

CHAPTER ONE LA LARGE GENEALOGY

Page 1

The LaBerge family had its ancient origins in France. Tanguay and research done in French records indicate that the family lived in Normandie(y), a province of France in the 1600's. Earliest mention of the direct ancestral family is at Colomby on the Theon, county Calvados, Normandie. Jacques de le Berge married Marie Poitevin, the widow of the late Jacques Touchet on 8 May 1636. This was during the reign of Louis XIII.

Calvados is a county at the extreme northern tip of France and faces the English Channel. The county is part of three which make up historic Normandie(y). The other counties are Orne and Manche. For centuries iron has been the leading metal mined there. The sea was both a friend and enemy to those who lived there. Many men made a living by fishing and the people ate large amounts of fish. The soil is much like eastern England. Normandie's cows have been famous in ancient and modern times for their value in dairy milk and eating. Cereals and fodder, the later for animals were also plentiful in that region. Camembert cheese comes from Normandie. The apples are small but good. There were other fruit trees but the famous vines for grapes grown in other areas of France were not plentiful there. The climate was moderate. These conditions made living there good when the country was not at war.

The property of the country not held by the King, was in the hands of the nobility(noblemen) and clerics(clergy). Small farms didn't thrive in France until many centuries after your Robert came to New France(Quebec), Canada.

To the union of Jacques and Marie were born in this fertile region of France ROBERT 24 May 1638, ABRAHAM 2 Sep 1640 and GUILLAUME(Bill) 15 Feb 1643. By the birth of last child in 1643 King Louis XIII died. His wife acted as regent from 1643 to 1651. Her son, Louis XIV was only 5 when his father died and was 13 in 1651 when he took over the reins of government. The country was in virtual civil war over Anne of Austria's regency. In addition France was at war with Spain in 1651. England and Holland went to war and Louis joined Holland in that war. The Peace of Breda put an end to hostilities in 1667. It is small wonder that there would be a fair amount of emigration of Frenchmen to New France(Quebec) during those war torn years.

In 1659 your ROBERT, a single man 21 years old, emigrated to Quebec. He settled first at St. Anne de Beaupre, QUEBEC. He apprenticed as a farmer under Masse Gravel. He planned to return to France in a few years to live. However, he became good friend with Nicolas Durand and his family and after Nicolas died he found his friendship for the widow developed into love. They married 28 May 1663 at Chateau-Richer. She had one child by her previous marriage. Robert moved several times during his early years in Quebec finally settling at L'Ange Gardien, a tiny village on the St. Lawrence River. The ancestral property today is still owned by a descendant of the LaBerge's.(Name spelled de la Berge in France, La or Le Berge in Canada and in St. Louis spelled LeBerge and mainly LaBerge.)

Robert never did return to France to live as he had originally planned. He and his wife, Francoise Gausse dit Leborgne had six children. See family sheet for what is known about this family. Their children were all born 2-3 years apart. They had their first child about 11 years after they were married. They worked hard and established a good farm and home. He lived to be 74 dying at home of Guillaume Boucher on or about 2 April 1712. Why he died in Boucher's bed is not known, maybe he went there to visit and became ill and died, who knows. His wife lived two more years and died 9 March 1714. He is buried at Chateau-Richer and she is buried at Beauport, now a suburb of Montreal.

The next direct ancestor is Guillaume(William in English), son of Robert and Francoise. Guillaume and his siblings were all born at the family home at L'Ange Gardien. The LeBerge family was very religious and had their children all christened in the Catholic church.

LA BERGE GENEALOGY CHAPTER ONE

Page 2

The Catholic church was a state supported church in the early days of Quebec. When the first vessel from Spain went up the St. Lawrence a catholic priest was with them. The church took a great interest in converting the Indians as well as administering to the needs of their French parishioners. Quebec was just a landing point in 1632. From 1632-1769 New France as a colony became peopled with vigorous and resourceful inhabitants. The land was divided between seigneurs or landlords and censitaires or tenants. The demands on the tenants were not as heavy as in the old country. Tenants had more freedom in Canada than under the feudal system in France. Many tenants cleared the lands of woods and intermarried with Indians. The main form of entertainment in those early years of settlement was the church festivals. Over 20 years before your Robert emigrated to Quebec Father Paul Lyeune opened a college in Quebec in 1635. This same father organized the first catholic church services in Quebec.

The chief menace that the colonists had during the first century there was the Indians. Though the Catholic Fathers did their best to convert and civilize the Indians (mainly Iroquois). Many priests were killed by them. Large numbers of Indians were not converted. The colonists didn't have to pay taxes but their affairs were administered at Versailles. Their biggest obligation in that early era was to pay for militia service for their own protection.

By 1675 when your Guillaume was born King Louis XIV became more interested in maintaining his soldiers at home than he did his colony in Canada. In the meantime the English were looking to Canada with great interest. During the time that Louis was supporting Holland against England the English were becoming interested in colonizing in Canada. Their little isle was quite heavily populated. Under English General Sir William Phips Quebec was under siege in 1690. The wars of the old country had found their way into conflict in the so called New World.

Just 5 years after the 1690 war and siege of Quebec, Guillaume was married to Marie Jeanne Quentin, daughter of Nicolas Quentin and Madeleine Roulois on 14 Feb 1695. The family lived at L'Ange Gardien. For what is known about children of this family see family sheet on them. From 1697 to 1717 they had 12 children. The Indian dangers were diminishing in the 1700's but the conflicts with the English continued. It is possible that part of those children died young because I could only find record of marriages for about half of children. Gabriel, son of Guillaume, is your direct ancestor born 1 July 1717. I could find no record of the deaths of Guillaume or his wife so don't know how long they lived. Guillaume did follow along in the occupation of his father and lived on the family property during his lifetime. The parents were in their forties when their last child was born, how much longer they lived we don't know. Their children were all baptized in the Catholic church. Marriage recorded were also in the catholic church.

Gabriel LaBerge, son of Guillaume and Marie Jeanne Quentin LaBerge, was raised with his siblings at L'Ange Gardien, Montmorency county, Quebec. He was the third from the youngest child in a family of 12 children. There was only one sister named Marie. Incredibly the rest of the 11 children were all boys. Gabriel married when he was 29 years old to Marie Anne Parent 22 Sep 1744. When she gave birth to her first and only child, she and the baby both died as a result of complications during delivery.

It was 5 years after the tragic death of his wife and child before he married again on 28 April 1749 to your ancestor, Madeleine Jourdain. I was not able to locate the names of her parents. Through Madeleine, Gabriel had three children. See family sheet for what is known about this family. The child of that union that you come through is also named Gabriel born 27 Jan 1751. We don't have death dates on Gabriel and his wife, Madeleine Jourdan LaBerge. Little else is known about them except that they continued to live on the family property of his parents and grandparents. By now the families of La Berge or de la Berge had lived in Canada for several generations. The ties with the church helped them to keep their old world ties and traditions alive.

Conditions in French Canada were worsening between the French and English. With the 1763 Treaty between the French and English came the end of French rule. All civil rulers left for France with their French flag. There were 70,000 souls who remained to live in Canada. The French clergy remained. The Treaty of Paris guaranteed Canadians freedom of worship "so much as the laws of Great Britain will permit." All French laws were abolished and oaths of allegiance were required of all Canadians. If a priest didn't take the oath he was asked to leave. King George encouraged the establishment of Protestant schools. In 1760 there were not many English in Canada just a few civilians and some soldiers. However, hostilities between the English in the American colonies and the Canadians continued. Generals Montgomery and Benedict Arnold were defeated by Gen. Carleton. A last ditch battle in the streets of Quebec in lower town resulted in the death of Montgomery and Gen. Arnold being wounded. The casualties on the American side were heavy. With defeat the American left Quebec and didn't return.

The Quebec act of 1774 restored the French civil laws and rescinded the test oath. French Canadians had their civil and religious rights restored to them. In 1776 the American war for independence began and the French government offered help to the colonists in financing their battles and fighting the war. The conflicts between Americans and Canadians ceased.

By 8 Jan 1782 your ancestor, Gabriel LaBerge, son of Gabriel LeBerge and Madeleine Jourdain, was married in Quebec City to Marie Veronique Rivet-at-Rivert. Marie Veronique was the daughter of Jean Baptiste Rivert and Veronique Talon or Jason. The old fashioned writing in the parish record makes it look possibly spelled either-(Jas or Tal)way.

Sometime between 1782 and 1787 the family moved to L'Assomption parish, Compton county, Quebec, Canada. Searches in L'Assomption parish records show birth of Joseph Marie LaBerge 4 July 1787. However, in search in Canada for Joseph Marie's birth no mention was made of siblings. Whether the search was just made for J.M.'s birth and not for his siblings, or whether there were none is not clear in the various searches referred to by those who searched in Canada, the LaBerge family papers at St. Charles county Historical Society papers or Tanquay's series. Therefore, I must conclude that here is a possibility of other siblings but that I just don't know about it in available searches.

We know that Joseph Marie's parents were living in Compton county when he was born but where they died I was not able to find out. The various wars were over by now so he would not have died in battle. He didn't migrate to the U.S. with his son. In the History of the Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River by Chittenden Joseph Marie is referred to as a typical example of French peasantry of Quebec.

When Joseph Marie reached legal age 21 he left Canada. He went up Ottawa River, through system of waterways in northern Ontario leading to Georgian Bay and Lake Huron, then to Mackinaw River, from there along Fox and Wisconsin Rivers to Mississippi. Once to the Miss. he traveled down to St. Louis where he settled. He traveled in a single birch bark canoe the whole way except of 8 miles of portage.

When fixed work was not available he tried his hand at many things. He was energetic and hard working. James Stuart is quoted as saying about him in Chittenden's book, "I can safely recommend him to any traveler, as the best person in his line I have ever met, intelligent, sober, obliging, and never afraid to encounter any difficulty that may occur."

During a time of trouble with the Sac and Fox Indians, the government requested help in getting dispatches through that Indian territory to Rock Island. Many dispatchers refused to go. Joseph volunteered and delivered the dispatches.

Joseph Marie LaBarge (La Berge) also served his new country in the war of 1812. During the battle of River Basin or Frenchtown on 22 Jan 1813 he was shot in the hand and lost two fingers. Also sustained a wound in the head from a tomahawk which he carried a scar of throughout the rest of his life. As a result of his War of 1812 service he was granted U.S. citizenship.

He married Eliza Eulalie Hortiz, daughter of Joseph Alvarez Hortiz and Marguerite Marianne Becquet. They married 13 Aug 1813 at Old Cathedral, St. Louis city, Mo. For a complete listing of children recorded in catholic church records in previously mentioned church see family sheet which follows on next page. Joseph kept the religion of his family and ancestry. All of his children were baptized in the church. Two years after he married Joseph bought a farm at Baden, which is now in St. Louis city limits. He manufactured charcoal for a time hauling it to St. Louis to sell. Then he started a boarding house which developed into a hotel and tavern with livery stable.

Joseph also had a reputation for his hunting and trapping. He traveled with General Ashley's expedition on the Missouri which culminated in a fight with the Aricara Indians in 1823. He cut the cable of one of the keel boats to get it out of reach of the Indian's fire. In a tour book of Wyoming place names mention is given of LaBarge Creek, 48.7 miles. It was named in 1824 by General Ashley for his friend, Joseph LaBarge (Tour 9, pg. 371) In another book called Mountain Men and the Fur Trade by Hafen, volume 1, pgs. 305-8 mention is made of the Ashley expedition as a party of 6 men. According to the account Joseph LaBarge was killed in that conflict with the Indians. However, his son, Joseph Jr. reported to family members that his father had hid from the Indians until they left and then returned home. Another man in expedition was killed but no one seems to know his name.

Early St. Louis Directories show Joseph Jr. earliest about time of his marriage in 1844 directory. He is listed as a river pilot first and living on 2nd north and Plum streets. In the 1840 federal census Joseph LaBerge is listed in St. Ferdinand township- St. Louis. By 1850 both he and Joseph Jr. are listed with their wives in separate residences. Joseph Jr. in 1850 is listed as a riverboat Capt. so sometime between 1844 when he was reported as a pilot, he became a captain by 1850.

When Joseph Senior first came to St. Louis in the early 1800's St. Louis was the Capitol of the territory. In 1820 as a result of the Missouri compromise in congress Missouri was to become a new state. St. Louis was a town with great promise because of its strategic position as a gateway to the west. At first it had been a center of fur trade for hardy trappers. It was a center for explorers who were wanting to outfit for western travel. Frenchmen came down the Miss. from Canada and up the Miss. from Louisiana to St. Louis. With the advent of the steam ship the waterways became a more economical way to travel and send goods.

Joseph Senior had a family of 10 children and his son Joseph Jr. who married Eliza Pelagie Gueret (Gueret line covered in another chapter) raised 8 children in St. Louis area. Joseph Sr. was 49 and his wife, Eulalie, was 47 when they had their last child in 1836. Joseph Jr. married his wife at St. Louis on 17 Aug. 1842. At the time of their marriage Joseph was 27 and his bride was 16. For a listing of both families see the family sheets which follow. His wife's parents were Pierre (Peter) Gueret and Marie Palmer.

Joseph Marie LaBarge lived to see his son become famous in his own right as an expert on the Mississippi River and the Missouri and become a partner in the firm of LaBarge Harkness and Company. This company handled a great deal of business during the era of the steamboat for transportation. He did not live to see the turn of fortunes and losses that his son would sustain when the coming of the railroad killed the once successful river trade.

On 22 Jan 1860 Joseph Marie died from injuries received as a result of a fall at the corner of Olive and Fourth streets in St. Louis. Since his will is dated the day before and it is very short it is likely that he had it written suddenly because he knew that he would not survive his injuries. I have typed the will and witness to the probate by way of interest. He essentially leaves his life's goods to his wife. At age 74 he had lived to a good age and was loved and respected by his family and those who worked with him or knew him from his various occupations.

Rec'd the probate of Joseph LaBarge no. 5705 from Probate div.
St. Louis Circuit court, 10th floor civil courts bldg.,
10 North Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63101

will dated 21 Jan 1860

(WILL of JOSEPH LA BARGE SR.)

"I this day above written give unto my dear beloved wife, Eulalie LaBarge all my right and title to a certain lot the main street south of Dune street bounded as follows east by Main street south by Stautman street, west by an alley and north by Sime, said lot being fifteen feet front on Main street by a depth of one hundred and sixty more or less having a two story house thereon I bequeath it to her for her Exclusively in fee. This being my only will."

signed in presence of Joseph LaBarge x, Henry A. Meyer, August Zello
State of Missouri, county of Saint Louis

Be it remembered that on this 30th day of Jan 1860 before me, Peter Ferguson, clerk of the probate court for the county aforesaid personally appeared Henry A. Mayer, and August ZELLO who being by me duly sworn on their oath say we were present and saw Joseph LaBarge, the testator make his mark to the foregoing instrument in writing by way of signing the same and heard him publish and declare the same to be his last will, we subscribed our name as witnesses thereto, in the presence of the testator and at the time of so doing he said Joseph LaBarge was of sound mind and disposing mind to the last of our knowledge and belief. Henry D. Mayer, August Zella, sworn to and subscribed before me, 30th Jan 1860 Peter Ferguson, clerk

William F. Ferguson, judge of the probate for the county of St. Louis having examined the preceding instrument in writing witnesses thereto consider that said instrument is duly proved to be the last will of Joseph LaBarge, deceased. Given under hand at the county aforesaid 30 June 1860

verbatim copy which I made of will and sent original to client

Captain LaBarge has had much material written about him so to try and pick up all the threads of his filled life and get them down in biographical story form would take too much time making the account lopsided in his favor. However, I would not want to miss the highlights of his life in this story. A more thorough work would involve writing just a book on him alone. Since I am dealing with all of your direct ancestors I will try to outline areas of most interest which show his accomplishments and some of his frustrations and disappointments.

When Joseph Jr. was just two years old the steamboat began to be used on the rivers. It meant safer and more inexpensive travel on the water. Joseph was fascinated with the river and travel on it. During his life he became an expert on the rivers and their banks and many people consulted with him because of this knowledge. According to an article on the Captain in the St. Louis Republic, Sunday 9 Jan 1898, magazine section page 8, Capt. LaBarge was the man who taught Mark Twain about the Mississippi River.

First mention of Capt LaBarge on the river was from the publication The Missouri Historical Review(GS Bk. 977.8B2mr) states that he conveyed the distinguished American Naturalist, James John LaForest Audubon, up the Missouri River in 1843, where he devoted himself to studies for his work "Audraupeds in America" which appeared in print in 1844.

He traveled as far inland up the Missouri River to Fort Benton, now in Montana but then in the territories. He was very honest in all his dealings and conducted countless loads of supplies for the government and could account for everything. A jealous fur trader, Picotte, made several attempts on his life according to the Captain's account but each time his life was spared. He began his career in steamboating at age 17 and first shipped out as a 2nd clerk. Then he worked his way up to a steersman and then a pilot. As a pilot he received as much as \$1,000 a month. After 10 years of steamboating he was able to build his own boat at a cost of \$15,000. The ship was named for his daughter, Martha. Other ships were named for his daughter Emily. Eventually he had 14 ships on the waters.

As a result of his work on the river transporting people and goods the Captain came in contact with people from all walks of life. In 1839 the Mormons settled Commerce, Illinois which they renamed Nauvoo after draining the swamp to make the area more healthy place to live. Most of his dealings with them came when they began their exodus under Brigham Young to the regions under Mexico, that were to become Utah territory. President Young and the Captain liked and respected each other very much. Though they had different religious views they had mutual respect for one another. The first group to leave Nauvoo was in 1846 in the winter lead by Young and for many years after a steady stream of converts from various areas of the U.S., Canada, and Europe came through St. Louis across the Miss., to Council Bluffs, Iowa and then further west. Until the advent of the rails many of the captains vessels were used to transport these people in their westward trek.

During these busy years the Captain was making a good reputation for himself in business and he and his wife were raising 8 children. Note the material on his family on his family sheet. When he and his wife had their last child, Henry Septime, in 1859 the Capt. was 44 and his wife 33 years of age. Their children were all baptized in the Old Cathedral at St. Louis. Child no. 4, Emily, was baptized by Archbishop Peter Kenrick and so was child. no. 5, Charles Louis. Charles's god father was Father DeSmet, who was noted for his western explorations long before many permanent settlers resided there.

Captain LaBarge was a devout catholic. He never charged members of the clergy fares when they rode on his vessels. He was a fine christian gentleman as previously stated excellently honest and fair with all. When Capt Chittenden needed information about the wrecks on the rivers to make a report to the government, he shared his knowledge of this with Chittenden and won his admiration and respect. A map was made up to assist others in avoiding the perils of the rivers. The most wrecks at that time took place near St. Charles, Missouri where about 50 ships had gone down. The place had been called the graveyard of the Missouri.

Also during this productive time for the Captain his town was growing into a city. By 1831 the town had about 6,000 people. By 1840 there were wards in the city. The central part of the city was best residential area, the south had marble quarries. The city directories show an increase of wards early few years. By the 1860's there were 10 wards.

There were outbreaks of disease from unsanitary conditons and the misquitos that infested the waters. Some of the germs were brought in by emigrants on their way west. Cholera and yellow fever were deadly until the causes were understood. Child bearing was also a leading cause of death among women. Still your LaBarge direct ancestors for the most part lived to good ages so we must conclude that they were healthy people. Their children that died young could have died from any number of diseases, also living so near a large body of water many people might have died by drowning. In our modern society with all the vaccines and medical knowledge our children today live longer and healthier than your ancestors'S children for the most part.

The steamboat trade was subject to orders from clients even as service organizations are today. As a good example of the trade in steamboating I found a good account in The Missouri Historical Review in volume 20, page 20. This work order was to take the Captain up the Yellowstone river. The boats leaving for the Yellowstone River did not run on any special schedule. Most of the chartered runs were by the American Fur Company. The Captain had many runs however, on government business. Part of the latter was trade with the various Indian agencies and for the government troops along the river routes.

The Captain kept track of his transactions in an account book and it was in the family for some time after his death but later when interested parties wanted to examine the book and use the information for a life story on his, the account books could not be located. The family feels bad about this to this day that that valuable data is now lost for future generations. Chittenden tried in vain to locate these papers that the Captain had talked about in their interviews. These accounts would have told us a lot about the goods that passed in his hands and how often he would make the trips and how often others who worked with him would take one of his vessels. We know the Captain had some losses and that he helped to recover and rebuild some wrecked vessels to be used again. Snags seemed to be the greatest hazard that caused wrecks.

In volume 21 on page 506 there is an account reported in the Kansas City Star on 27th Nov 1926. Even that late people were still interested in the Captain and found people who remembered statements attributed to him. He was questioned about his knowledge of the towns along the river by a traveler on one of his boats. The captain reported the names of the cities that the traveler wanted to know were Independence and West Port. The traveler not knowing that he was talking to an expert on the river asked him again if he were sure that those were the names of the city and he reported again that they were the right names. A flock of geese flew over and the traveler inquired what they were of the captain. The captain told him to consult a map and find out. The article failed to state when this conversation took place or who the traveler was. Therefore, we cannot say whether this is tradition of fact. Still it is an interesting account.

At the public library in a series of historical accounts of early America for children. In one account was another story about Captain Joseph LaBarge. In that account the captain had a thick French accent. Since he dealt with many people in the U.S. government he would have to have been able to speak in English, too, unless he had an interpreter and there is no mention in any accounts that he had one. Here again a story was told but no sources referred to as to where the information came from so decided not to use it in this book except to show that the captain's reputation and integrity have left a wealth of anecdotes about him and as with other famous people to sort out all the sources of the stories and document every thing would take years. These stories all carry a strong theme of his strong character, his goodness, expert knowledge of the rivers and his self control in emergencies. On the well documented trip to Yellowstone previously cited, the Steamer was the St. Ange, master, Joseph LaBarge. He was chartered to go up the river by R. and W.

LA BARGE GENEALOGY CHAPTER ONE

page 7

Campbell & Pierre Chouteau, Jr. and Company for \$6,000 to leave St. Louis 13 June 1850 for Fort Union. LaBarge filled his contract left Fort. 9th July and arrived in St. Louis in 10 days. Cargo was 10 sacks buffalo skins all for R. & W. Campbell, Pierre Chouteau and Company 106 packs of buffalo robes. Also aboard "several mountain birds, a deer, a buffalo calf and other wild var-mints."

In 1848 with the discovery of gold in California by 1849 the Gold rush was on and many money hungry people headed for the west to find their fortune. Many came through St. Louis on the way. The Captain said that he could never see getting gold fever, although member : of his family tried to coax him into getting interested in the venture. (his wife)

The Missouri Historical Review (Vol. 21, pg. 593) mentions that the ship Saluda which was owned and commanded by Capt Francis F. Belt hit a snag in 1850 and sunk five miles below Rochepot. The ship was dug out of the sand bar and rebuilt in St. Louis. On 7 April 1852 a load of Mormon emigrants was on board heading for Council Bluffs. The river was extra high. They were delayed in leaving. Capt. Charles LaBarge was first pilot and Capt Louis Gueret was 2nd pilot. The Capt. ordered the ship to be kept going at full speed. The boilers exploded, blowing the steamer to pieces. The bodies of the two pilots were never found. Twenty-four others were killed, and many were wounded. The children who were orphaned by the accident were taken in by the townspeople of Lexington, Mo. and raised as their own. The bell from the ship today is at the Christian church at Savannah, Mo..

In the Missouri Hist. Review vol 21 page 594-5 we find mention of the ship, Sonora built at St. Louis in 1857 and owned by Joseph LaBarge JR. ,B. LaBarge and others. Capt Bill Terrill was Master. The ship was sunk by running ice at Portland, Mo. on 24 Feb 1856. It was a total loss. Wreck can still be seen today in low water.

During the civil war(1861-1865) the Captain was on the side of the Union. According to his newspaper interview he was making a trip during that time to take on wood at LEXINGTON, Mo. when a rebel force under William Anderson captured the ship and demanded that he take his group across the river to meet with another group of guerillas. LaBarge refused to do it, so one of the rebels did. When a local Union General heard about LaBarge's vessel transporting the guerillas he demanded that LaBarge be apprehended and hanged. He was, however, released.

Again according to newspaper interview in St. Louis Republic Capt LaBarge took General Curtis and his staff to meet with the Sioux Indians to negotiate for right of way for the Union Pacific Railroad. The Indians were near the Yellowstone River. LaBarge recommended that he meet with just the chiefs but the General wanted to meet with more of the Indians than that. Finally under protest LaBarge deferred to the General but with a warning about possible troubles involved with having so many about. About 500 Indians came and many jumped on the boat and began throwing things off. The Captain could see that things could get out of hand with so few of them and so many of the Indians. He had the ship started up full speed and quietly had the rope loosened holding the ship to the shore. The quick start threw the Indians off guard and they began leaping from the ship until they were all off.

The Missouri Hist. Review(Vol. 21 pg. 227) mentions the ship, Ben Johnson which was a side wheel, 525 tons built at St. Louis in 1866. It was owned by Capt Ben. Johnson and sunk by a snag 4-5 miles below Brownsville, 1868. The ship was repaired and restored to service 29 Mar 1869. In 1866 this steamer was to go to Fort Sully to deal with the Sioux Indians. This charter by Capt. Joseph LaBarge to government for \$300 per day.

Same source page 237 the ship, Damsel, a stern wheel circus steamer, weighing 210 tons p loted by Capt. Davis sunk by snag at head of Onawas bend in 1876. It was a toal loss. Capt. LaBarge came along on steamer and took passengers off. The steamer had on board a circus company.

CHAPTER ONE PAGE 8 LABARGE GENEALOGY

Captain LaBarge continued with his business until the coming of the railroad found him suffering great losses in passengers and cargo orders. Chittenden wanted to write a book about the Captain but was involved in the Spanish American war and by the time it was over and he was able to return to the Captain to get the rest of his story the old gentleman had died. He died the 2-3 April 1899. Many of the outlying areas of earlier years were now becoming places where a tide of settlers had come in and built farms and towns. New states were coming into being. The end of the frontier was now the ocean. The fur trade was no longer a significant factor like it had been in trade in St. Louis in the early years of the town. Many of the great buffalo herds had been destroyed. The west was no longer a frontier beyond St. Louis.

The funeral services were among the largest that anyone could remember in St. Louis up to that point. There was a large article in the paper honoring him. The services were catholic. He was greatly beloved by his friends and family. His wife lived some 4 more years and died 1 Jan 1903 in St. Louis., too. He left his family a rich heritage. His descendants to this day remember him with pride.

The child through whom you come, Henry Septime, born in 1859 was only 2 when the civil war began. As a child that small he would probably not remember too much about the war but he would be aware of the many times his father would be leaving to go on trips. His father had been the oldest in his family and Henry was the youngest child in his family.

It is not known when he and his wife first met but we do know that it was in St. Louis. He was 25 and she was 21(Louisa Thebecau Lauck) when they married on 5 Nov 1884. Louisa was the daughter of Lewis Morgan Lauck and Emily I. or J. Hannan(also spelled Hanun, Hamman, Hammun, Ham) She was born Dec 1863 at St. Louis. See family sheet for what is known about Henry's family. The Lauck line will be dealt with in another chapter.

Henry must have had some training in music because he is listed as a music teacher in the 1900 census. He and his family are living in Central township which according to the St. Louis directories is one of the nicer residential areas of the city then. His widowed mother is also listed in this census but not living with him.

Henry S. died in 1913 in St. Louis and we don't have a death date on his wife. He was only 54 when he died. Two of his 6 children died as babies and the rest lived to marry and raise families of their own. Pierre Lauck LaBarge was named for his great grandfather, Peter(Pierre) Lauck. He and his siblings were born during the colorful era of the gay nineties and last part of 1880's. They lived through the First world war period and into the 2nd world war. The discovery of modern conveniences made many changes in their lives and the lives of their families. Electricity, cars, washers, dryers, Tv's, dishwashers, planes, photographs, phonographs, movies and many other inventions too numerous to mention.

CHAPTER TWO LABARGE GENEALOGY PAGE 1
Ancestry of Eliza Eulalie Hortiz(Hortiz-Bequet) wife, Joseph Marie LaBarge

The earliest ancestor of Hortiz is Francois Alvarez and his wife, Bernida Hortiz of Estremadura province, Spain. This province is composed of two counties, Badajoz and Caceres. They border the country of Portugal to the east. The architecture shows some Moorish influence from the invasions of Arabs in past centuries. Agriculture is the main industry and has been for centuries. However, this area does not have the best soil. Most of land is cultivated but soil is not that rich. The people of that area would cook with olive oil, vinegar and lots of peppery condiments with their food. There would be mainly vegetables to eat with tidbits of ham, sausage and fried fish to add to it.

The state religion was Catholic church. Most of entertainments for common people was centered around religious festivals. This is where the music would largely come from. There were some instruments which had been brought into area when Arabs lived there centuries ago. Some of those instruments survive in some form to this day.(simple string instruments)

Spanish is a beautiful language which sounds very musical when spoken. Oftimes to get names of children the surnames of both husband and wife would be combined for surname of children. Thus Francois Alvarez and wife, Bernida Hortiz had a son named Joseph Alvarez Hortiz. He was born in 1753 in Estremadura. While in Spain he joined the service as a private. He was sent to St. Louis which was then in Spanish service in 1770. During his service he was promoted to the office of sergeant. In Scharf's history of St. Louis the claim is made that he had some education before joining the service in Spain. He served a long time as military attache at Government House. Under the last two Spanish governors, Trudeau and Delassus he served as secretary. He had charge of the public archives until transfer of power in 1804. When 27 years of age he married a 17 year old girl, Marguerite Marianne Becquet 27 Jan 1780. She was daughter of John Baptiste Becquet and Marie Francoise Dodier. On 13 March 1780 he bought a lot in St. Louis from Jacques Noise Labbe on north-west corner of Main and Spruce Streets. For six years he lived there and then sold the lot to Silvestre Labbadie, Sr, 15 Jan 1786. Next purchase was a lot south half block 2. On that lot he built a new home with stable and lived there until March 1802. At that time he sold the lot to John Baptiste Lebeau, a son in law. He died in 1808 at St. Louis at age 54.

Other than Eliza Eulalie Hortiz, wife of Joseph Marie LaBarge and the daughter given name unknown who married John Baptiste Lebeau, little is known about the children of Joseph A. Hortiz and his wife, Marguerite Marianne Becquet. Your ancestor, Eliza Eulalie was born 25 Oct 1798 in St. Louis. The LaBarge's and Hortiz's both attended church in the Cathedral, therefore, it is probable that they could have met there. They married there 3 Aug 1813.

As stated in the LaBarge History in chapter one Joseph Marie LaBarge and Eliza Eulalie Hortiz had 10 children.(see family sheet on Joseph and Eulalie). They raised their family in St. Louis. Her husband died from a fall from a building 22 Jan 1860 and by will left her his estate. She lived some 7 years after his death dying 14 March 1867 at St. Louis.

They raised their children in the catholic church located on Walnut street in St. Louis. Their children combined the French and Spanish cultures. In 1821 Missouri became a state in the United States. Eulalie's husband came home from the battles of the War of 1812 with a tomahawk wound in his head. She lived to see the state about evenly divided during the civil war. Her sons were for the Union. Conditions were very bad during the war. Finally the war ended in 1865. She lived only two years after the war ended.

Statement of Capt. Jos. LaBarge(copy) from LaBarge Family Papers
St. Charles County Historical society, Mo. Coll.

In 1835 J. B.C. Lucas accompanied by Mary P. Ladue came to m. Jos. Hortiz house where she lived on "Street" and Mr. LUCAS presented her with a paper which he asked her to sign. TELLING her it was no conveyance of land but a paper that would prevent litigation here after. Capt. LaBarge then asked them to let him read the paper as an interested party being one of Mrs. Hortiz's sons. They refused said I knew nothing about legal documents and there was no need of my reading it. All this time the written part of this paper was covered up with a white sheet of paper. The only part over the signature only appearing.

Capt. LaBarge after their refusal to let him read this paper begged his grandmother not to sign it because these men came there for the purpose of robbing her. She signed the paper without reading it. She was at that time nearly 100 years old and not in condition to do business. John B. Hortiz, one of her sons about 50 years old was present all the time at this interview and asked his mother not to sign that paper for the same reason that I stated. No money was paid her at that time and I never knew what the paper was nor that there was a consideration stated til I went to the recorder's office and there saw the record of it.

This was the deed of Aug. 1835

Jos. LaBarge