in the state of Minn.

Descendants of the Baudreau dit Graveline family are eligible to belong to an organization called THE MINNEOTA TERRITORIAL PIONEERS

HELENE LAVALEE SAMPSON, WIFE OF ZEPHERIN SAMSON
 Mother of James J. Sampson

Helene or Helen or Ellen, depending upon what documents one consults, was born to pioneer parents, Daniel Louis Lavalle and Basiles Baudreau Graveline in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 25, 1850. According to the Cathedral records, she was baptised on February 20, 1850 - so someone probably handed down the incorrect date of birth just as this happened in the case of her son, James. Since many of the French Canadians could not read or write, and those who wrote down data spelled names and places phonetically, this is what is contained in the Baptismal record:

On Feb. 20, 1850, Helene Lavale, daughter of Daniel Lavale and Basilise Baudro was baptized. Witnesses: Joss (probably Jos.) Poidtdven (Potvin) and Helene Payard Priest A. Ravoux

When the Minnesota Territorial Census for 1850 was taken, one can find her name among the household of her grandparents for Rams y County. They included: Joseph Bordreau, Josette (his wife), Baptiste (his son), Bazilie, his daughter)Christine, Edonire, Leonore, Merance, Joseph, Helen, Edward Beanvais (this was really Boisvert), Daniel Lavellais (Lardlais), listed as a carpenter.

A further study of this group reveal the fact that there were three generations living together in a log cabin in what is now 7th and Robert Streets, St. Paul. Daniel and his wife Basiles probably lived there until after their thirddaughter was born . The fourth daughter is listed as being born in Little Canada. No places are given for the next four daughters. The last three are listed as being baptized in Dayton or Osseo. One might next conjecture that sometime later on, Daniel and his family moved to a farm east of French Lake, a lake near Diamond Lake and about six miles from Osseo.

Alcid Podvin, a grandson of Daniel, described the farm to me. It consisted of about 140 acres of woods and maple syrup trees. Here the family had cows, pigs, horses, chickens, hay, corn potatoes, cranberries. If one were to look on official maps of that area, one would find Daniel Louis Lavallee's fam listed as Section 29, Dayton Township, Hennepin Co. Minnesota.

It was here under the watchful eyes of her parents that Helene grew up. Her father was described by Alcidas a man about 6 feet tall with a long beard, very strict. The mother spoke French, used snuff and spent a great deal of her time knitting sweaters, stockings, mittens, etc. Two pictures exist of each of them.

This is the family that produced 12 daughters and adopted another girl whose mother died shortly after childbirth and whose father was Daniel's half-brother Peter.

The list of daughters included the following: (From Cathedral and Osseo Records)
Dayton

Helene	m.	Zepherin Samson	Dayton	
Hermine	m.	Medard Arseneau	Dayton	
Virginia	m.	Francis X Le Clair	- Osseo	
Josephine	m.	Moses Des Lauriers	Osseo	
Delvina	m	Daniel Bottineau	Osseo	2) Alexander Pouliot
Edmire	m.	Felix Dansereau	Osseo	2) Peter Dupuis (changed name to Wells)
Flora	m.	Pierre Joly	Osseo	
Rose Anne	m.	Cyrien Garon/Gorham	Osseo	
Louise		died very young		buried in St, Vincent de Paul C. Osseo
Basilese(Ruth)		Narcisse Counoyer		
Emma	m.	Sidney Potvin	Osseo ?	
Filende	m.	Emile LeFebre	Osseo	
Flavia	m.	JOhn Blake		(adopted daughter)

Now, as one goes through masses of material relating to these daughters and their husbands, the first thing that strikes one are the various spellings and nicknames or changes of names plus varieties of spellings.

Helene is listed as Helen and Ellen.

Hermine is also listed as Armina and Ermine

Virginia as Virginee

Flora as Flory

Edmire as Admire

Basilese becomes Ruth

Filende as Flandy /Philandre/Philomene

Flavia as Maria Flavia Odilia

The men they married probably came from around the Osseo area since they are listed in the Osseo records:

Francis Xavier Le Clair (where Uncle Frank Sampson got his name)

Moses DesLauriers / Delorier

Daniel Bottineau, son of the famous Pierre Bottineau who gave the land for the church at Osseo as well as the land for St. Anthony's Church, Minneapolis

Felix Dansereau (Uncle Phil named after him; also his god-father)

Pierre Joly; Cyprien Garon (later spelled as Gorham)

Narcisse Cournoyer (Narcisse later becomes Nels);

Medor Arseneau / Arsineau; Medard

Helene married Zepherin Samson in 1865 when she was 15 years of age. The section on her husband tells of the birth of their 13 children, beginning with her oldest daughter, Emma who was born on the farm at French Lake,

Many years later, when eleven of the thirteen daughters grew to adulthood and married, they and their mother, Basilese posed for a picture. Helene to the far left of the front row looks rather buxom with a round face and dark eyes. Edith Pouliot Derus, daughter of Delvina, told me that the sisters would get together frequently, converse rapidly in French and have quilting bees.

In 1901, Helene or Ellen's address is given as 417 - 4th St, N,E, Minneapolis

In 1917, her address is given as 921 - 27th Avenue South East,, Minneapolis

In order to find out a few more statistics, I wrote to Rainville Mortuary who listed her name as Helen Sampson, date of birth July 25, 1849?; place of birth as Canada; date of death: Sept. 19, 1918; place of funeral: Our Lady of Lourdes; her address: 1049 - 25th Avenue South East; place of burial: St, Mary's Cemetery; cause of death: Myorcarditis-goitre (heart trouble complicated by goitre)

St. Mary's Cemetery records give the following information: Helen Sampson 69 years old, September 21, 1918 Row 20, Grave 18; Block 1, Section 28

A visit to that cemetery reveals the location of the grave by going through the main gate and stay on the road next of main road. Grave is directly across from side road. Name on the marker: Ellen Sampson 1850 - 1918

In a nutshell, what do we know about this woman? She was born of pioneer parents who had 13 daughters to rear. They had no education and Ellen could not write her name. She was 15 when she married Zepherin who was 25. They had 13 children, 11 of whom grew to adulthood. She was 49 when her last child, Henry was born in 1899. We know that the family moved around a lot in the early days of the marriage. In one place that I looked for information (WAR REcords, she had five of her children living with her in 1902, One of them was my father who did not marry until 1914 when he was 36. He had previously been engaged to a Marie Lontin who died of TB. Corelia, Aunt Emma's daughter, says that the grandmother lived S.E. and that her father and mother, Aunt Lizzie and Ted Horsch, purchased the home. She remembers that Uncle Lawrence and Uncle Henry were living with their mother. She went around and visited her sisters., Corelia says that she was short and chubby and had dark eyes. Corelia enjoyed visiting with her.

Her descendants are the same as Zepherin Samson; however, some additions need to be made:'

Children: no corrections

Grandchildren: add

By Anne Delvina:

Marie m. Tosney; Jeub

Sylvia m. Hall

Lawrence

Louella

By Lizzie

Theodore m, Marie Johnson

Corelia m. Louis Turgeon

Margaret m. John Burke

Leonard m. Cecilia Chamberlain

Lorraine m. Earl Peterson

Clement m. Dorothy ?; Ollie ?; Helen

By Phil (Felix)

George Felix m. Kathryn Schuller

Clifford m. Pat Bisson; Tess

Estelle m. Leslie Henninger

Philip m. Florence ?



DANIEL LOUIS LAVALLEE

Husband of Basilese Boudreau

Father of twelve daughters

Adopted his half-brother, Pierre's daughter, Flavia

DANIEL LOUIS LA VALLEE

(Husband of Basilis Baudreau Graveline; Grandfather of James J. Sampson)

Daniel Louis La Vallee (various spellings La Valle, La Velle) was born in Sorel, Quebec, December 15, 1827. His parents were Daniel LaValle, a farmer and Marie Dallaire. His ancestors lived in the area of Sorel to at least the year of 1674. I have genealogy charts and other official information about this.

Daniel's parents were married February 1820 and had three children: Marie, Daniel and Louis. The mother died in 1829 at the age of 24 and Daniel married a second time - to Marguerite Duhamel about 1830. This couple had four children: Joseph, Jean, Sophie and Pierre. Daniel died May 15, 1839 at the age of 43. We should be interested in two of these seven children - Daniel and Pierre because both of them came to Minnesota and ultimately settled in the area of Dayton/Osseo. Both are buried in the Catholic cemetery at Osseo.

Fletcher Williams' book, A HISTORY OF THE CITY OF ST. PAUL TO 1875 lists Daniel Lavalle's name among the residents of St. Paul in 1850. THE MINNESOTA CENSUS for 1850 also includes his name as Daniel Lavellais, age 23, a carpenter living with the family of Joseph Bordreau. As one looks at these various spellings, please remember that the people taking the census were English speaking who probably did not know French. And the French speaking people from Canada were unable to read and write - so the writers wrote the names as they sounded.

The Cathedral records of St. Paul show that Daniel Lavale ^{and} ~~married~~ Basilis Baudro were married on April 14, 1849.

Now, there are a number of unanswered questions about Daniel. Why and when did he come to Minnesota? What route did he take? Did anyone else from the LaVallee family besides his half-brother Pierre (Peter) come? Did he know the Baudreau Graveline family before he came - or did he meet them in St. Paul. One story given out is that Daniel and Basilis met on a steamboat while traveling from St. Louise to St. Paul.

From the records of the first three children born to Daniel and Basilis, it would seem that they lived in St. Paul. Did he ply his trade as a carpenter? According to what I have read, a man listing himself as a carpenter was also a farmer and a blacksmith. A fourth daughter was baptised in Little Canada and the other eight daughters were born in the area of Dayton/Osseo? Corcoran, or French Lake where Daniel had a 140 acre farm, listed as Section 29, Dayton Township, Hennepin Co. Mn.

What must it have been like for this man, a farmer to have twelve girls? He and his wife also adopted his half-brother's daughter, Flavia when the latter's mother died of pneumonia four days after the birth. A family story says that she caught the pneumonia after she went out to paint the chicken coop!!!!

Alcide Podvin and Edith Pouliot Derus, both grandchildren of Daniel, described him as a man about 6 feet tall, wearing a beard, strict. A big family reunion took place around New Year's Day when Tourtiere, a French meat pie and Ragout, a mixture of pigs' feet and hocks with onions and other vegetables were favorite food during the two to three day celebration.

I have already listed the names of the 13 daughters and whom they married when I wrote the life of Basilis. Sometime after the daughters were settled, Daniel and his wife moved to Osseo and Sidney Potvin, a son-in-law who had married Emma, took over the farm. Daniel died at the age of 70 on December 12, 1897 and was buried from St. Vincent's church, Osseo. He is buried in the parish cemetery and a tall marker with his name Daniel Lavelle engraved on it. His brother Pierre or Peter is also buried there.

The list of daughters included the following: (From Cathedral and Osseo Records)
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Louise		died very young		buried in St, Vincent de Paul C, Osseo
Basilese(Ruth)		Narcisse Counoyer		
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Daniel Louis La Vallee - 3

Grandchildren:

By Ellen/Helen Sampson

Emma Bastien

Anne

Edward Sampson

Francis Xaver Sampson

Anne Valencour

Daniel Sampson

James J. Sampson

Mary Swanson

Lawrence Sampson

Demeris (Lizzie) Horsch

Zepherin Felix (Phil) Sampson

Herbert Sampson

Henry Sampson

I have made no attempt to trace all the descendants of each of these children. Some have been listed under Zepherin Samson's biography.

Great Grandchildren

By James J. Sampson

Frances Anne Sampson (S. Ann Thomasine)

Mary Ellen Mather

James J. Sampson

Paul J. Sampson

Matthew J. Sampson

Anthony J. Sampson

Great, great grandchildren

By Mary Ellen Mather

Michael Mather

Frances Anne-Mather

Stephen Mather

By James J. Sampson

Mary Frances Sampson

James Jude Sampson

By Paul J. Sampson-

Teresa Sampson

Thomas Sampson

Matthew Sampson

Maria Sampson

Monica Sampson

Joseph Sampson

Great, great, great grandchildren

By Michael Mather

Jeanette; Stephen

By Frances-Anne (Fran)

Mary Ellen Anne; John

By Teresa

Dustin Baer

By Matthew

Christopher; Rebecca

By Maria

Teresa; Monica



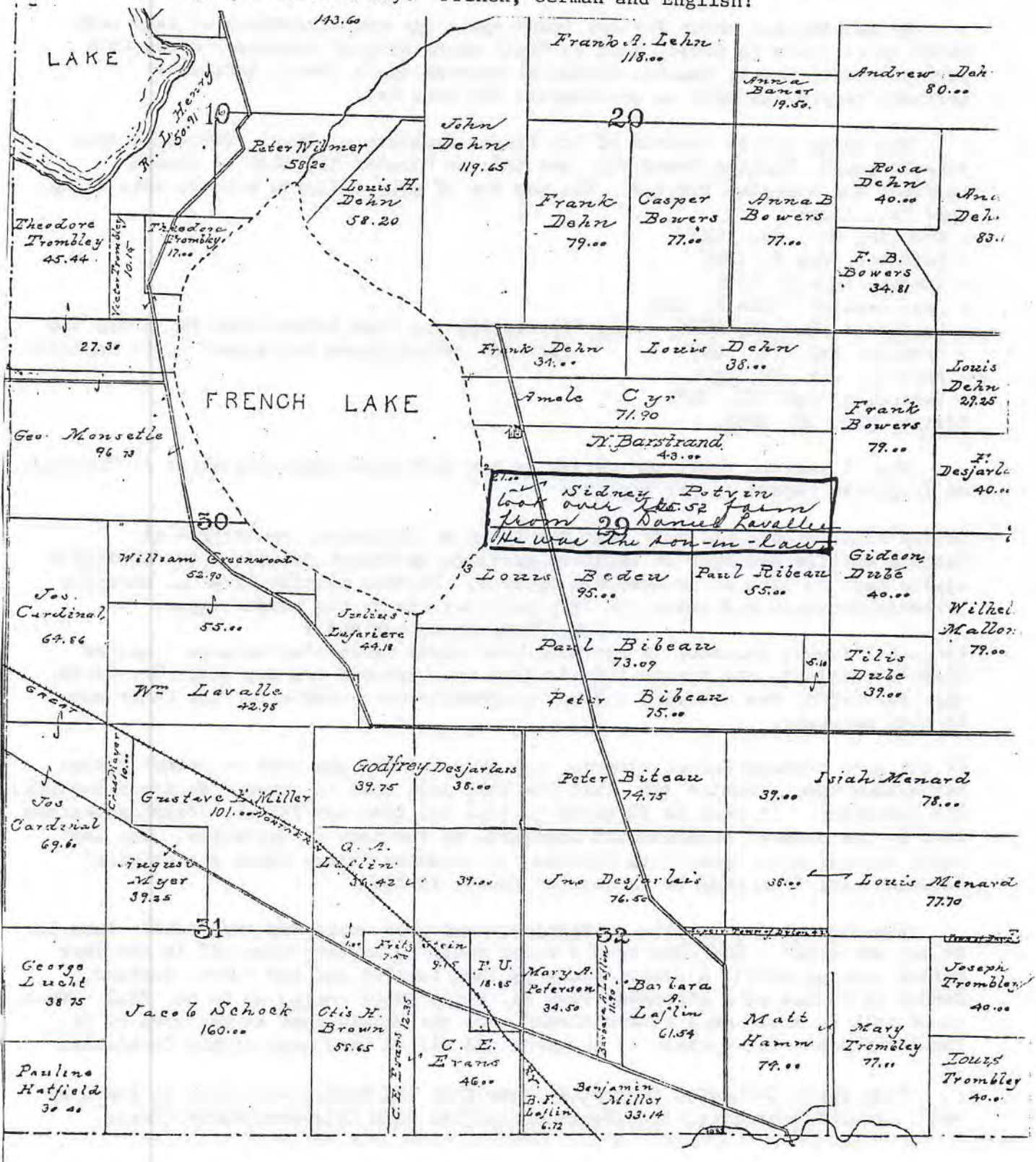
DAUGHTERS OF DANIEL LAVALLEE AND BASILESE BAUDREAU
WITH THEIR MOTHER

Front Row: Helene m. Zepherin Samson; Basilese (mother); Hermione (Armine) m. Medore Arseneau; Virginia m. F. X. LeClair

Seond Row: Basilese (Ruth) m. Narcisse Cournoyer; Flora m. Pierre Joly; Roseanna (Rose) m. Cyprien Garon (Gorham); Edmire m. 1) Felix Dansereau; 2) Peter Dupuis (Wells)

Third Row: Delvina m. 1) Daniel Bottineau; 2) Alexander Pouliot; Emma m. Sidney Potvin; Josephine m. Moses Deslauriers

A map showing French Lake and the farms surrounding it. Sidney Potvin, son-in-law of Daniel LaVallee, took over the farm after Daniel and his wife Basilis moved to Osseo. Notice other names that appear in the genealogy - William Greenwood (originally Boisvert); Dube; Trembley; Notice also that there are a number of German names. Father Joseph Guilmette, pastor of the church in Dayton, Minnesota, said that the announcements, readings from Scripture and the sermon were given in three languages each Sunday: French, German and English!



BASILES BAUDREAU GRAVELINE LA VALLEE

Wife of Daniel LaVallee and Grandmother of James J. Sampson

And now, I come to one of the most fascinating persons in the genealogy of the Sampson family - Basiles Baudreau Graveline. I say this because she was a descendant of a very early settler in what is now Montreal, Quebec, and she was the mother of twelve girls in what is now the state of Minnesota. When she died, she left a huge family clan, if one might use that term to describe a French Canadian family.

My information about Basiles (many spellings and variations of this name which means Queen in Greek,) just as Basil means King or handsome) comes from many sources: Sorel, Quebec; Cathedral records in St. Paul; Rainville Mortuary records as well as descendants who knew her.

According to the records of St. Pierre Presbytere, Sorel, Quebec, a town near Montreal, Basilis Beaudreau was born on October 18, 1831 to Joseph Baudreau and Josephte Fortier. She was one of many children born to this union. Here is a list:

- Aurelie, Oct. 28, 1817
- Felicite, May 8, 1819
- Joseph, June 9, 1821
- Jean Baptist, June 6, 1824
- Basilisse, May 28, 1826 ———> "Apparently she died before 1831 but I did not find any record about her death" J.C. Leclaire
- Cyrille, Feb. 17, 1828
- *- Basilis, Oct. 17, 1831
- Christine, Feb. 15, 1834
- Edwige, Nov. 28, 1835

When I went to visit the parish in May 1979 with Roger Graveline of Montreal, we found the record of her baptism:

Le dix huit octobre mil huit cent trente et un je pretre, soussigrie ai baptise Basilis nee hier du legitime mariage de Joseph Beaudreau dit Graveline agriculteur du lieu et de Josephte Fortier. Parrain Antoine Bibeau,, marraine Archange Arseneau qui anise que le peeont declare ne pas savoir signe.

J.M. Francois Archambault

From this French document (I may have some words misspelled because I copied Roger's writing), one learns that Basilis was baptised one day after her birth, that her father was a farmer and her godparents were unable to sign their name to this document.

If one goes through French records, one always finds the wife or mother giving her maiden name. Notice also that the full last name is given - Baudreau/Baudreau dit Graveline. It took me 30 years to find out that her father, Joseph sometimes went by the name of Baudreau and sometimes by the name of Graveline. The last word, Graveline is taken from the town in northern France where the original Baudreau came from when he sailed for Canada in 1653.

Why did the family move to Minnesota and what route did they take? This is as yet not clear. Did they take a water route? Did they stop off in the East before coming here? A family story is that Basilis met her future husband, Daniel La Vallee on a steamboat from St. Louis while coming up to St. Paul. This could well be since many rivers flowed into the Mississippi in the area of St. Louis which was the gateway to the west and filled with many French Canadians.

From early Cathedral records we know that the family were here at least by 1847. Basilis' brother, Jean Baptiste and his wife Eleanore Donais (Donay)

Basilis Baudreau Graveline LaVallee # 2

had a daughter, Helene Bodreaux baptised on Nov. 11, 1848. (Notice all the different spellings of Baudreau),

Another record from Little Canada church and supplied by Ruth Charest who has done a lot of research for me, has the following information:

Today 17 May 1844 was baptised Abraham Livine, newborn son of Michel Ogier (Auger) and his wife Felicite Graveline, living at Little Canada, Godfather: Daniel LaVallee; Godmother (not present) Elise (Basilis?) Graveline, J, Fayolle

(That date of 1844 ought to be checked again,)

According to the Cathedral records, the following is given:

On April 14, 1849 Daniel Lavale and Basilese Baudro were married, Witnesses: Louis Robert and Joseph Baudro, Priest: A Ravoux,

This is interesting because Louis Robert was an entrepreneur who had a steamboat line on the Mississippi and who bought up a lot of land in what is now downtown St. Paul. Robert Street is named after him

The 1850 Territorial Census gives the following information:

Bordreau, Joseph 58 Carpenter Canada,

Josette (wife) 57

Baptiste (son) 28

*Bazilie (daughter 18

Christine (daughter) 17

Edonire (daughter- could this be Edwige?) 15

Leonor (wife of Jean Baptiste) 23

Merance (6 child of " and Leonor

Joseph 4 (child of " " "

Helen 2 (child of " " "

Beanvais, Edward 30 carpenter (probably Boisvert, Christine's husband)

LaVellais (Lardlais) Daniel 23, carpenter (husband of Bazilie)

Since the census was taken by Americans who probably did not know French and since the French Canadians did not know English and could not read or write, the names were spelled the way they sounded.

From other records, we know that the following members of the Baudreau family listed on the first page, came to Minnesota:

- Felicite who married Michael Auger (Auge) in Sorel, July 12, 1836

- Jean Baptiste who married Eleanora Donais, June 6, 1843 - Sorel

- Thorsille (not mentioned in first list) who married Emmanuel Dube, Aug. 22, 1843

- Christine who married Edward Boisvert (name changed to Greenwood), 1850 at Cathedral, St. Paul

- Edvege/Edwige who married Pierre Turgeon, Cathedral, St. Paul, Sept. 16, 1850

I have information about the above regarding their children, etc..

*Basilis after her marriage to Daniel LaVallee evidently lived with her parents during the time their first three children were born: Helene; Hermine; Virginie - all baptised at the Cathedral, St. Paul,

Did they move to Little Canada where their daughter Josephine was baptised? 1856 She and her husband evidently moved to a farm east of French Lake where the other daughters were born beginning in 1857:

- Delvina - 1857

- Flory/Flora - 1858

- Admire/Edmire - 1860

- Louise - 1861

Rose/Roseanna 1863

Basilese - 1866

Emma - 1869/1870

Filene/Flandy - 1872

Flavia (adopted - daughter of Pierre/Peter LaVallee, half-brother of Daniel) 1877.

Basilis was 19 when her first daughter was born; 41 when her last daughter was born. If anyone is curious as to why Franch Canadian families were so large, this was due to a number of factors:

- The French government who settled so much of Canada, encouraged large families and gave bonus settlements to many of them.
- The infant mortality rate was high.
- People living on farms needed help and children provided that help.

The farm on which Basilis and Daniel lived has been described by Alcid Podvin, son of Emma and Sidney Potvin as follows:

It consisted of a farm of about 140 acres under cultivation plus woods. They raised cows, pigs, horses, chickens, hay, corn, potatoes, canberries and made maple syrup.

Basilis was described as little, having tiny feet and being very heavy. She spoke French, used snuff, knitted sweaters, mittens, stockings, stocking caps, etc. What must it have been like to live on a farm and have 13 girls to help do the farm work?

Whom did the daughters marry, etc.? Since I have this material organized by the last names of the men they married, I will do it this way:

Hermina married Medor (Medord) Arsineau (Arsno) in 1869 in Dayton. He was a brickmaker, and had a garage on Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis. He served in the Civil War. I have eight names of children of this union.

Flavia (Maria Flavia Odilia (adopted daughter) married a John Blake. I have four sons' names.

Delvina married Daniel Bottineau in 1876 in Osseo. They had four children. Three died as young children/infants. After the death of Daniel, she married Alexander Pouliot, a widower of three children, in 1884 in Red Lake Falls. They had 7 children. This union is important to the history of the Sampson family because one of these 7 children was Della Pouliot who later married James, J. Sampson.

Bazilese (Ruth) married Narcisse (Nels) Cournoyer/Courner/Conyer (various spellings). They later lived in St. Paul. Had a grocery store on Mississippi St. St. Paul. I have the names of two children

Edmire married Felix Dansereau on 1881 in Osseo. He was interested in race horses. I have the name of one son - Felix who became a barber. Edmire married a second time after the death of Felix in 1904. His name was Peter Dupuis (changed to Wells).

Josephine married Moses Des Lauriers (Delorier) in 1879 in Osseo. I have nine names of children of this union. Virginia DesLauriers Nolan can furnish more information.

Roseanna (Rose) married Cyprian Garon (Gorham) in 1881 in Osseo. They had 10 children. ONE, Della married Napoleon L'Herault,

Flora, said to have healing powers, married Pierre Joly de Lotbiniere in 1878 in Osseo. They had 7 children. One daughter, Louise married Alfred Raiche. A daughter, Annabelle Raiche, became a Sister of St. Joseph and teaches at the College of St. Catherine. She can give further information.

Louise died at the age of seven and is buried in St. Vincent's Cemetery, Osseo,

Basiles Baudreau Graveline LaVallee - 4

Virginia married Francis Xavier Le Clair in 1871 in Osseo. They had seven children. A St. Paul address given is that of 95 Robert Street.

Philandre/Philomene/Flandy married Emile LeFebre in 1891 in Osseo. Emile was described as a cowboy, cowpuncher and broke horses in Osseo. I have the names of five children.

Emma married Sidney Potvin/Podvin in 1886. 11 children were born of this union. One of them was Alcid whose daughter Camille helped me with information about the Potvin/Podvin relationship. When Daniel and Basiles gave up the farm, Emma and Sidney took it over. Both are buried in Osseo.

Delvina married Alexander Pouliot (already referred to)

Helene married Zepherin Samson in 1865 in Dayton. They had 13 children, one of whom was James J. Sampson.

A lot of this above information was gotten from census records. Some more was gotten from relatives. All of this should be taken with a grain of salt. Stories get handed down and embroidered. What I found interesting was to look at census records from 1860 on in the Dayton and other areas in order to find out something about the spellings. Basiles is spelled Boleas. Later on, she is listed as Lizzie. The worst set of facts is given in a newspaper clipping about Basiles when five generations are alive. It has to do with her approaching 79th birthday and lists her as the head of 260 in the La Valley family. If one figures that she was born in 1831 and is 79 at the time of the writing, this article was written in 1910. About the only correct name given is that of Mrs. H. Schnepmueller. Here is a copy of what I was able to make out since the clipping is brittle and torn:

After the death of her husband, Basiles went to live with her daughter, Hermina Arseneau at 424 - 4th Street, N.E. According to her death certificate, she had chronic nephritis and died at the age of 88, 7 months and 25 days, on June 9, 1920. She was buried from Our Lady of Lourdes with Rainville's taking care of the arrangements. She is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery and according to the latter's records, Bazille Lavalie - died June 9, 1920 - 88 years old. Row 32, Grave 34, Block 1, Section 28. The name written on the tombstone is BOZELIC LA VALLE!!!!!! Do you see why it is so hard to trace ancestors? The grave is opposite 12th Avenue South and 44th Street, Minneapolis.



DANIEL LOUIS LA VALLEE AND BASILIS BAUDREAU GRAVELINE
(picture was in the Podvin family. Camille Podvin Brass gave me a copy)



Small, illegible text or a signature located in the bottom right corner of the photograph.

FIVE GENERATIONS ON MY FATHER'S SIDE OF THE FAMILY

Seated at left: Basilese Baudreau who married Daniel Lavallee and had 12 daughters
 Standing at left: Helene Lavalle, oldest daughter of Daniel Lavallee and Basilese Baudreau, who married Zepherim Samson and had 13 children.
 Standing at right: Emma Sam(p)son, oldest child of Zepherim Samson and Helene Lavallee, who married Peter Bastien and had five children.
 Seated at right: Alice Bastien, oldest child of Peter Bastien and Emma Samson, who married Emil Schnepmueller and had six children.
 Standing in middle: Cyril Miller (Schnepmueller), oldest child of Emil Schnepmueller and Alice Bastien, who married ? Curtis and had three children.

A picture of the five generations together with a news story appeared in a Twin Cities newspaper about 1910. Here is a copy together with an analysis of incorrect information. SAT

SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH OF CARONDELET

St. Joseph's Provincial House

1880 Randolph Avenue Saint Paul, Minnesota 55105

(612) 698-0337

CSJ Oral History Office

January 20, 1983

I have been looking for a block of time to sit down and write you a letter in response to that most interesting clipping you sent regarding the five generations. I did sit down and try to decipher the print and did pretty well despite the age, creases and sometimes, the holes. So before I get into any other topic, here is the "translation" and later some of the gross errors in the article:

FAMILY OF 260 PERSONS CALLS THIS WOMAN MOTHER

Mrs. Ellen La Vally os Minneapolis, is
Progenitor of five Generations

Only One Boy in Long Line of Descendantss,
and He Comes Last

Strongly indorsing the Roosevelt policy in regard to race suicide, Mrs. Ellen LaVally, 3139 First street north, who will celebrate her 79th birthday in July, sits at the head of five generations with a total of 175 children, grandchildren, great grand children and one great great grand child.

Counting those married to her daughters, grandchildren and their children, Mrs. LaVally is head of 260 in the LaVally family, as some of her children have as many as 14 children and their children...The fact that Mrs. LaVally is only 79 years old and has a family this large, leads many to think this is the most phenomenal case of the present time.

At a gathering of her family held recently, there were 260 present. All of them live in the Twin Cities, most of them in Minneapolis.

Mrs. LaVally was married in 1852 in St. Paul, what was then comprised of three small log cabins.

The entire block upon which the Ryan hotel now stands was at one time owned by Mr. LaVally. He purchased it for \$25 a lot and sold it for thousands. He also owned a large farm near Lake Como which which he also sold. He then left the state, but in a year came back and settled in Minneapolis where he died 11 years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. LaVally were blessed with 12 daughters of their own and adopted one more. Eleven of them ... living with large families ...arrival in the La Vally...Cyril Schnepmuell...Mrs. E.H. Schnepmueller, 95 Marion Street, St. Paul. Mast Cyril is the fifth generation of Mrs. LaVally. He is the only boy in that one family. Those in the five generation family are Mrs. LaVally, 79; Mrs. Ellen Sampson 59, Mrs. P. Bastier 43; Mrs. H. Schnepmueller 25 and Cyril 9 months. The daughters of Mrs LaVally are Mrs. Ellen Sampson, Mrs. Flida Blixt, Mrs. Mary Welsh, Mrs. ? Podvin, Mrs. Flora Jollie, Mrs. D..na Polvet, Mrs. Rosa Gorman, Mrs. ...nnoriea, Mrs. Josie Deslawrie, Mrs. Armory Arsineau, Mrs. Virginia La Claire.

2. Now, of course, this story, as interesting as it seems, is absolutely loaded with errors and should be quoted with extreme caution. The main subject's name was Basile (various spellings for this name) LaVallee. I have never found LaValley used in all of the research I have done in relation to our family.

Second, the marriage date is wrong. According to the official information from the St. Paul Cathedral, Daniel and Basile were married on April 14, 1849.

St Paul would be insulted if it knew it only contained three log cabins. There are various articles about its size at this time.

Another point to consider is the purchase of land. It was the great, great grandfather, Joseph Baudreau-Graveline who purchased land which later was in the area of what is now 8th and Robert. The Ryan hotel used to stand on 6th and Robert. Another story in the family has it that Joseph was a blacksmith in the area where the Golden Rule was built and that would be 7th and Robert. We do know from records that the family did live in what is now the area of 8th and Robert. Daniel, according to the 1850 census also lived with them and his wife, Basile. Sometime later on, Daniel and Basile moved to a farm near French Lake where they lived. Later on, one of the daughters and her husband took over the farm and the couple moved in with one of the daughters. I was told they moved to Osseo. Daniel is buried in the cemetery there while Basile is buried at St. Mary's in Minneapolis.

The names of the descendants are incorrect. Aunt Emma, my father's sister, married Peter Bastien. I don't know of ANY descendant who had 14 children. Daniel and Basile did have 12 daughters and adopted a niece whose mother died shortly after childbirth. The story of the adopted niece is pure fiction.

I had a great time making out the names of the daughters:

Who is Blixt or Welsh? Polvet is Pouliot and Gorman is Gorham while Deslawrie is DesLauriers...noeiea is Conoyria.

According to records I got from Canada, Basile was born in 1831 and she married in 1849 at the age of 18. There were 19 years difference between her and my grandmother Ellen who was born in 1850 (Cathedral records).

After I read this several times and noted the phonetic spellings, etc. I got the impression that it was the Schnepfmuehler family who had something to do with this story in the paper. This is about the only name that is correct. Edith Pouliot Derus, my father's first cousin, said that when the aunts used to get together, that they conversed in French and the great grandmother did not learn English. I think the reporter scrambled a lot of information together and came up with this version. NEVER did I hear that anyone got thousands of dollars for land. I saw copies of wills made by the great great grandparents (another descendant looked through wills at the courthouse) and there is no indication of any money.

My conclusion: a great news story filled with inaccuracies - to be shunned for accuracy by a competent genealogist and historian. Incidentally, according to Bazile's death record (I have a copy which another person just gave me), she died at the age of 88 on June 7, 1920 at the home listed as 424 4th Ave. NE, Mpls. That is another error in that her address is given as North in the article.

But I am delighted that you sent it to me and I will treat it with great respect.

Sydney
Podwin

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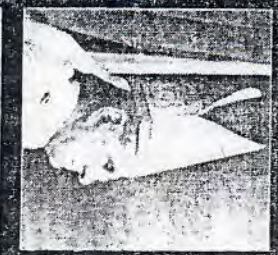
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Semaine Toujours consulter le Semainier paroissial.

6e DIMANCHE DE PAQUES

20 MAI 1979



"Suivant l'exemple de mon vénéré prédécesseur Jean-Paul I,

je désire comme lui exprimer mon amour pour l'héritage singulier laissé à l'Eglise par les Pontifes Jean XXIII et Paul VI, et aussi ma disponibilité personnelle à le faire fructifier avec l'aide de Dieu".
Jean-Paul II

Encyclique: "Le Rédempteur de l'homme"

E. L. Lucie Bouvier, secrétaire, domiciliée en la paroisse de St-Gabriel-Laframant, fille majeure de Raymond Bouvier et de Colette Bibeau, de Sorel, d'autre part.

MESSES QUI ONT ETE CHANTEES AVANT D'AVOIR ETE ANNONCEES

- 875 - Dfts Fam. Henri Joly M. Mme Armand Arpin (E) 5 mai
- 814 - Jean-Guy Ouellette Les amis du cercle de cartes(SSJ) 5 mai
- 1553 - Hon.-St-Joseph, fav.obt. Dame Yvonne Paul (E) 7 mai
- 1365 - Act.de grâces Sacré-Coeur fav.obt./Dame Jeannette Bourque (E) 7 mai
- 1324 - Lorenzo Capistran Dame Viola Latraverse (E) 8 mai
- 174 - Dame Henri Letendre Sa fille Suzanne (E) 14 mai
- 112 - René Robidoux Son épouse (E) 14 mai

CORRECTION:

La messe annoncée dans le Semainier paroissial pour le vendredi 18 mai en l'honneur de St-Joseph, fav.obt. X Dame Lucien Patenaude aurait dû se lire Honneur de St-Antoine, fav.obtenue X Dame Lucien Patenaude. Nous nous excusons pour cette erreur.

CELEBRATION DE LA FOI

Les élèves de 6e année feront leur Profession de Foi, mardi soir le 5 juin à 7h30 à l'église.
Réservez-nous cette soirée pour participer à cette fête de la Foi avec nos enfants...

SERVICE DE PREPARATION AU MARIAGE:

Dix-huit couples fiancés ont participé à la session préparatoire au mariage de deux fins de semaine soit les 28 et 29 avril et les 12 et 13 mai.
Félicitations à ces couples qui ont pris au sérieux leur projet de mariage.

MINUTE DE REFLEXION: Il est inouï ce que l'on fait avec le temps, quand on a la patience de l'attendre et de ne pas se presser. (Lacordaire)

BONNE SEMAINE A TOUS !

LUCIEN PAUL

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JOSEPH BAUDREAU DIT GRAVELINE
(Husband of Josephite Fortier; Great grandfather of James J. Sampson)

I had a long struggle trying to figure out who Joseph Baudreau/Boudreau was. I was given two names: Joseph Baudreau and Joseph Graveline. Thirty years later, I discovered they were one and the same person. The name Baudreau was the family name and the word Graveline came from the town where the first Baudreaus lived in Flanders, now a part of France. It was not at all unusual for French Canadians to have a double last name.

The information I have comes from a variety of sources: notes left by David Sampson, a cousin; Minnesota Territorial Census for 1850; official records from the parish of St. Pierre, Sorel, Quebec; St. Paul Cathedral and Calvary Cemetery records plus information from Ruth Charest, Mary Ann Nelson and Huberta Auger Bennett who are related to children of Joseph. As usual, all records regarding spelling and dates do not agree. One just does the best one can.

With that background in mind, this is what we know about Joseph Baudreau Graveline. He was born about 1792 to Francois-Hypolite Baudreau dit Graveline and Judith Desmarais. He married Josephite Fortier on January 27, 1817 in Longue Pointe, now a part of Montreal. He and Josephite had ten children. All seem to have been born/baptised in Sorel, a town near Montreal. These are the names of the children:

Aurelie m.	Jean Baptiste Donais	Sorel
Felicite m.	Michel Auger	Sorel
Joseph		
Jean Baptiste M.	Eleanore Donais	Sorel
Basilisse		
Tharsille m.	Emmanuel Dube	Sorel
Cyrille m.	Victoire Bardier	Sorel
Basilis m.	Daniel Lavalle	St. Paul
Christine m.	Edward Boisvert	St. Paul
Edvege m.	Pierre Turgeon	St. Paul

According to the Mn. Census of 1850, Joseph was listed as a carpenter, age 58 from Canada. His household consisted of Josette (wife), 57; Baptiste (son), age 28 and a farmer; Bazilie (daughter) age 18; Christine (daughter) age 17; Edonire (Edvige?) (daughter) 15; Leonore (wife of Baptise) 23; Edward Beanvais (Boisvert?) (husband of Christine) age 30 and a carpenter; Daniel Lavellais, 23 (husband of Bazilis), a carpenter.

According to various records the following children came to Minnesota : FELICITE married to Michael Auger in 1836; came to Minnesota and after a period in St. Paul, settled in Little Canada. Their children included:

Francois Xavier m.	Mary Donais	Abraham Louis
Marie		Elezere
Elizabeth (Betsy)		Edesse
Pierre		Michel
Joseph		Adolphe

More information about this can be gotten from Mrs. Ray Bennett, 1159 Burquist St. Paul, MN. 55106 Or Mary Ann Nelson, 478 Charles Ave. St. Paul 55103

JEAN BAPTISTE married Eleanor Donais and had 13 children:

Emerance	Mary	Caroline	Jean Baptiste.
Joseph	Anna	Rosetta	
Helen	Christine	Flavia	
Pierre	Vitaline	Sarah	

The birth places include 2 in Sorel; 4 in St. Paul; the last three in Maple Grove Township. More research needs to be done about this whole family and what happened to them. Notice that 10 are girls.

Nodescendants of Jean Baptiste seem to be in Minnesota.

THARSILLE married Emmanuel Dube in Sorel and came to Minnesota. They had seven children:

Clement	Jean	Anna	Edvege
Peter	Daniel	Francois	

Three of these married men in Osseo - beginning in 1872. More research needs to be done

CHRISTINE married Edward Boisvert in the log cabin Cathedral, St. Paul, 1850 and they had 13 children:

Virginia	Henry	Norman	Francois Xavier	Christina
Mary Celina	Delvina	Lillian	Rose Anna Marie	
Victoire	George	Christine	William	

The first three were born in St. Paul and the rest in Maple Grove Township. All but one who married, did so in Osseo. According to an 1874 land map, Edward whose last name means Greenwood, had a farm south of French Lake.

~~Both-Christine-and~~ Edward is buried in the church cemetery in Osseo.

EDVEGE married Pierre Turgeon in the log cabin Cathedral, St. Paul, 1850. They had twelve children:

Mathilde	Oliver	Norman Daniel	John Alphonse
Mary Angele	Laura	Theodore Herman	George Edmond
Joseph	Seraphine	Albert Cyril	Mary Agnes

The first three were born in St. Paul. The others in Maple Grove Township. The majority of them were married in Osseo. Ruth Charest can give more information about this family, She is the wife of Eugene Charest, a descendant of Edvege,

BASILIS married Daniel Lavallee in the log cabin Cathedral, St. Paul, 1849. They had 12 daughters and adopted a niece:

Helene	Josephine	Admire	Basilis (Ruth)	Flavia (adopted)
Hermione	Delvina	Louise	Emma	
Virginia	Flora	Rose	Flandy	

Sister Ann Thomasine, 1880 Randolph Avenue St. Paul, Mn. 55105 has more information about this group. Consult the section on Daniel Louis La Vallee about the men they married, etc.

Now, what do we know about Joseph Baudreau Graveline. David Sampson said that Joseph Graveline was a blacksmith who lived on the site of the Golden Rule (department store in downtown St. Paul). That he came from St. Louis by boat and the trip took six weeks. I cannot believe this length of time because our first Sisters of St. Joseph came in 1851 in a much shorter period. He must have been a hardy man because he was 58 when he was in St. Paul. We know what his address was - according to St. Paul City Directories which Mary Ann Nelson consulted:

1863 - Joseph Gravelin corner of Robert and 7th

1864- Joseph Graveline same address

1869 - Joseph Grevelin 124 Robert Street.

Louis Robert after which Robert Street is named, was an entrepreneur and an owner of steamboats. He appears as a sponsor at the wedding of Basilis. He also owned a lot of land. No doubt Joseph bought land from him.

According to some family legend, he had a farm at one time on what is now Como Park. Someone will have to look up the land records to verify this.

A will he filed can be found in the Registry of Deeds : Book 3, Box 3, Page 222 - found by Mary Ann Nelson:

Joseph Boudreau dit Graveline 74 years to wife Josephte Boudreau from Fortier
Signed 14 day of December 1864. Died 29th September 1870, St. Paul

Witness: Louis Demeules and Moses Mireau

Nothing is said what he left her.

Joseph Baudreau was buried from the Cathedral after dying on 29th of September, 1870. He was buried in Calvary Cemetery, St. Paul on September 30, 1870. He was 78 years old. I saw his name listed in the Calvary records. No grave lot is listed.

Hopefully, more research will be done on Joseph. We know quite a bit about his ancestors back to France. I will list them directly beginning with myself:

Frances Anne Sampson, daughter of James J. Sampson and Frances Blankenhorn

James J. Sampson, son of Zepherin Samson and Helen LaVallee

Helen LaVallee, daughter of Daniel LaVallee and Basilis Baudreau Graveline

Basilis Baudreau Graveline, daughter of Joseph Baudreau Graveline and Josephte Fortier

Joseph Baudreau Graveline, son of Francois Hypolite Baudreau dit Graveline and Judith Desmarais

Francois-Hypolite Baudreau dit Gravline, son of Francois Xavier Baudreau dit Graveline and Marie Marguerite Trudel

Francois Xavier Baudreau dit Graveline, son of Paul Baudreau dit Graveline and Marie Tessier

Paul Baudreau dit Graveline, son of Urbain Baudreau dit Graveline and Marguerite Juillet

Urbain Baudreau dit Graveline, son of Jean Baudreau dit Graveline and Marie Chaveau of Graveline, Flanders (France)

Urbain, a soldier came to Ville-Marie, now Montreal in 1653. He married and had eight children:

Gabriel	Jacques
Marie Ursule	Paul
Elizabeth	Marie Madeleine
Marie Anne	Jean Baptiste

There is a city park called Place Urbain Graveline near a large library in Montreal after Urbain. His son Gabriel went to Kaskaskia, a French settlement in what is now the USA and his son Jean Baptiste went down to the area of Old Mobile, and Biloxi. There is a Graveline Bay in that area named after him.

There are, at present descendants of Urbain throughout the USA and Canada.

A number of years ago, Robert Graveline of Palmer, Mass. organized the

URBAIN B. GRAVELINE GEANEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

P+O Box 191, Palmer, Mass. 01069

He edits a paper in which news about descendants is printed as well as the research done on Urbain and the town of Graveline.

Three conventions have been held to honor this man: two in Montreal and one in Toronto. Another one to honor Jean Baptiste will be held in May, 1985 in Biloxi/New Orleans and will be hosted by his descendants there. The cost of membership is \$10 a year and worth it to know something about our roots in Canada and to get to know other Baudreaus and Gravelines who are descendants. The spellings of both names vary.

Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson has extensive information about Urbain and his family, various charts as well as copies of an article about Urbain written by Leon Boudriau for MEMOIRES DE LA SOCIETE GENEALOGIQUE CANADIENNE FRANCAISE and translated by Florence Sampson Fredricksen

JOSEPHTE FORTIER BAUDREAU GRAVELINE

(Wife of Joseph Baudreau Graveline; Great grandmother of James J. Sampson)

I know very little about Josephte Fortier who married Joseph Baudreau Graveline. I know that she was 57 when the 1850 Mn. census was taken. I have already listed her children on the chart made about her husband. I wonder what it must have been like to leave one's native land at her age and come to Minnesota. St. Paul at that time was described as a town of few inhabitants with log cabins and wigwams. What did she look like?

I do know a bit about her ancestors who came from France in the 17th century and ultimately settled in Ile d'Orleans where there are a number of parishes. According to information supplied by Mary Ann Nelson, she left a will which is found in the Registry of Deeds, St. Paul (Book 3, Box 3, page 554:

Town of Dayton, Mn. Henn. Co.

Josephte Boudreau age 70 years leaves to sister Margarite Fortier, widow of Jean Baptist Julien in the parish of St. Victoir, Province of Quebec.

Appointed Edward Boisvert (name changed to Greenwood)

Witness Davis Berthieume J.L, Demeules

Residing 005 in Mn. H.R. Brill

Judge of P.C. Written 28 of Jan. 1871

17th of Nov. 1873 by Judge.

We do not know what she willed to her sister.

Mary Ann Nelson also located her name in the Calvary Cemetery records : The small book of records lists her name as Josette Graveline and she was buried on October 1, 1873 at the age of 80 years. No plot number is given.

I checked with the Cathedral records; however, some of these records have disappeared - so we have no information about her from that source.

Another record shows that she lived with her daughter Tharsille - after her husband's death - or later when both were old? This is not clear.

Since I have genealogical records about the Fortier family, I will type up some of this information - beginning back in France:

Noel Fortier of St. Remy of Dieppe, France married Marie (Martha) Golle, May 1, 1638.

They had a son, Antoine Fortier, born and baptised at St. Jacques, Dieppe, 1644 who married Madeleine Cadeu in Nov. 11, 1677. They came from France to Canada.

Antoine Fortier and Mare Madeline Cadieu had 10 children - some baptised in the parish of St. Famille, I.O. and others in St. Jean, I.O. We are interested in their son, also named Antoine. We are also interested that Marie Madeleine Cadieu was a contract bride or daughter of the king who received a dowry in order to be available to marry a man who settled in Canada.

Antoine (2) Fortier married Madeline Noel at St. Laurent, I.O. and they had nine children, one of whom was Guillaume (William), born in 1710.

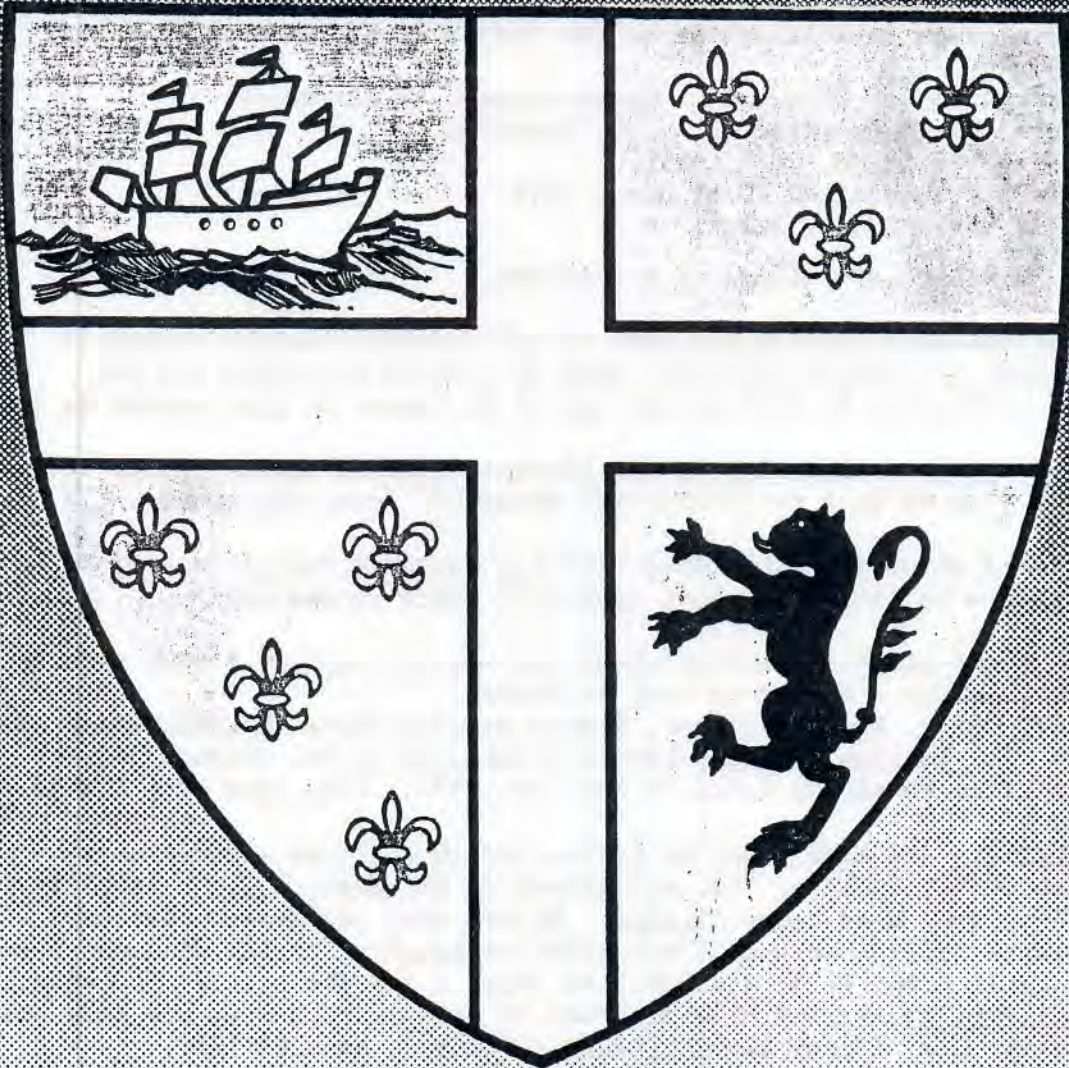
Guillaume Fortier married Marie Margaret Therrien in 1748 at St. Jean, I.O. and they had six children, one of whom was also named Guillaume born in 1750.

Guillaume (2) Fortier married Angeliqne Mercier in Nov. 25, 1782 and they had four children: Josephte, born in 1793; Marguerite (mentioned in the will); Barthelmi; M. Madeleine

Josephte Fortier married Joseph Baudreau , Jan. 22, 1817 in Longue Pointe, a part of Montreal. They came to St. Paul about 1847/8. They had ten children, one of whom was Basilis.

Basilies married Daniel Lavallee in St. Paul and they had 12 daughters and adopted another girl. One of the daughters was Helene LaVallee who married Zepherin Samson who had 13 children, one of whom was James J. Sampson. The latter had

BAUDREAU
GRAVELINE



THE BAUDREAU-GRAVELINE FAMILY CREST

"Interpretation of Symbols"

The Family Crest is a composition of symbols representing characteristics of our ancestry:

- (1) THE CROSS denotes Christianity.
- (2) THE FLEUR-DE-LIS represents our Gallic (French) ancestry.
- (3) THE SAILING SHIP represents the St. Nicholas, the name of the ship on which our ancestor, Urbain, left France to come to North America.
- (4) THE FLEMISH LEOPARD, symbol of Flanders, a section of France, from which the Baudreau-Gravelines originated. Flanders is located on the English Channel and borders Belgium to the North and Normandy to the South. Many of our ancestors were also Normans, descendants of the Vikings, a race which invaded and settled in the Province of Normandy, France before the 10th Century. The Flemish find their origins among the Germans.

Urbain Baudreau dit Graveline came to what is now Montreal in 1653. He served as a soldier. Later he married Marguerite Juillet and the couple had eight children. They were named Gabriel, Marie Ursule, Elizabeth, Marie Anne, Jacques, Paul, Marie Madeleine, Jean Baptiste. One of his descendants, Joseph Baudreau Graveline together with his wife Josephte Fortier and their children, came to St. Paul from Sorel, Quebec about 1847/8. Their daughter Basilis married Daniel LaVallee in 1849 in the log cabin cathedral, St. Paul. A year later, that couple had a daughter, Helene who was baptised in the same church, 1850. Helene later married Zepherin Samson in Dayton, Mn. in 1865. This couple had 13 children, one of whom was my father, James Jacob Sampson. The latter married Frances Blankenhorn Shanahan in 1914 and this couple had six children: Frances Anne, Mary Ellen, James Jacob, Paul James, Matthew James and Anthony James.



FRANCES MERCIA BLANKENHORN WHO MARRIED THOMAS J. SHANAHAN; JAMES J. SAMPSON



Frances Blankenhorn with some of her friends who were milliners - at a costume party. This was taken about 1912/13 - according to Father Tom, her son by first marriage to T.J. Shanahan. 3rd row: Ethel Helmer, Edith Rydquist, Elsie? Catherine Barton; 2nd row: ? Fannie West 1st: Frances Blankenhorn Shanahan



Frances Blankenhorn seated with her friend Anne Thill. Frances later met her future husband J.J. Sampson at a Thill wedding in Cannon Falls.

MY RECOLLECTIONS ABOUT FRANCES MERCIA BLANKENHORN (SHANAHAN) SAMPSON
 by her daughter, Sister Ann Thomasine
 October 1, 1984

There is a passage in Scripture about "Who Shall Find the Valiant Woman" and I believe it applies to my mother.

Frances Mercia Blankenhorn was born to Richard and Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn in Waukesha, Wisconsin on January 23, 1883. There were seven children born: Mary Barbara who died very early; John who married Mabel Briggs; Thomas who died; Francesca or Frances (my mother); Gertrude who married Peter Brombach; Katherine or Kate who married 1) Ben Kartak; 2) Arthur Boughton; 3) Ambrose De Lange; Richard or Dick who married late in life. Of this family, Aunt Gert died in August of 1984 at the age of 98 in Long Beach, California.

The Blankenhorn family moved to Minneapolis when Frances was about three years old. Her father had a meat market on Central Avenue and her mother used to help in it. She learned Swedish in order to take care of Scandinavian customers.

Frances attended St. Boniface School, North East and was taught by the Sisters of Christian Charity. She also went to Prescott and Van Cleve grade schools. She attended East High School for two years but left because of ill health and severe headaches. Her mother insisted that each girl learn a trade, so Frances attended Philips Millinery as an apprentice for six months without pay. Gertrude learned hairdressing and Kate learned sewing. John became a butcher and Dick, a plumber.

When Frances was 22, she fell in love with Thomas James Shanahan, born in Delevan, Wisconsin, who was foreman of the Minneapolis Steel and Machinery Company. He was born in August 6, 1873. They were married on February 10, 1904 at St. Clement's Church where mama was a charter member and she played the organ. The wedding had to take place in the evening because he could not get off work. Their son, Thomas J. Shanahan, Jr. was born on December 16, 1904 and baptised on Christmas Day at Holy Rosary Church. The father fell from a 30 foot scaffolding while at work and broke his back. He was taken to St. Mary's Hospital where he died on October 10, 1905 after four weeks of suffering and paralysis. The funeral took place from 1804 East Lake St. (residence) and Holy Rosary Church. He is buried at St. Mary's Cemetery, Minneapolis where a granite marker with his name was placed.

Frances' mother had given her some advice: you have made your bed; now lie in it. Frances did not go home with her baby boy. She continued to live for a short while in her new home and had a housekeeper. Later she moved in with her sister Kate who was a widow with two small children. She worked at Strong and Warner Millinery in St. Paul where she had a number of women friends.

Her son, Tom was about three when Frances met her future husband, James J. Sampson at a wedding in either Cannon Falls or Hastings. The two of them went together for about seven years. They attended many Shakespeare plays with the famous actors Southern and Marlowe in them as well as operas together. According to some notations written down by Frances in the Bible she had received from Father Fitzgerald, pastor of St. Clement's Church, her son Tom made his first private Communion on April 12, 1914 at St. Luke's Church, St. Paul. On September 3 of that year, Frances and Jim were married in that church. Then they moved to the home her new husband had built at 1163-14th Avenue South East, Minneapolis. They belonged to St. Anthony Church, North East where Tom was enrolled in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades, Frances for a while taught night classes in millinery at North, East, South and West High Schools, but gave that up as the Sampson family grew up. Six children

were born of that union: Frances Anne who later entered the convent; Mary Ellen who married Frank Mather; James Jacob who married Baree Nickawich; Paul who married Margaret Zeis; Matthew who died of diphtheria when he was seven; Anthony,

What did Frances look like? She was about five feet three inches tall and had hazel eyes and dark curly hair which she always wore long except for one short period when she got it cut. She was very slim; however, in later life she put on weight and became quite stout. I think she suffered from nervous tension. She had frequent headaches and backaches. She loved to sing and to play the piano. She was interested in the arts. She told how during the noon hours while at work, she would visit places and learn about Oriental rugs and fine china. She always had good classics as well as copies of masterpieces of art in the home.

She was a very busy woman. Besides the rearing of seven children, she did many other things. The Plumbing business was moved home and she took care of the telephone calls, soothed the dispositions of the workers my father hired; made out the bills and took charge of the advertising. She enrolled her children in St. Lawrence School when the latter opened in 1922 and the family officially transferred to that parish where Jim became baritone soloist. She was interested in taking care of the poor and had a number of projects going until her death. My earliest recollections of helping people out had to do with a Christmas project where she took care of three families - baskets of food, gifts, trees, etc. She had a reputation whereby people would say: Call Mrs. Sampson. She will take care of the family. One summer she made forty pairs of mittens out of blankets - all sizes - and she distributed these to anyone who needed them. She was very creative in sewing and made beautiful dresses for her daughters and play suits for her sons. One could always bank on a new outfit complete with a fancy hat for Easter and Christmas. My father had built two homes out South Minneapolis and my mother ran the finances of the family on those two rents plus the duplex upstairs. She never stinted on food and was fussy about what she bought because of her background.

Each fall, she would go down to the school to meet with her children's teachers and give them full support about what needed to be done. We learned early in life not to tell on each other because we knew that not only would we get it at school; we would get it at home. She was the disciplinarian in the home but she never held a grudge. She helped with the homework and spurred each of us on when we became discouraged. Her great aim was to keep her children in Catholic schools as long as she could. She spent little on herself. During the Depression, she would go down to the bank where she made some kind of a deal about borrowing money from Carl Gerber so that tuition could be paid for the boys at De La Salle High School. After I finished St. Margaret's Academy, she told me I was to go to the College of St. Catherine. In order to help out with the money, she had me knock on doors and find some piano students - which I did - for 50¢ a lesson. Meanwhile, our oldest brother Tom was pursuing an education which ultimately led to the priesthood. After graduating from St. Anthony's, he won two scholarships to De La Salle and another to St. Thomas Military Academy. He took the latter because it was accredited and he wanted to go to the Seminary. He later attended Nazareth Hall when it opened and finally got to the St. Paul Seminary where he was ordained in 1930. I never felt that my father or mother treated him any better than the rest of the family. I just knew that Tom had a different last name and that he called my father - Jim because he had known him so many years before my mother married again.

RECOLLECTIONS OF FRANCES SAMPSON - 3

My mother was a deeply religious woman; however, she never preached or spoke a lot about it. I often wondered what kept her going after the death of her first husband and the death of Matthew. I do not think she had an easy life. Mama's great devotion was to the Sacred Heart and each month prior to the First Friday, we went to confession. We made the nine Fridays by driving or walking to church for Mass. Mama had a statue of the Sacred Heart in the home and even the Protestants would bring flowers for it during the month of June. There was nothing superstitious about my mother's faith. She did her part and she had confidence that God would keep His promise. We never had meal or night prayers together. I was rather intrigued with my mother's attitude because I knew a lot of relatives who did not get too excited about missing Mass on Sunday. We are told that the way one judges another by the kind of a Christian he/she is, is about the matter of charity. I just do not remember my father or mother gossiping about people or making uncharitable remarks. I remember being sent to my room for the rest of the day because I made a crack about a Sister. Mama simply would not stand for any criticism about priests or religious. During World War II when the three sons were in the service and my father had gone to Pasco, Washington to work on what later turned out to be an atomic site, she spent long hours in the evening praying for everyone. She never mentioned vocations. When I told her that I had made up my mind to become a Sister, she thought it was nice but reminded me that if I changed my mind, I would be welcome home.

My mother was not a great joiner of clubs, organizations, etc. She had all she could do to keep the family, business and the property in good condition. She did join the Catholic Daughters of America when they began a chapter in Minneapolis and was deeply involved in the convert league work. Before she died, she was working to collect jams and jellies for the patients at the Cancer Home. They missed this part of the diet. Mama also helped collect money for the Sisters to use for narcotics in order to ease the pain.

I have to say that of all the people who touched my life, my mother and my priest brother were the greatest influences. My mother was able to build a confidence in me and she took a deep interest in whatever I was doing, particularly the shows, programs, operettas, recitals, etc. I was asked to put on. She never complained that we saw each other very seldom after I entered; however, she was happy when rules were relaxed a bit during the war and I was able to go on a picnic or come home for a short visit when the boys were going overseas. She wrote a note to me the day I received the habit on March 19, 1935: Dearest Girl, This day you are my gift to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. May you enjoy peace, now and thru eternity. Pray for your loving mother. And tucked inside that paper was a small slip marked - My Wish - That the longing for the Grace of God may fill the souls of the members of my household. Work that I am keep my children in Catholic Institutions of learning and be able to pay the tuition. That I may win souls for God.

I was totally unprepared for my mother's death which occurred so suddenly. I found out that she had hardening of the arteries and high blood pressure. She had a stroke on Monday, February 12, 1945. My father had just gone to the store to purchase some groceries. When he returned, he found the doctor and the priest there. Mama had been able to signal the woman who lived upstairs to call my cousin Irene who lived a short distance away. Mama died very suddenly and well prepared. Her funeral was held at St. Lawrence church where a huge congregation gathered from the among the clergy, the Sisters, the Catholic Daughters, the College of St. Catherine where Tom taught plus many neighbors and friends. She is buried at Resurrection Cemetery near the Sisters' graves, next to my father and Father Tom who died in 1968.

As I reflect about my mother, and father, I think my mother was the smarter of the two; however, I do not ever remember my mother making a derogatory remark about her husband. She was very much concerned about his comfort, work, singing and leisure. She never complained that he took every Saturday off to fish while she stayed home. She realized that he needed this solitude. I once asked my father what was so great about fishing. He remarked that he was so involved in watching the pole, cork, etc., that he simply had no time to think about other problems. My mother was a fine business woman and knew how to stretch the dollars, particularly during the severe Depression years. The money was for others; not for herself. When my father would come home from work, the meals were ready, his chair and the newspaper were there for him to use, and the telephone was not tied up. If they had disagreements or arguments, I for one, never heard them.

I am grateful to my parents for the loving family life they gave me plus the good example they showed.

DESCENDANTS OF FRANCES BLANKENHORN SHANAHAN SAMPSON

Children:

Thomas James Shanahan, Jr. by her first husband, Thomas James Shanahan, Sr,
 Frances-Anne Sampson by her second husband, James Jacob Sampson
 Mary Ellen who married Francis Leroy Mather
 James Jacob who married Barea Nikewach
 Paul James who married Margaret Zeis
 Matthew James who died in 1930 at the age of seven
 Anthony James

Grandchildren

Michael, Frances-Anne (Fran), Stephen - children of Mary Ellen
 Mary Frances, James Jude who died a day after birth - children of James
 Thomas, Teresa, Monica, Matthew, Maria, Joseph - children of Paul

Great grandchildren:

Jeanette and Stephen - children of Michael
 Dustin - child of Teresa
 Christopher and Rebecca - children of Matthew
 Teresa and Monica - children of Maria
 Mary Ellen Anne and John - children of Frances-Anne (Fran)



Richard and Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn

RICHARD BLANKENHORN

(Husband of Mary Barbara Surges and father of Frances Blankenhorn)

My information about Richard Blankenhorn was gotten from three sources: my mother, Frances and her two sisters, Kate and Gert when I visited the latter two on trips. It has been difficult to piece this information together to make out some cohesive sketch; however, I shall try.

Richard Blankenhorn was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on January 6, 1851 to parents who had come from Germany: Johann Christian Blankenhorn and Katherine Schreiner. His father was a butcher and had a meat market. Richard had three brothers and a sister. Their neames were:

1. Henry who according to Aunt Gert bcame a bartender on a boat going to Alaska and later married a woman named Mary ?. They had no children
2. John went to New York and became a gambler. He married a woman named Sadie?
3. Adam came with his father and mother to Minneapolis and delievered the meat etc. from the meat market. He married Ida Burns and the two had two sons: Clarence who married Mary Griffin ; Ernest who became a Federal Reserve Bank guard and married Vera?
4. Kate married Tony Eggenberger (Pennsylvania Dutch) and they lived at 2500 Central Avenue N.E. They had a bakery. They later lived around the Holy Rosary District. They had four girls and one boy:

Mary (Mamie)

Christina (Tinie)

Josephine (Josie)

Katherine and Tony - twins

(I have a photograph of an "Uncle Charlie Egesberger, Excelsior, Minn.") Tom marked this information on the back of it. Two different spellings of E. and who was Charlie?)

When Richard was seventeen the family moved to St. Louis then later came to Milwaukee. Here Richard met Mary Barbara Surges and married her. They were 21 years of age. He had also learned the butcher trade. The couple had five children born in Milwaukee/Waukesha:

- Mary Barbara - Milwaukee died at age of 20 in Mplis
- John m. Mabel Briggs
- Thomas who died as an infant
- Frances (baptismal name was Francesca Sophia) b. in Waukesha
- Katherine (baptismal name was Katrina Wilomena) b. in Milwaukee

In 1885, the family moved to Minneapolis where the last two children were born;

- Gertrude m. Peter Brombach
- Richard m. Elsie ?

The family lived in the North East area near St. Boniface Church, a Church for German speaking people and where some of the children went to the school,

A number of addresses have been given, in case someone wants to locate these places:

- Lived out in area known as New Boston on 22nd between Central and Jackson,
- Had a meat market on Central between 19th and 20th. His father had a meat market on Central also. I have a small picture of the latter,
- After the family grew up, Richard and Mary moved to 25 Quincy St., N.E.
- Later he moved to 716 - 18th Avenue S. E. where he, his wife Mary and son Richar (Dick) lived together - next to the Prenovost home,

Richard Blankenhorn - 2

According to Aunt Kate, he was short, chubby, blond with blue eyes and wore a mustache (walrus type). He was very even tempered; had a good sense of humor. He liked to fish and be out in the woods. He picked hazel nuts. He kept the Christmas tree up until January 6. According to Aunt Kate, he spent most of the holidays at her home.

I personally remember my grandfather as a short rotund man who sat in a chair and smoked a pipe.

He had diabetes and dropsy, but did not know it (Aunt Kate). Dr. Lehman who later took care of our family when we were little, also took care of him. He died at the age of 75 in 1926. Rainville's had charge of the funeral arrangements. The Mass took place at St. Lawrence and he is buried at St. Anthony Cemetery.

I tried to find out more information by checking with St. Anthony Cemetery whose records are kept by St. Mary's.

This is the information I was given to find the graves:

- Go thru the main gate. There are second and third roads to the left.
- Between these two roads in the middle of the section, about five feet from the road, are the graves: Section 113 - West half of 4,
- I was told that there was another vacant lot there,

When Margaret Sampson and I took a trip there, we tried to follow the directions; however, we could not find the graves. There are no markers. Evidently, they sank into the ground.

Here are the names of the people buried there:

- Katherine Blankenhorn who died in 1914 (Richard's mother)
- John (Johmann) Blankenhorn who died in 1893 (Richard's father)
- Edward who died in 1894 at the age of 2 years, 6 months (do not know anything about him,
- Richard Blankenhorn who died in 1925 ???? (Notice date)
- Mary Blankenhorn who died in 1940,

Then I called Mrs. Maurice (Gertrude) Rainville , 1810 Garfield N.E, who has the burial records. Tel. 781-6202. She could give information about Mary, Richard's wife: Buried at St. Anthony - West half 4 - 113. She also said that Burch at one time had the German funerals and now Kapella has those records - so the records regarding Richard and his parents are kept there,

Since the descendants of Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn are given in her section, I will not repeat them,

I find the description of my grandfather and grandmother on my mother's side to be interesting: the grandfather, even tempered, short, chubby, good sense of humor; the grandmother, quick tempered, short and slightly built. One liked the outdoors and the other liked to stay at home. The grandparents worked together in the meat market with Mary keeping the books and learning Swedish in order to wait on the Scandinavian customers. My grandmother insisting that each of her daughters learn a trade: Frances (milliner); Kate (seamstress); Gert (hairdresser and manicurist). John, a son became a butcher and Dick became a plumber,

MARY BARBARA SURGES BLANKENHORN

(Wife of Richard Blankenhorn^{S.B.} and mother of Frances Blankenhorn Sampson)

In 1955 I went to visit my Aunt Kate who lived in Essex, Montana. While there, I asked her what she could remember about her mother who was also my grandmother on my mother's side of the family. This is what she recounted:

Mary Barbara was born in Milwaukee on April 4, 1850. Her parents were Thomas Surges and Mary ? who died when Mary was born. She had a step-mother when she was nine years old. She was sent to the Mother House of the Notre Dames in Milwaukee. My brother Tom put in this note: When she was about 12, she broke her leg. Because of her condition she was sent to a Spencerian school - during the Civil War. She walked with a limp as a result of her accident. She married Richard Blankenhorn when she was about 21 and she was 10 months older than he, he

She was 4 ft 10 inches in height and had brown hair and gray eyes. She was quick on the trigger and had an answer for everything. She preferred to stay at home when the rest of the family went out to the lake and the woods. She was good at crocheting, sewing and knitting which she learned at the convent. She never cared about organizations. She was a real homebody. About two years before she died, she went to live at St. Joseph's Home in St. Cloud. She died shortly after her 90th birthday on April 18, 1940 of pneumonia which she caught while riding in a car where she insisted on having the windows put down. She had come to the Twin Cities to celebrate her birthday. She died at Miller Hospital, St. Paul. She was buried from Rainvilles and St. Lawrence church and is buried at St. Anthony's Cemetery, Minneapolis.

In 1957 I visited Aunt Gert, my mother's other sister, in Long Beach, Cal, and asked her questions about the Blankenhorn relationship. This is what she told about her mother:

Born in Milwaukee in 1850 to Thomas and Mary Surges. The mother died when Mary Barbara was about six weeks old. The housekeeper later became her step-mother and was very good to her. The father owned a big delicatessen store. She had black curly hair. During the summer, she went to a farm and broke her ankle sliding down a hay stack. She went to St. Mary's School in Milwaukee and also to Spencerian School of Writing where there were 70 boys and one girl. She ran away and married Richard Blankenher. She had a step-brother named Thomas who had a club foot. Her father died in the Civil War and evidently didn't have much to do with her until he died. My brother Tom added that after she was married and the family came to Minneapolis, my grandmother learned Swedish in order to help out with the customers. She also took care of the books and worked in the butcher shop which her husband owned.

My own recollections of my grandmother were these. She was very small. She lived SouthEast Minneapolis with her husband, Richard who was short and chubby, and her youngest son, Dick who was a plumber. Their home was next to the Prenovost family where three girls entered the Sisters of St. Joseph. I remember that grandpa died when I was in grade school and at the graveside, grandma almost threw herself into the grave. Later on, Uncle Dick took care of her. He was engaged to be married; however, she succeeded in breaking up that arrangement. He later decided to get married to Elsie and left home. It was then that arrangements were made for her to go to St. Cloud to live. She would frequently come over to our home on Sunday evenings after Rosary and Benediction. As I look back, I can see that my mother brooked no interference about how she ran her home, either from her own mother or from my father's mother. My brother Tom, my mother and I went to visit my grandmother a few times at St. Cloud. It must have been difficult for her to be so far away from her family; however, there were not very many homes for the aged in those days. I was present at her funeral and the grave services.

When I was a sophomore in College of St. Catherine, St. Paul about 1933, and taking a class in psychology, I was asked to construct a genealogy chart. My mother gave me the following information about the descendants of Richard and Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn:

Children: (Information from my mother)

Mary Barbara (died) - age 20; buried at St. Anthony's Cemetery	b. Milwaukee
John m. Mabel Briggs ; another woman - Gertrude King?	b. Milwaukee
Thomas (died) as an infant	b. Milwaukee
Francesca Sophia.(Frances Mercia) m. Thomas James Shanahan; James J. Sampson	b. Waukesha
Gertrude m. Peter Brombach	b. Minneapolis
Katherine m Ben Kartak; Arthur Boughton; Ambrose De Lange	b. Milwaukee
Richard m. Elsie	b. Minneapolis

Grandchildren: (Information from aunts and cousins)

Of John

Mildred Marie	m. Lowry Hammer
Katherine Margaret	Leslie Hamack
Alice Frances	m. Herman Hammer
Frances m. Norman	m. M.B. Norman

Of Frances

Thomas James Shanahan
 Frances-Anne (S. Ann Thomasine)
 Mary Ellen m. Frank Mather
 James Jacob m. Barea
 Paul James m. Margaret Zeis
 Matthew (died)
 Anthony James

Of Gertrude

Charlotte m. Les Hauck
 Lorraine m. Karl Avery
 Dorothy m. Vincent J. Boos
 Robert m. Kathryn Rohe
 Mary Jane m. Donald G. Carlson
 Catherine /Kathryn Virginia m. Joseph E. Bennett
 Peter (John Peter) m. Berly Jean Ambler
 Richard Paul m. Betty Jean Clark
 (twins died?)

Of Kate

Katherine (Babe) Kartak
 Bernard Kartak
 Dorothy (Doody) Boughton
 Marietta (Sissie) "
 Robert (Bob) "
 John (Johnny) "
 Richard (Dick) "

Descendants continued:

Great Grandchildren:

Of Mildred Hammer
Jean Marie
Of Katherine Hamack
John Leslie
Gary Leigh
Of Alice Hammer (Jeff)
Jeffrey John
Of Frances Norman (Magnus B)
Joan Francine
Philip Elliot
Ray Lynn
Myles Bernard

Of Mary Ellen Mather
Michael
Frances Anne (Fran)
Stephen

Of James J. Sampson
Mary Frances
James Jude

Of Paul James Sampson
Thomas
Teresa
Monica
Matthew
Maria
Joseph

Of Charlotte Hauck
Gary Richard
James Spencer

Of Lorraine Avery
Karl K, Jr.
John Richard
Gerald Lee
Susan Charity
Richard John

Of Dorothy Boos
Michael Vincent
Peter John

Of Mary Jane Carlson
Larry Philip
Kathleen Ann

Great Grandchildren continued

Of Kathryn Bennett
Virginia Mary
William Brandon

Of Peter
Gregory Paul
Christopher Ambler
Charlotte Anne

(presently missing Aunt Kate's grandchildren)

Great great grandchildren
Of Michael Mather
Jeanette and Stephen

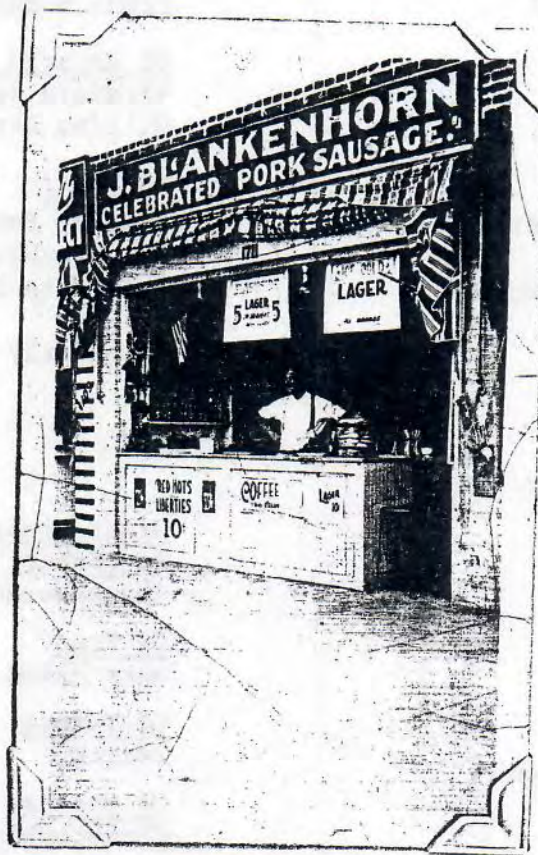
Of Fran
Mary Ellen Anne and John

Of Teresa
Dustin

Of Matthew
Christopher and Rebecaa Elizabeth

Of Maria
Teresa and Monica

The above information was taken from Genealogy sheets I sent to Various relatives to have them filled out. They were filled out about 25 years ago, so they are incomplete. I know nothing about the next generation - except for my own family.



Johann Blankenhorn - Butcher Shop
22nd and Central Ave.
Minneapolis, Mn.



Katherine Schreiner Blankenhorn

JOHANN CHRISTIAN BLANKENHORN

(Husband of Katherine Schreiner and grandfather of Frances Blankenhorn Sampson)

The information I have about Johann came from Aunt Kate and Aunt Gert. I do not have any official records except the ones given over the phone from the cemetery - so someone else can take it from here.

According to Aunt Kate, Johann was born in Germany of Lutheran parents. He came to New Orleans when he was young. It was during the German immigration movement (1835 - 1855). He married Katherine Schreiner and they had four sons and a daughter.

According to Aunt Gert, the children were:

Richard who married Mary Barbara Surges

Henry

John

Adam who married Ida Burns and had two sons, Clarence and Ernie

Katherine who married Anthony (Tony) Eggenberger/Egesberger who had four daughters and one son.

Johann was a butcher by trade and taught his sons this trade.

He and his family moved to St. Louis (son Richard was 17 at that time); then to Milwaukee (Richard married Mary Barbara Surges there when both were 21). Later the family moved to Minneapolis where according to Aunt Gert, he bought property on Central Avenue where he had a shop, home, pump house and a slaughter house. He also had a big wagon.

He and his wife lived at 2416 Central Avenue.

In looks he was short and fat. At St. Boniface church, he wore a Prince Albert coat, gold headed cane and a top hat. He became a convert when his son Richard was twelve (this must have been in New Orleans) and made his first communion. The father surprised the family by going up to Holy Communion that same day.

Johann died of a stroke and was buried from St. Boniface Church. He is buried at St. Anthony's Cemetery and according to their records he died in 1893. I have no information about when he was born or how old he was when he died.

KATHERINE SCHREINER BLANKENHORN

(Wife of Johann Christian Blankenhorn and grandmother of Frances B. Sampson)

I have very little information about Katherine. What I have came from Aunt Kate, my brother Tom and my mother.

Katherine Schreiner was born in Germany of Catholic parents. She came to New Orleans when she was young. She never learned to speak English because she did not want to. She wore long skirts and a cap on her head. She was short and very heavy. She died when she was 93 or 94. She is buried at St. Anthony's Cemetery beside her husband, son, Richard and his wife Mary.

According to Tom to get his information from mama, She was from Bonn, Germany and worked in a priest's house.

According to my mother, she later lived with the Little Sisters of the Poor and was always ready to die. She had her shroud made. She died in 1914

I have two pictures of her but none of her husband.

My mother used to visit her at the Little Sisters of the Poor and expressed a desire that she, too would go there if she became old. This place was located in North East Minneapolis,

She gave my mother a table that opened up in a circle and one of the chairs to go with it. She said that my mother would appreciate it.

One of the pictures shows her with a large book (opened) on her lap. There is a piano in the background.

Johann Christian and Katherine Schreiner Blankenhorn - 2

Descendants:

Children:

Richard m. Mary Barbara Surges
Henry
John
Adam m. Ida Burns
Katherine m. Anthony (Tony) Eggenberger/Egesberger

Grandchildren

By Richard

May Barbara
John m. Mabel Briggs
Thomas
Frances m. Thomas Shanahan; James J. Sampson
Gertrude m. Peter Brombach
Katherine m. Ben Kartak; Arthur Boughton; Ambrose DeLange
Richard m. Elsie

Great Grandchildren-

By JOHN

Mildred Marie m. Lowry Hammer
Katherine Margaret m. Leslie Hamack
Alice Frances m. Herman Hammer
Frances m. Magnus B Norman

By Frances

Thomas J. Shanahan
Frances-Anne (S. Ann Thomasine) Sampson
Mary Ellen m. Frank Mather
James J. m. Baree Nikewach
Paul J. m. Margaret Zeis
Matthew J.
Anthony J.

By Gertrude

Charlotee M. Les Hauck
Lorraine m. Karl Avery
Dorothy m. Vincent J. Boos
Robert m. Kathryn Rohe
Mary Jane m. Donald G. Carlson
Kathryn m. Joseph E. Bennett
Peter m. Beverly Jean Ambler
Richard m. Betty Jean Clark

By Katherine (Kate)

Katherine (Babe) Kartak
Bernard Kartak
Dorothy (Doody) Boughton
Marietta (Sissie "
Robert Boughton
John Boughton
Richard "

(consult the life of Mary Barbara Surges Blankenhorn for next generation - page 3
except for Sampson descendants

Johann and Katherine Schreiner Blankenhorn - 3

Great, great grandchildren

By Mary Ellen Sampson Mather

Michael
 Frances-Anne (Fran)
 Stephen

By James J. Sampson
 Mary Frances

By Paul J. Sampson

Thomas
 Teresa
 Monica
 Matthew
 Maria
 Joseph

Great, great, great chandchildren

By Michael Mather

Jeanette
 Stephen

By Frances-Anne (Fran)

Mary Ellen Anne
 John

By Teresa

Dustin

By Matthew

Christopher
 Rebecca Elizabeth

By Maria

Teresa
 Monica

N.B. Notice how many times the names John, Richard and Katherine are repeated in the Blankenhorn family.

Aunt Gert once gave the following information to her daughter Charlotte about Johann Christian Blankenhorn: The family had something to do with a steamship line. Johann shipped from Hamburg and stopped in Havana before arriving at New Orleans. He had served in the Prussian army.
 I have no way of verifying these facts.

OUR
GENERATIONS
OF THE
BLANKENHORN
FAMILY

Front
Row:

- 1) Mickey -
Mary Catherine
McEiver,
daughter of
Babe -
Katherine
Kartak
McEiver;
- 2) Mary Barbara
Surges
Blankenhorn

Back Row:

- 1) Aunt Kate-
Katherine
Blankenhorn
who married
three times:
B. Kartak
A. Boughton
A. DeLange
- 2) Babe-
Katherine
Kartak
McEiver

