

## CHAPTER 20

### Pierre Terrien

If the residents of our planet are terriens, in other words, earthlings. In New France, only two ancestors: Jean, husband of Judith Rigaud, and Pierre, brought to us the last name of Terrien or Therrien. Pierre comes to us with identification papers not very well authenticated.

Problem: at the time of his marriage on the ile d'Orléans, the officiating priest did not give us the names of his father and mother. Also, Pierre did not have recourse to the services of a notary on the occasion of his wedding. An experienced genealogist, one Archange Godbout, hesitated to officially connect him to the family of André Terrien and Marie Foucauld, residents of *La Fond*, parish of *Notre-Dame de La Rochelle*.

René Jetté, due to some converging proofs accepts André and Marie Foucauld as parents of our ancestor. They were responsible for six children: André, Marie-Blaise, Madeleine, Perrine and Pierre. Marie, daughter of André, married Barthélemi Tesson on 9 December 1661, at La Rochelle; she did not come to Canada. Burial on 13 May 1664. However, Barthélemi Tesson, himself, did immigrate to New France, in 1665.

Perrine Terrien, baptized at *Notre-Dame-de-Cogne de LaRochelle* on the first of November 1640, appeared at Québec on 12 December 1662, the day on which she married Jean Allaire. The couple lived on the Ile d'Orléans and enriched posterity by three members.

The youngest, Pierre Terrien, Perrine's twin, was also presented at the baptismal font of the church of Notre-Dame on the first of November 1640. Godfather and godmother: Yvon Gaudin and Perrine Peronelle.



*Pierre Terrien*

We know that the father of these six children, André, living at La Fond, was buried on 29 October 1661. The paternal property was divided on 6 January 1662. On that occasion, Perrine was mentioned, but nothing concerning Pierre in the list of the heirs. Why?

#### TO NEW FRANCE

At La Rochelle on Wednesday, 5 April 1656, several people promised to go to New France, including Pierre Michaud, Pierre Gendreau dit LaPoussière, Jean Crepeau and Pierre Terrien. Sponsor: Jacques Pépin, merchant; notary: Teuleron.

Pierre Terrien was promised 60 livres annually including 40 paid in advance. He said he was originally from *LaJarne*, canton of *LaJarrie*, arrondissement of *La Rochelle*. He stated he was 21 years old. Born in 1640, he should only have been 16. Did he have the appearance of being a 21-year old adult? Was he interested in increasing the number of his years? Did he leave his loved ones after an escapade? We also know that Pierre Michaud should have been 19 instead of 38, as was reported in his contract.

In 1656, three ships from La Rochelle dropped anchor at Québec: *Le René*, capacity of 60 tons, *Le Taureau*, 150 tons and *LaFortune*, 100 tons. Jacques Pépin was the owner of the last ship. Pierre arrived in the harbor of Québec on board the ship *La Fortune* on 14 July, in the summer of 1656.

Then, there is a silence of four years. Pierre Terrien appeared at Château-Richer on 2 February 1660 to receive, along with 172 other people, the sacrament of Confirmation, during the historic visit of the famous bishop to the Beaupré Coast. However, Pierre Terrien was recorded under the name of Pierre Terrier, diocese of La Rochelle.

Alas! for many more years, Pierre gave no other sign of his presence among us, not even at the marriage of his sister Perrine, on 12 December 1662, at Québec. The censustakers of 1666 and 1667 did not manage to intercept him. Did he have the gift of being invisible? Did he work in a very remote place? Was he a *coureur des bois*? There is no answer.

#### CONCESSIONAIRE

After so many years of living a humble and obscure life, upon the occasion of a visit of Msgr de Laval to Château-Richer, on Tuesday, 26 February 1669, Pierre Terrien went to the seigniorial manor house on the Beaupré Coast. The witnesses were Jean Crete and Pierre de Rainville, who also went there to take part as witnesses to 8 concessions of land, the first to Pierre Terrien. The other concessionaires were François Rochon, Robert Tourneroché, Hippolyte Thibierge, François Dumas, René Dubois, Jean Mathieu and Robert Boulay. Obviously, Paul Vachon, notary and fiscal administrator, had prepared his documents in advance. It only remained for him to read them and sign them.

Pierre Terrien thus received three arpents of frontal land, on the south side of the Ile d'Orléans, in the future parish of Saint-Jean, bordering on one side Gervais Rochon and on the other François Daneau. Obligations: to give each year, on 11 November, the sum of 20 sols for the land rent, 12 deniers for the cens for each arpent of frontage on the river

*"and for the entire concession three live capons or thirty sols for each capon the seigneur's choice...the said pierre terrien willleave six perches of land for each arpent of frontal land after usingofit for four years for common use with these neighbors."*

#### GABRIELLE MINEAU

The family of Jean Mineau and Jeanne Caille was originally from the city of *Fontenay-le-Comte*, in *Poitou*; born in this place were Gabrielle, René, Marie and Jean Mineau. All were found in Canada about 1668. The father died almost upon arriving in the Colony, since Jeanne Caille was remarried on the Ile d'Orléans in 1699, to Guillaume Dupas. When Gabrielle Mineau met Pierre Terrien, she had lost her father and was about fifteen years old and seemed to be living at Sainte-Famille on the island.



The marriage act of Pierre and Gabrielle was recorded in the registry of Sainte-Famille on Saturday, 17 May 1670. Present were the father-in-law Guillaume Dupas, Jean Brochu and a man named Jacques Rousseau. Why did the officiating priest forget to sign? A bad habit he had had for at least a year.

#### ILE-AUX-GRUES

After their wedding which was celebrated in the spring of 1670, the Terriens undoubtedly lived on the farm ceded by Msgr de Laval, at Saint-Jean on the island. One particular fact draws our attention. The first two Terrien children were born on the Ile-aux-Grues, in the autumn of 1672 and in February 1674. How to explain this?

In 1646, Charles Huault de Montmagny, a great hunter, it appears, acquired the Iles-aux-Oies and aux-Grues. In 1671, the Ile-aux-Grues was granted as seigneurie to Pierre Bénard, Sieur de Grandville, who had arrived at Québec with the Carignan Regiment on 17 August 1665. On 22 October 1668, he allied himself to the powerful Couillard-Macard family by marrying Anne.

Thus, beginning in 1671, perhaps earlier, the Sieur de Grandville asked the Terriens to begin or to continue to work this island, seven kilometers long and two wide. The seigneurie was small, but it had its charms: abundant fish in the river at his feet, very many cranes during each migration in the fall and in the spring, these hay on its sand banks and the freedom of the fresh sea breeze. Today, about 240 inhabitants live on the Ile-aux-Grues where there are a dozen farms.

The Terriens certainly worked two or three years on this island located across from Montmagny. On 17 July 1674, Pierre was at Québec, at the home of the notary Becquet, with the seigneur Bécard. Pierre accepted first in the name of the absent Pierre Michaud, a piece of land with six arpents of frontage on the river at low tide and with the depth as far as the arm of the said farm which separated the Ile-aux-Grues from that of the Ile-aux-Oies. The neighbors of Pierre Michaud were Pierre Terrien and Jean Soucy dit Lavigne.

The land allotted to Terrien was similar to that of Pierre Michaud. Obligations: to pay 60 sols in seigneurial rent, two live capons each year and so forth. Several important people signed this concession made to Terrien. He did not know how to sign. Pierre was thus a concessionaire on the Ile-aux-Grues. Often, it is enough to own a piece of property in order to desire some thing else. In 1675, the Terriens returned to their land on the Ile d'Orléans. In the census of 1681, they were living on their farm of three arpents in frontage, at Saint-Jean, where they owned 1 cow and had 6 arpents of land under cultivation. Their neighbors were François Blery and Jacques Bidet dit Desroussels.

After so many years in New France, we would like to see the Terriens with a little more material wealth. They already had five children to feed. On 27 September 1681, Gabriel Thibierge leased a concession to the Terriens for a period of one year only. It had six arpents of frontal land with a barn, house and outbuildings. It was located not far from that of Terrien and neighbor to Pierre Blais. The landlord Thibierge even leased two oxen, some harnesses, a cow and 20 minots of wheat, half "for food" and the rest for sowing. In return, he asked 10 livres in rent for the cow and at the end of the year 18 minots of grain: 15 in wheat and 3 in peas, in addition to the 20 livres lent to be repaid. I ask myself this: Did Gabriel Thibierge take more interest in his tenant than in his own property? When the engineer Robert de Villeneuve drew up the map of the Ile d'Orléans in 1689, he reported the existence of the barn of the Terriens and their house designated as a cabin.

However, the mapmaker forgot another piece of land acquired by the Terriens on 9 March 1689, also at Saint-Jean, between Thomas Plante and Jean Dubreuil. Here are some more specific facts. Gabriel Rouleau junior, habitant of Saint-Laurent, trustee agent of Pierre Ledoux dit Latreille, living at Charlesbourg, sold in the name of the latter a concession of three arpents of frontal land acquired first by René Mineau, on 10 March 1670, then by Ledoux on 4 October 1681.

This liquidation resembles a fire sale! There was no mention of any building on this property. Pierre had to pay 18 livres 2 sols for the arrears, in other words for more than five years. Each year, the censitaire had to pay 3 livres 3 sols and 2 live capons or the value of a livre and a half for the capon. Terrien was also committed to pay 63 livres 10 sols, 18 of them on

Saint-Michel's day, 22 more on All Saint's day and the rest in 1690. The sale was initialed at Sainte-Famille, on the afternoon of 9 March, by Nicolas Metru and Paul Vachon.

#### THEY WERE FOURTEEN

The second Terrien generation connected to Pierre and Gabrielle was composed of 14 members: Pierre, Louis, Jeanne, André, Jean-Baptiste, Ignace, Augustin, Étienne, Étienne (2), Alexis, Jeanne (2), Guillaume, Barthélemi and Jacques, 12 sons and 2 daughters, born between 28 September 1672 and 30 April 1696.

1. The first Jeanne, goddaughter of Jeanne Caille at Sainte-Famille on 13 March 1676, died at Saint-Jean in 1689, at the age of 13.
2. She was replaced by the second Jeanne on 18 December 1689. She married Jacques Greffard on 10 October 1712. Alas! this mother of three children, was buried on 4 January 1716 in her home village.
3. The first son to die was Jean-Baptiste. Baptized on 10 February 1680, he was no longer alive for the census of 1681.
4. Augustin Terrien, born on 19 October 1683 at Saint-Jean, disappeared on the following 19 December.
5. The first Étienne, born on 28 October 1684, left his family on 19 April 1686.
6. As for the second Étienne, born on the first day of autumn 1686, remained a bachelor, he died at the age of 29, on 13 June 1715.
7. Alexis Terrien, godson of his brother Pierre on 21 September 1688, only lived for a period of less than three months.

8. The eldest, Pierre Terrien, bearer of the first name of his father, was born on the Ile-aux-Grues on 28 September 1672, married to Jeanne Duchiron on 29 November 1693 at Québec, responsible for two sons, was buried at Saint-Jean on 2 December 1749.

9. His brother Louis, also born on the Ile-aux-Grues, godson of Pierre Bécard de Granville, husband of Catherine Bidet, father of three daughters and one son, was laid to rest in the consecrated land of La Durantaye on 11 January 1707. He was only 33 years old.

10. André Terrien, godson of André Bernard on 23 May 1678 at Sainte-Famille, allied himself to the Charland family by marrying Marie about 1710. Progeny: 15 children, all born at Saint-Jean. André was buried on 9 December 1749.

11. Ignace Terrien, godson of Nicolas Audet on the first of February 1682, was the only one to be married twice: first to Anne Cauchon dit Laverdière, who gave him a son and a daughter, then to Marguerite Plante. Thirteen more children.

12. His brother Guillaume Terrien was married at the age of 25 on 10 May 1717 to Marie-Anne Jean and gave the descendants 8 children as his legacy.

13. Louis Terrien and Jeanne Duchiron were the godparents of Barthélemi Terrien, on 11 March 1694. The latter joined his destiny to Marguerite Fontaine. They had seven children.

14. The youngest, Jacques, godson of Jacques Bidet on the first of May 1696, became the life companion of Marie-Louise Perrault on 27 April 1718 at L'Ange-Gardien. She was the daughter of François and of Françoise Feuilleton. They had eight children. Jacques drowned at Montreal on 8 May 1730.

In spite of the deaths and infant mortality, in the third generation of Terriens 64 descendants took up the pilgrims' staff of life.



## DONATION

On Tuesday, 8 June 1706, the notary Étienne Jacob, was summoned to the house of Pierre Terrien and Gabrielle Mineau on the south side of the island. Pierre and his wife acknowledged at that time to have relinquished in a donation pure and simple and irrevocable made between them in the form and manner in favor of Ignace Terrien, their son, represented by René Cauchon dit Laverdière, because he was still a minor, one and a half arpents of land. This arpent and a half of frontal land, half of the paternal property which was comprised of three, was located near Joseph Roger. The parents also bequeathed to their son a young filly and a cow.

The grantee was committed to manage their household like a good head of family which he will lead in order to live together with them and their other children his brothers and sisters. Pierre and Gabrielle hoped that their son Ignace would continue his loyal services for a long time.

## THE END OF THE JOURNEY

When the Terrien ancestors decided to make a donation to their son Ignace, they must have felt themselves near the end of their days. During the same summer, Pierre Terrien was buried at Québec, on 12 September 1706. The funeral was presided over by the pastor François Dupré with Jean Brassard as witness.

As for Gabrielle Mineau, our faithful ancestress, she died on 25 November 1707, at Saint-Jean on the island. Attending her funeral two days later were Jacques Bidet, René Cauchon, Joseph Allaire, Guillaume Dupas, the curate Boucher and all the relatives and friends in the area.

From the notary Louis Chambalon on 18 June 1714, we learn that about 1708, in the presence of Quiniart, each Terrien surviving child inherited 2 perches and 2 1/2 feet of frontal land on the other half on the island.

General De Gaulle said that old age is like a shipwreck. Would it not be more fair to say that old age is the arrival at the port, the placing of the foot on a new land, the reward for a beautiful journey!

## FAMILY NAME VARIATIONS

Terrien has nine known variations, listed as follows: Duhemme, Duhaime, Duponseau, Lander, Taryon, Terien, Terrienne, Therien and Therrien.

## END NOTES

- 1) Record of Becquet, 16 July 1674.
- 2) Record of Chambalon, 18 June 1714.
- 3) Record of Duquet, 27 September 1681.
- 4) Record of Jacob, 8 June 1706.
- 5) Records of Vachon, 26 February 1669, 9 March 1689.
- 6) Archange Godbout, ERNE (1970), pp. 226,227,228.
- 7) René Jetté, DGFO (1983), pp. 1072,1073.
- 8) André Lafontaine, LBB et IO (1987), p.534, *On 10 January 1701, Pierre Terrien was ordered by the court of the Ile d'Orléans to pay to Jean Fournel, a merchant of Québec, 45 livres 4 sols for merchandise delivered by him; RANF 1666 & 1667 (1985), pp. 36,216; RANF 1681 (1986), p. 269.*
- 9) Léon Roy, LTIO 1650-1725 (1978), pp. 223-225,232-234,etc.
- 10) Marcel Trudel, CI 1632-1662 (1983), p. 347.
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_. BRH, Vol.47, p. 144.
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_. DNCF (1965), VOL.3, PP.1896-1897.

- 13) \_\_\_\_\_. *MSGCF*, Vol.8, pp. 230-231; Vol.10, pp.20-21; Vol.11, pp.114-115, 117; Vol.12, p.220; Vol.24, pp.42-45; Vol.35, pp.196-203.
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_. *Nom et Lieux du Québec. Dictionnaire illustre*, (Québec, 1984), p.260.
- 15) \_\_\_\_\_. *RHAF*, Vol.6, p.382, numero 318.



(Rick Terrien – 2014)

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