**APPENDIX A**

**Biographies**

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FRANCOIS BIRON

Francois Biron is notable in the history of the parish because of a letter of complaint (see page 20) which he wrote on August 26, 1849, to Bishop Bourget of Montreal, outlining the reasons for the dissatisfaction of the French Canadians with their religious situation in Burlington. He was about 54 years old at the time.

It seems likely that Francois Biron was already in Burlington in 1834 when Fr. Amable Petithomme arrived to serve the French Canadians. His name appears as the godfather at the baptism of Baptiste Jule Veyeux in October of that year. The godmother's name is difficult to read but could be Lemay.

Francois Biron was married at St. Louis de Lotbiniere, Province of Quebec, on October 20, 1817, to Ursule Lemay dit Poudrier. He is listed in the 1840 census for Burlington as Francois Buron. When Fr. Francois Ance was removed from Burlington in October 1843, Francois Biron was one of the signers of the protest in "Pieces Justificatives:" Louis Biron also signed this protest. Francis Biron is listed in the 1866-67 Burlington Directory as employed at the American Hotel. His wife, Ursule, died in 1854 and in 1859 banns were published for a second marriage but Francois called off this wedding.

Francois died at 93 years, 10 months. He was buried April 3, 1879 in St. Joseph Cemetery, where his wife had been buried. His name was recorded as Bireau at City Hall. What effect Francois' letter had on the Bishop of Montréal in 1834 when Fr. Amable Petithomme arrived to serve the French Canadians is difficult to read but could be Lemay.

This man drafted the petition to Bishop Forbin-Janson on November 7, 1841, requesting that he leave Fr. Guillaume Labbe, the priest who had accompanied him, with the French Canadians as pastor or missionary. More than 250 heads of families signed the letter. Bouchette was in Burlington from 1839 to 1845 and was a member of the Vermont Bar. He was married to Caroline Anne Berthelot from Quebec. With his blacksmith equipment he travelled by horse and wagon. How did he happen to be a pallbearer for him to send the money needed to travel to Burlington. His anxious wife was being harrassed to leave, a kind villager of St. Alphonse made a trip on horseback to the post office in St. Jean to see if the money had arrived. It was a round trip of over 50 miles. He brought the money back to Mrs. Cartier who, with her five children and a little dog, went to Angeline and took the train. The children were a girl, age 10, and 4 boys, from 8 to 2. Many years later in 1928, the daughter returned to St. Alphonse for the first time. A local family promptly welcomed her and ar-

JOSEPH CARTIER

Joseph Cartier fashioned the iron cross for the steeple of the present St. Joseph Church. He was a farmer and blacksmith by trade who set up his blacksmith shop on the north side of North Street between North Champlain and Rose Streets. After a few years, he moved his family into the house west of the shop.

The pioneer ancestor of this family was Pierre Biron, son of Jean Biron and Marie Rate/Razee of Ste-Hermine, Diocese of Luc;on, Poitou, France. He was married to his second wife, Jeanne Poireau, at Quebec on December 19, 1662, daughter of Francois Poireau and Francoise Hugheloque of St. Nicolas-de-Brem, Diocese of Lucon, Poitou.

The Dictionary of Canadian Biography (University of Toronto Press) lists Bouchette as a lawyer, cartographer, PATRIOTE and civil servant. He was born March 12, 1805, at Quebec, and died there June 4, 1879. As chairman of one of the PATRIOTE committees and editor of "Le Liberal" newspaper, he was arrested but let out on bail. He left Quebec and reached Swanton, Vermont. On December 6, 1837, as an officer under the command of Edouard Elisee Milhiot, he led the advance guard of the little band that encountered the enemy at Moore's Corner (St. Armand Station) near Swanton, was captured and imprisoned in Montreal. On June 28, he was condemned to exile in the Bermudas with seven other "Patriotes:" After his exile he came to the United States and was admitted to the Vermont Bar in 1839.

ROBERT SHORE MILNES BOUCHETTE

This man drafted the petition to Bishop Forbin-Janson on November 7, 1841, requesting that he leave Fr. Guillaume Labbe, the priest who had accompanied him, with the French Canadians as pastor or missionary. More than 250 heads of families signed the letter. Bouchette was in Burlington from 1839 to 1845 and was a member of the Vermont Bar. He was married to Caroline Anne Berthelot at St. Mary Church on June 2, 1840, by Fr. O'Callaghan. The witnesses were Ludger Duvernay and Henry A. Gauvin. There was a dispensation of second degree of consanguinity for this marriage.
ranged for her to meet the old man who had made the trip for the money 47 years previously. It was a touching experience.

In Burlington, Cartier followed Canadian custom. He saw that his boys were educated and learned a trade. He taught his own trade to two sons and sent the third to a brother to learn the jeweler's trade. The girl, after a third grade education, was placed in apprenticeship with a dressmaker. Three years after the family's arrival in Burlington, the wife died of tuberculosis, and the fourth son passed on shortly thereafter.

In 1884-85, the Burlington City Directory lists Joseph Cartier as secretary of the St. Joseph Society. Cartier appears to have become friendly with Alphonse Duhamel. They were in the Senior Choir at the same time. Duhamel served as best man at the wedding of Cartier's daughter at St. Joseph Church in 1891. Duhamel may have been responsible for the short notice that appeared in the Burlington Free Press about Cartier's activities, such as his efforts to develop a brake for traverses ... traverse sliding was a very popular sport in Burlington before modern traffic took over the roads ... and a note in 1895 that Cartier was building a new blacksmith shop. A Burlington Free Press account is entertaining and Duhamel may have been responsible for its appearance. It recounts that Mr. Hathaway from Shelburne had trouble with his horse late one night on North Street. The horse kicked the wagon and damaged it so severely that Hathaway could not continue. Cartier had gone to bed but he arose, opened his shop and stored the wagon, leaving its repair for the morrow. On the next day however, Hathaway appeared and took his wagon and business to Shelburne. Cartier spoke French, but he may have used his broken English for a few remarks on this occasion.

Joseph Cartier was born in St. Cyprien, Province of Quebec. He married three times. His first wife, Annie Gervais, was half Irish. They married at St. Jean in 1870 and were in the Senior Choir at the same time. Duhamel may have used his broken English for a few remarks on this occasion.

Charles Chiniquy was born in Kamouraska, Province of Quebec in 1809, son of a notary and grandson of the Basque pilot who guided Admiral Saunders' fleet in 1759 in the expedition against Quebec. He was orphaned at an early age and educated at Nicolet, thanks to an uncle and to the director of the college. He was ordained to the Catholic priesthood in 1833. He launched a crusade against strong drink and thereby received a papal blessing in 1841 and encouragement from Msgr. Forbin-Janson, Bishop of Nancy, France, who visited Burlington that year at the end of a long visit to the United States and Canada. Fr. Chiniquy also wrote a Manual for Temperance Societies (Manuel de Temperance) which was a best seller.

In 1846 he was involved in a scandal concerning a woman and was forced to resign his pastorate. With great assurances to his bishop of his penitence, he sought admission to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate at Longueuil and was accepted into the novitate. Although he was only a novice when the Provincial of the Oblates, Fr. Joseph Guigues was made Bishop of Bytown (Ottawa), Fr. Chiniquy objected strenuously saying that the provincial should be independent of the Bishop of Bytown. He was expelled from the novitate on November 27, 1847. He succeeded in obtaining an appointment in the Diocese of Montreal and it was during this period that he preached a retreat at St. Mary Church in Burlington, as a Catholic priest and advocate of temperance. His success was phenomenal and the second edition of his manual even more successful. However, he had more trouble with women, and, after giving him several warnings, Bishop Bourget deprived him of his faculties in 1851.

He next went to the French Canadian colony in the Kanakee country south of Chicago and induced 200 families to follow him by his assurance that those who joined him would not have to give up their French Canadian ways. He had additional trouble with the bishop, Anthony O'Regan.
who put him under interdict. He defied this order and was excommunicated. Chiniquy sought reconciliation in 1856 and in 1858, but more scandalous conduct led to his excommunication again in 1858.

From that point on, Chiniquy preached and lectured against Catholicism. In 1878, he preached at the French Baptist Chapel, located in St. Joseph Parish at the end of Locust Street (Elmwood Avenue), on the site of the present H.O. Wheeler School. The Baptists invited Rev. A.C. Therrien of St. Pie, Province of Quebec, to work at converting Canadian Catholics to the Baptist faith. He left in 1879, for lack of success, and was replaced by Rev. J.D. Rossier, a Swiss. The Canadians disliked him and characterized the congregation as "Les Suisses" or "Les Chiniquys;" after Chiniquy's preaching stint.

The building used for this Baptist Chapel was vacant after 1888. In 1904, the city sold it to J. Ernest Lanou, on the condition it be moved. It was converted to a four-family dwelling and contains apartments 72, 74, 76A and 76B Lafountain Street. The bell tower and vestibule were removed.

Chiniquy wrote a sensational book, The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional which Bishop Bourget forbade Catholics to read. His autobiography 50 Years in the Church of Rome is still available. It first appeared in French in 1885. It is lengthy, full of errors, and presents Catholicism as foreign and subversive, concerned mainly with the condition it be moved. It was converted to a four-family dwelling and contains apartments 72, 74, 76A and 76B Lafountain Street. The bell tower and vestibule were removed.

Chiniquy: after his death, published his "Testament" in the Montreal Gazette in which he expressed his hatred and defiance of Catholicism; he died that same month.

GENERAL DEWITT CLINTON CLARKE

General Dewitt Clinton Clarke is the "Mr. Clark" who was among the 11 original members of the committee assembled on April 28, 1850 to plan for the first St. Joseph Church which was built that same year. He is not mentioned later in the Annales of the parish but his presence in that group indicates that the French Canadians enjoyed the support of other individuals in Burlington. Clarke Street in Burlington was named for this family whose home still stands at 6 Clarke Street.

Dewitt Clinton Clarke was born in New York State in 1810 to Asahel Clarke and Lydia Phinney. Lydia later married the Honorable Ezra Meech. Clarke engaged in a variety of businesses but most interesting was his residence in Burlington in 1850, following his purchase of the Burlington Free Press in 1846 and his publication of a daily edition in 1848. He studied at the University of Vermont and is believed to have been a classmate of Carlos Baxter. He graduated from Union College, then studied law but did not practice as an attorney. He held various posts in the Vermont Legislature. His appointment as Quartermaster General of the State of Vermont accounts for his usual title of General. His mother was a convert to Catholicism. General Clarke died on August 31, 1870, having received the last rites from Fr. Lynch, and was buried from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

In May 1850, Fr. Quevillon, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in its formative stage, wrote to Bishop Bourget of Montreal: "It is no small thing to tell you that Mr. Tucker and Mr. Clare (sic.) rich men in every sense, are the two pillars that will support this edifice, as much by their influence as by their purses, I hope:'

In a biographical sketch, the Free Press said of General Clarke:

"(he) was a sparkling writer both in prose and verse and an influential editor. While he maintained many a newspaper controversy . . . he never maintained malice. One of his most distinguishing traits was his geniality of disposition. Few men had a wider acquaintance, both with the men of his own state, and among the public men of the country."

General Clarke was an able editor but was unsuccessful financially. He was forced to sell the paper in 1853 to George W. and George G. Benedict (father and son) who continued to express General Clarke's opposition to slavery.

REV. JOSEPH N. COUTURE, SSE

Rev. Joseph N. Couture, SSE, is a native son of St. Joseph Parish. He wrote the first history of the parish as an unpublished thesis for a Master's Degree in Church History in 1959. It has been an invaluable aid to those interested in the parish history, especially during these recent years of celebration of the building of the 1883-87 church. He entitled his thesis, NEW ENGLAND'S FIRST NATIONAL PARISH OR THE HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT. He dedicated it to the Daughters of the Heart of Mary.

Among Fr. Couture's historical works is a series of short biographies of the priests who served in Vermont. Many were published in the local section of the national Catholic newspaper, Our Sunday Visitor.

Fr. Couture celebrated his 50th Anniversary of Ordination in Mobile, Alabama. The City of Mobile declared
AUGUSTIN D'AVIGNON DIT BEAUREGARD

Augustin D’Avignon dit Beauregard was a resident of Winooski Falls (“La Fall”) and a member of the first Build-
to Marie Charlotte Roberge, where his name was recorded as Jean Baptiste Veronneau. His identity became clear through his presence at the marriage of Jean Baptiste Roberge when Fr. Quevillon recorded his name as Jean Baptiste Veronneau dit Denys. This record also showed that he was the father of Angele Veronneau, wife of Louis Fremeau, a prominent parishioner and an early choir director.

Jean Baptiste Veronneau died in 1857 at age 73 and was buried in St. Joseph Cemetery. Bishop Louis deGoesbriand heard his last confession and he was given Extreme Unction by Fr. J. Duglue.

The name Denis, used as a family name, is derived from the progenitor of this family in Canada, whose name was Denis Veronneau, who came from Poitou, France. This adoption of a progenitor's first name as the family name of his sons occurred in numerous instances in Canada. The line of Jean Baptiste comes down from the second marriage of Denis Veronneau to Catherine Guertin in 1689 at Pointe aux Trembles of Montreal.

LEONIDE AND ALPHONSE DUHAMEL

The Duhamel family had lived in Vercheres, Province of Quebec at least since 1773. We do not know what brought Leonide to Burlington where he married Elmire Vincent (born in Montreal) at St. Joseph Church on August 26, 1861. Both Leonide and Alphonse were born in Vercheres to Jerome Duhamel and Julie Langevin. Alphonse had the more colorful career but Leonide's value to the parish was no less significant.

Leonide was a shoemaker with a shop on Mechanic Lane and a home at 83 Interval Avenue. He served as marquillier of the parish in 1884-85 and 1886-87.

His daughter, Adele, was born in 1864. She was active in Les Enfants de Marie and entered the Society of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary. She was in charge of St. Joseph School in Cleveland, Ohio, and spent fifteen years among the Indians of Manitoulin Island. She died in Burlington in 1935 and was buried in the plot reserved for the Daughters of the Heart of Mary in Old Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Leonide's daughter, Agnes, was married at St. Joseph Church in 1891 to Moi'se Desautels. Fabien Beaupre played the organ for their wedding. Their sons were the Very Rev. Armand Desautels, President of Assumption College; Rev. Alfred Desautels.
Shortly after his career as a Papal Zouave, Alphonse Duhamel came to Burlington and took a job as an apprentice at the Free Press at $3.00 per week. He may have stayed with his brother, Leonide.

In 1910, forty years after his service to the Pope, Alphonse Duhamel, the only Papal Zouave in Vermont, attended a reunion of the original group at the Eucharistic Congress in Vermont. Eighty-four of the original group were wearing the same uniforms they had worn in the defense of the Pope. They formed a Guard of Honor behind the archbishops in the entrance procession for the Eucharistic Congress.

The list of Zouaves, inscribed on the pillars of the Montreal Cathedral of St. James (Basilica of Mary, Queen of the World), includes the name of Alphonse Duhamel. A plaque bearing the same names is mounted at the archway entrance of the chapel dedicated to the Zouaves. This Cathedral of St. James was designed by Fr. Joseph Michaud, architect of the present St. Joseph Church in Burlington. Fr. Michaud had accompanied the Zouaves to Rome as their chaplain, and while there, had made drawings of St. Peter Basilica because his bishop wanted the new cathedral to be a replica of St. Peter’s. There were objections to the plan which he overcame by making a model so perfect that his opponents were silenced. David Blow, Archivist, Diocese of Burlington, speculates that Alphonse Duhamel may have been instrumental in convincing his former Zouave chaplain to be the architect for St. Joseph Church.

In addition to Duhamel’s distinction as a Papal Zouave, he was also a French Canadian Catholic Republican and is credited with converting some 730 Canadians to Republicanism. He served as alderman for Ward 2 from 1911 to 1913. He was considered to be so honest in his thirty years as inspector of elections that all parties claimed they would be willing to have him count the votes alone and unsupervised.

Alphonse was twice married, first to Genevieve Leclair of South Burlington, by whom he had eight children. He had two children by his second wife, Elizabeth Hamel, widow of Henry Poirier. He died in 1936 at age 84 at his home at 250 North Winooski Avenue. Elizabeth lived to be 95 and died at the same address on March 13, 1954. Surviving at the time were two sons, Eugene A. and Alfred P., a daughter, Alice Shanks, a step-son, Edward Poirier and a daughter, Alice Shanks, a step-son, Edward Poirier and three step-daughters, Flora Lauzon, Lottie Deneault and Helene Hayes.

The progenitor of the Duhamel family in Canada is Thomas Duhamel dit Sansfa on, a soldier in the Cabanac Company. He came from Caux, Rouen, Normandy, and was living in Boucherville, Canada, by 1696. He married Angelique Besnier at Champlain, Province of Quebec on October 22, 1698.

LUDGER DUVERNAY

Ludger Duvernay was one of the "Patriotes" of the Papineau Rebellion who spent time in Burlington during the period when the French Canadians were under the ministry of Fr. Jeremiah O’Callaghan before their own parish was established. He was a journalist whose exile from Canada began in December 1837. Much of his exile was spent in Burlington. He was a friend of R.S.M. Bouchette, and was a witness at Bouchette’s marriage on June 2, 1840, at St. Mary Church in Burlington.

Stephen Kenny has stated that the French Canadians of Burlington asked Duvernay to intercede for them with Bishop Forbin-Janson to secure a French-speaking priest, but it was Robert Bouchette who drafted the petition to the Bishop on November 7, 1841, asking him to leave Fr. Labbe with them, and who signed the accompanying letter to Fr. Quiblier, superior of the Sulpicians. This was the petition signed by 250 French Canadians. Fr. Labbe had accompanied the bishop during his visit to Burlington. Duvernay had helped to arrange this visit and was the bishop’s host because the bishop did not wish to stay at the American Hotel.

Kenny also stated that Duvernay was faithful to the Catholic Church, and sang in the choir. Fr. Audet said Duvernay enjoyed the hospitality of Francois Leclair. He had a son born in Burlington who was baptized on December 30, 1840, at St. Mary Church. The mother was Mary R. Harmas and the godparents were Joseph Maillet and Eleanor Glockmayer. The child was named Benjamin Franklin Duvernay.

Duvernay, during his early days in Burlington, was enamored of all things American, especially the form of government. There is reason to believe that he was aware of the anti-Catholic sentiment in the United States at that time but he chose to close his eyes to this. He longed to see Canada freed of British rule and enjoying the glorious freedom he thought he had found in Burlington. He established a weekly French-language newspaper, Le Patriote Canadien in Burlington in August 1839, but it failed six months later in February 1840. His son, Franklin, died in 1841. Discouraged, disillusioned and penniless, he returned to Montreal in the summer of 1842 where he resumed publication of his newspaper La Minerve and remained ever faithful to the cause of self-government and self-identity for the French Canadians.

GELINEAU, BARIBEAU, GUIMOND AND PAQUETTE FAMILIES

The history of these families in St. Joseph Parish commenced in 1851 when Francois Guimond (Frank Gilmond)...
married Sophie Croteau. In 1898, Sophie Guimond, their daughter, married Jean Baribeau and in 1922, their daughter, Juliette Baribeau, married Leonidas (Leon) Gelineau.

Their son, Louis E. Gelineau, Bishop of Providence, Rhode Island, is the first son of the parish and the first Vermonter of French Canadian ancestry to become a bishop. Another son is Robert L. Gelineau, a retired realtor and insurance company director. Norman, a third son, died at an early age.

The older brother of Leon Gelineau was Hermenegilde who married Clara Anna Turcot at St. Joseph Church in 1900. Clara was the daughter of John B. Turcot who had come from Montreal and married at St. Joseph Church in 1874. John Turcot started his employment at the Burlington Free Press in 1872, a few months before Alphonse Duhamel, and the two were feted with a testimonial dinner in 1922. Turcot was foreman of the print shop for 50 years and he was given a large share of credit for its high quality production.

Hermenegilde's family operated Gelineau's Pastry Shop on North Street for many years. Among their children are Msgr. Edward Gelineau, and the late Fr. Wilfred A. Gelineau, Raymond Gelineau, Sister Rita de la Charite (Ida Gelineau) and Sister Adeline of the Cross (Vivian Gelineau). The latter two entered the Sisters of Charity of Providence in Montreal. The daughter of Raymond Gelineau and Diane Hebert, and granddaughter of Hermenegilde, Janet Ida Gelineau, became Sister Paul Edward of the same Sisters of Providence.

Wilfrid Gelineau, brother of Leon and Hermenegilde, entered the Society of St. Edmund. Anna Gelineau, sister of Leon and Hermenegilde, married Ovila Mailhot. Their daughter, Mary Ann Mailhot, became Sister Anna Marie of the same order as her cousins.

These eight persons in priesthood or religious life (seven from St. Joseph Parish) are direct descendants of Godfroid Gelineau and Adeline Paquette, married in St. Jean Baptiste de Rauville, Province of Quebec, in 1844. Evidently, Vivian Gelineau honored her grandmother in her choice of religious name, Sister Adeline. It is interesting to note that the mother of Adeline Paquette was a Gelineau of the same ancestral line. The twelve children of this couple were all born in Ste-Brigide, Province of Quebec, except Leon, born in Winooski, who married Juliette Baribeau. In 1908, Godfroid moved his family to 165 North Street, Burlington.

Juliette Baribeau, mother of Robert, Louis and Norman Gelineau, may be said to have saved the Guimond-Baribeau lineage for posterity. She was an only child, born after the death of her father, Jean, who was married at St. Joseph Church in Burlington to Sophie Guimond in July 1898. He died in November of that same year, while the couple was living out of state. Sophie returned to Burlington, where her daughter, Juliette, was born on June 2, 1899. The widowed Sophie obtained employment at the Burlington Free Press, became an active member of St. Joseph Parish and a member of the choir. Juliette married Leon Gelineau at St. Joseph Church in October 1922.

Sophie's father, Francois Guimond (Frank Gilmond) who married Sophie Croteau in 1851 at St. Joseph Church, figured prominently in the early history of the parish. During a period when ceremonies were carried out with more pomp and ceremony than at present, Frank Gilmond led the St. Jean Baptiste Society on horseback as one of the marshals for the grand procession held on St. Joseph's Day, March 19, 1869, and on the same occasion in 1870 as Chief Marshal. He was a carpenter and worked on St. Joseph Church during its construction, 1883-87. He often mentioned working in the belfry. He built his own home at 69 Lafountain Street and that of his brother next door. Frank died in 1915.

The Gelineau's came to Burlington from Ste-Brigide in Canada, by way of Winooski. Their progenitor in Canada

Leon and Juliette (Baribeau) Gelineau, parents of Bishop Louis

Hermenegilde Gelineau, father of Msgr. Edward Gelineau

Anna (Turcot) Gelineau, mother of Msgr. Edward Gelineau
was François Gelineau dit LaChapelle, a shoe maker, married at St. Ours, Province of Quebec, in 1687, to Marguerite Menard (Laviolette). (The record is at Contrecoeur.) He emigrated from Saintonge in France.

The Baribeau family came from St. Anne de la Perade, Province of Quebec. Their progenitor was François Baribeau, married in France in 1659 to Perrine Moreau. They both died at Batescan, Province of Quebec.

The Guimonds came from Mascouche, Province of Quebec. Their progenitor was Louis Guimond, married at LaMothe, Carignan Regiment.

Etienne Paquet dit Lavallee, married in 1670 at Chateau Cesarre, Province of Quebec. Their progenitor was Isaac/Remy, with Madeleine Hanneton of St. Paul de Paris, Ile de Aunis, France, who made a marriage contract under notary deau. Going back one more generation to the progenitor we suddenly discover that the true family name was Rien-cheres in 1847. In following the Joachim line back to 1712, we find the reason. The Baribeau family came from St. Anne de la Perade, Province of Quebec on February 22, 1819, as Amable Robert dit Lafontaine, to Marguerite Senet. He signed the Church Register, as did his brother Leon. He and Marguerite were buried in St. Joseph Cemetery in Burlington. The names on the gravestone are Amos Lafontaine and Marguerite Sneay. The progenitors of this family were Louis Robert dit Lafontaine and Marie Bourgery. Louis was a soldier in the Carignan Regiment, Loubias Company. He emigrated from LaRochelle, France, and was married at Trois Rivieres, Province of Quebec, on November 25, 1666.

CHARLES LAFONTAINE

Charles Lafontaine was one of the 11 members present at the April 28 and June 30 meetings to make plans for building the 1850 church. He was the son of Amable La-fontaine and Marguerite Cene. He was a witness at the marriage of his brother, Alfred, on December 28, 1850, the first marriage in the new church. Charles was married at St. Joseph Church on February 19, 1855, to Clemence Papi-neau. He is listed in the 1865 Burlington Directory as "Charles Lafountain, carpenter, living on North Street near French Village." The Burlington land records, as searched by David Blow, show the purchase of land and a house on January 10, 1846, on the north side of North Street by Amable Lafontaine. Charles was still living on North Street when his wife, Clemence, died in 1868. His second wife was Heloïse Gaudin. When he died suddenly at age 75 on January 5, 1906, his address was 21 Lafountain Street.

He was born in Chambly, Province of Quebec and lived in Burlington for approximately 71 years, which indicates that he would have been four years old when he arrived with his parents around 1835. He left four sons and two daughters.

Lafountain Street in Burlington was named for the family. A very pro-French lady who lived on the street was incensed on discovering that the street sign had been spelled "Lafountain" and forthwith approached the city fathers and had the sign changed to "Lafontaine." If she did win out, her victory was temporary, as the sign reads "Lafountain" at both ends of the street today.

Perhaps the street should have been named Robert Street, since that was the original name of this family. Charles' father, Amable, was married at Beloeil, Province of Quebec on February 22, 1819, as Amable Robert dit Lafontaine, to Marguerite Sene/Senet. He signed the Church Register, as did his brother Leon. He and Marguerite were buried in St. Joseph Cemetery in Burlington. The names on the gravestone are Amos Lafontaine and Marguerite Sneay. The progenitors of this family were Louis Robert dit Lafontaine and Marie Bourgery. Louis was a soldier in the Carignan Regiment, Loubias Company. He emigrated from LaRochelle, France, and was married at Trois Rivieres, Province of Quebec, on November 25, 1666.
FRANCOIS LAPOINTE

Francois Lapointe's name appears as the first of those listed by Fr. Quevillon as a member of the Building Committee of the 1850 St. Joseph Church on the Hill, and it appears again in the report of the meeting of June 30. Later, on July 29 they met at his home and, on August 11, he was authorized with Edouard Paradis to accept the bids of the contractors. He and Francois Leclair of "La Fall" presided in the absence of Fr. Quevillon.

Francois Lapointe designed the plan for the 1850 church and sacristy and, in 1863, for the first St. Joseph School. He was one of the committee of nine who sponsored the protest of the dismissal of Fr. Ance in 1843. There are no further records of Lapointe's activities in St. Joseph Parish. Research contributed by David Blow indicates that Francis Lapointe, carpenter, lived on North Street in Burlington, and that he bought this land on March 26, 1846.

It was on the north side of North Street, 12 rods west of the corner of Locust Street (Elmwood Avenue).

Francois Audet dit Lapointe was married to Marie Pelletier at St. Roch de Quebec on August 20, 1833. His name was recorded as Francois Audet, son of Louis Audet and of Letier at St. Roch de Quebec on August 20, 1833. His name was recorded as Francois Audet dit Lapointe, son of Louis Audet and Marie Pelletier.

The progenitor of this family, the first man of the name to come to Canada, was Nicolas Audet dit Lapointe, son of Innocent Audet dit Lapointe and Vincente Reine, of St. Pierre de Maille, Diocese of Poitiers, in Poitou, France. He was married at Ste. Famille, Ile d'Orleans, Province of Quebec on November 15, 1670, to Madeleine Despres, daughter of Francois Despres and Madeleine LeGrand of St. Sauveur de Paris.

Rev. Jean Frederic Audet, first pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church in Winooski, and son of Jean Audet and Adelaide Colin of St. Cesaire, was a direct descendant of Nicolas Audet-Lapointe and Madeleine Despres. Lucille Audette Kieslich, daughter of Philias Audette and Lea Bastien, is also a direct descendant.

FRANCOIS LECLAIR

Francois Leclair appears to have been the most outstanding of the Canadians on the Building Committee of the 1850 St. Joseph Church. He was well regarded by his peers, employers, superiors and less fortunate fellow immigrants, and evidently for good reason. Francois, son of Fran ois Leclair and Louise Prive, was born in St. Jean Baptiste de Rouville, Province of Quebec, and baptized on August 6, 1818. The family moved to Winooski in 1828. Fran ois' marriage took place at St. Mary Church, Burlington, on April 23, 1838; the bride and groom were recorded as Francois LaClare and Elizabeth Brow, with no identification of their parents. Elizabeth Brault (Brow) was a daughter of Andre Brault and Louise Cottard of Winooski.

Francois played a major role in the affairs of St. Joseph Church on September 7, 1856. His name was recorded as a godfather in the Baptismal Records with "syndic" after his name. Fr. Audet termed Francois Leclair "Tinstigateur, le promoteur, le fondateur de la paroisse de St. Joseph de Burlington". He was active in 1843 when he was a member of the Committee of Nine who published PIECES JUSTIFICATIVES and who sent the petition in favor of Fr. Ance to Bishop Fenwick, as well as the letter to Fr. Mignault. His signature was "Frs. Leclerc fils". He was only 24 at that time. Fr. Audet also reported that, when authorization had been granted for the construction of the 1850 St. Joseph Church, the French Canadians raised the funds and undertook the total sum for materials so that the merchants would deliver them.

When St. Joseph Parish was divided upon the establishment of St. Francis Xavier Parish in 1868, Francois Leclair transferred to the latter and earned the highest recognition of any layman in Fr. Audet's history of that parish. Fr. Audet stated that during the Papineau Insurrection of 1837, when many Canadians were forced to leave Canada to avoid severe punishment, the Leclairs were already well-established in Winooski; they offered a haven to the fugitives, including the Duvernays, Bouchettes, Bouthilliers, Blanchards, Marchessaults and the Maillets, all of whom were among those who enjoyed the home and table of Mr. & Mrs. Leclair, where the young Frank learned the traditions, including the Duvernays, Bouchettes, Bouthilliers, Blanchards, Marchessaults and the Maillets, all of whom were among those who enjoyed the home and table of Mr. & Mrs. Leclair, where the young Frank learned the traditions of hospitality. His abstention from liquor and smoking won him the favor of the Pecks of Burlington, to whom Frank attributed his success in business. The Pecks provided credit and assured him of their protection and he remained always grateful to them. His business affairs prospered and he in turn helped his compatriots. He transported parents to Chambly to have their children baptized by Fr. Mignault.

Fr. Audet stated that Frank Leclair was owner of almost half the village of Winooski and that nearly 200 families were able to buy their land or homes from him on easy terms, without which they would not have been able to get established.

Frank's wife received similarly high praise from Fr. Audet for her cordiality, hospitality and good taste. The couple had six surviving children. Elizabeth Leclair died on December 5, 1880, while Frank was the representative for the town of Colchester in the State Legislature. Frank died on July 8, 1889, age 71. The Leclair burial lot in St. Francis
Xavier Cemetery is an impressive one, directly at the head of the stairs leading into the cemetery from the church.

Francois (Frank) Leclair was the great grandson of the Canadian progenitor of this family, Francois Leclerc dit Jolicour, married at Pointe aux Trembles of Quebec on October 5, 1760, to Marie Francoise Trudel. The latter emigrated from St. Etienne in the Diocese of Metz, Lorraine, France.

**LOUIS LEDOUX**

Louis Ledoux was a member of the Building Committee for the 1850 St. Joseph Church. He was married at Vercheres, Province of Quebec, on July 24, 1832, to Julie Pepin, thus becoming the brother-in-law of Jean Baptiste Pepin and Bruno Pepin, both active in the parish in the early days. His forebears resided in Vercheres prior to 1760. He settled in Essex, Vermont, as did his wife's large family. He was a syndic of the parish in 1851. Three of his sons were married at St. Joseph Church. When St. Francis Xavier Parish was formed in Winooski, this Essex family transferred from St. Joseph Parish.

**REV. JOSEPH MICHAUD, C.S.V.- ARCHITECT OF ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

Bishop Bourget of Montreal was instrumental in bringing the religious order, Les Clercs de St. Viateur, from France to staff the Industrial College, now the Joliette Seminary near Montreal, in the Province of Quebec. One benefit of this move was that one of the Canadians who joined the Order, Rev. Joseph Michaud, a professor at the college, designed St. James Cathedral of Montreal. Fr. Michaud was the architect of the present St. Joseph Church, Burlington. He was a native Canadian, born at St. Louis de Kamouraska, Province of Quebec, April 1, 1822. In 1847, three Clercs de St. Viateur arrived in Montreal, and Joseph, who had finished his course at the College of St. Anne de la Pocatiere, joined them on October 20, 1848. He combined his studies in theology with teaching duties at Joliette College. He was ordained on March 25, 1860.

The building of St. James Cathedral took up much of his time from 1880 to 1894; in the early part of this period, he provided the plans for St. Joseph Church in Burlington. This did not require a great deal of his time since he adapted the plan for St. Joseph du Lac Church, northwest of Montreal, to that for St. Joseph Church in Burlington. He planned the construction of 100 churches and 300 religious buildings, mostly in the Montreal-Trois Rivieres area. He favored the Romanesque style after his trip to Rome, where he was greatly influenced by the architecture of the Italian Renaissance.

In 1852, a fire destroyed a large section of Montreal, including the Cathedral and both the old and new episcopal residences. This led to the relocation of the episcopal residence to the western section of the city, an area foreseen by the bishop as becoming an urban center of activity. Bishop Bourget visited St. Peter's in Rome, as well as many other basilicas, and returned with the desire to duplicate this architectural masterpiece on a smaller scale. He sent his earlier architect, Victor Bourgeault to Rome but ten years passed without any construction. In 1868, when the Vatican was being attacked, Bishop Bourget pursued his plan of building the replica of St. Peter's as an affirmation of the supremacy of the papacy.

On May 11, 1868, he sent Fr. Michaud to Rome as chaplain of the second detachment of Papal Zouaves. He also instructed Fr. Michaud to take this opportunity to revise Bourgeault's design. Upon his return from Rome, Fr. Michaud, with the help of his pupil Martin D’engeville Dostaler, made a model of St. Peter's, 15 feet long, 10 feet high, and 9 feet wide. When placed on exhibition, it dispelled all objections with its artistic quality and exact detail. This model was accepted to be that of St. James Cathedral of Montreal. Fr. Michaud left no authentic blueprints of his masterpiece, the Cathedral, other than this model. St. Joseph Parish of Burlington has the original plans for the church of 1883; these are stored in the Diocesan Archives.

The facade of St. Joseph du Lac Church, built in 1880, near Lac des Deux Montagnes, in the Montreal area is identical to that of St. Joseph Church of Burlington. The Burlington church, however, is larger and more impressive, is raised on a full basement and has the original rectory attached at the rear.

Fr. Michaud died on December 13, 1902 at age 80, at the Novitiate in Joliette. Although he was a noted architect and outstanding teacher, his formal training was in science, geology and astronomy. During a visit to Ottawa, Fr. Michaud observed that the tower of the old Parliament Building had taken on the distinction of the Tower of Pisa. Many experts had been called upon to discover the cause but none had been successful. Then someone recommended Fr. Michaud. When he arrived, he went directly to inspect the foundations, smiled at the assembled dignitaries and pointed out that the tower was not resting on its base. He explained what to do and forthwith took the train back to Montreal. It was characteristic of his unassuming behavior.

Msgr. Archambeault, writing in Semaine Religieuse, Montreal, December 20, 1902, said:

"Fr. Michaud passed through the world making little noise but doing much good ... his works however will endure . . . his name will live, venerated and blessed in the religious communities and parishes that..."
have benefitted from his talent, long experience, and admirable zeal to raise to God temples worthy of his infinite Majesty.'

St. Joseph Parish of Burlington is one such parish.

L'ABBE PIERRE MARIE MIGNAULT

Pierre Marie Mignault was born September 8, 1784, at St. Denis-sur-Richelieu, Province of Quebec, and baptized the following day. The baptismal record gives his name as Pierre Mignau, son of Basile Mignau and Marie Joseph Pauline Ledoux, local residents. In his father's marriage record his name is given as Jean-Basile Mignau. Jean-Basile was a French Canadian veteran of the American Army of the Revolution and his children were awarded a retroactive pension by the U.S. Government after their father's death. This provides some insight into Fr. Mignault's interest in the spiritual welfare of Catholics in the Champlain Valley.

Fr. Mignault was ordained by Bishop Plessis on October 18, 1812. He was curate at the Cathedral of Quebec for two years and a missionary in Nova Scotia for three years. His pastorate at St. Joseph de Chambly commenced on October 14, 1817 and continued until his retirement in November 1866. He served at Corbeau (Coopersville, New York) in 1818. During this period he started his travels between Chambly and Boston, journeying on both sides of Lake Champlain, to carry out his duties as Vicar General to the Bishop of Boston. He was appointed Vicar General for the northern part of the Diocese of Boston on April 28, 1828, renewed October 17, 1834, and for the Diocese of New York on October 7, 1834, renewed in 1839. No dates are given for his service in that capacity for the Dioceses of Albany and Montreal. His designation as Vicar General of the Diocese of Burlington by Bishop deGoesbriand was made in 1853.

A hard-working priest, in Chambly he founded a college in 1828, a convent in 1855 and a hospital in 1858, meanwhile meeting the spiritual needs of the French Canadians of upper New York and Vermont, preaching missions, building chapels and procuring priests to serve them. He maintained mission posts at St. Césaire and St. Bruno, Province of Quebec. Pope Pius IX named him "Aumonier Apostolique" in 1852. He retired two years before his death in Montreal on November 6, 1868. Burial was at Chambly. On July 11, 1908, a seven-foot granite statue was erected to Fr. Mignault in the courtyard of the church at Chambly, at a cost of $3,000.

There is ample evidence of Fr. Mignault's activities on behalf of the French Canadians of Burlington concerning his dealings with Fr. Ance and the parishioners of that era, and especially of his leadership in the founding of St. Joseph Parish in 1850. No written records in Church Registers have been found to document administration of the sacraments by Fr. Mignault in Vermont, other than the five baptisms he recorded on April 28, 1850. On this day he inscribed the first Church Register of baptisms, marriages and burials in the new parish.

On October 5, 1819, Fr. Mignault wrote to Bishop Bourget to report on one of his trips to the northern Lake Champlain area. He had visited as far as Plattsburgh and Saranac in New York State and had baptized 82 children. He proposed a fifteen-day trip to Vergennes, completing this mission upon arrival at Burlington.

There is definite evidence that those who could make the trip preferred to travel to Chambly to have their children baptized. Fr. Mignault's registers include baptisms of children whose parents were living in Vermont or New York near the Canadian border.

The progenitor of this family in Canada was Jean Mignault dit Chatillon. He emigrated from Chatillon-sous-Bagneux in the Archdiocese of Paris. He was a soldier and tailor. His marriage to Louise Cloutier was recorded at Notre Dame de Quebec on November 10, 1648. It was performed at Beauport where the family was established.

A biography of Fr. Mignault, together with an account of the funeral ceremonies and oration was prepared by J. 0. Dion, and published in 1868. In addition to mere statistics, he includes the priestly and human qualities of this remarkable man. Dion points out that Fr. Mignault insisted on "Pierre Marie" and always used both names. Dion also spelled the family name as Migneault throughout, although Fr. Mignault signed his name without the "e:"

He is described as having inherited the Acadian energy, perseverance and vivacity of his paternal ancestor. He was a man of great piety, with a quick and sensitive mind, and with extreme politeness and amiability. His artistic taste was demonstrated by the magnificent gardens at Chambly and the beautiful paintings (tableaux) in the church.

Fr. Mignault has been described as a man of immense charity. His services to the sick during the cholera epidemic were unstinting, when others kept away through fear. His faithfulness to his religious duties was steadfast, avoiding an impersonal routine. He was quick-tempered but ready to forgive. He was an orator and master of any situation in which he found himself. During the troubles of 1837-38, he assisted political prisoners. He was also able to save Chambly property from destruction at that time.

During his retirement, the parish at Chambly gave him 80 louis a year as he had no savings. He was 84 when he died at Hospice St. Joseph de Montreal. He had been pastor at Chambly for 49 years. His funeral services at Chambly were elaborate. His body was exposed in a seated position in the coffin, in an attitude of contemplation. Among the numerous church dignitaries present during the three days, those from the United States included the pastor at Malone, New York, the missionary bishop of Idaho and
the bishop of Charleston, South Carolina. The body was entombed in the sanctuary of the church of St. Joseph de Chambly.

The eulogy was preached by the Bishop of Germanicopolis. In the midst of the lengthy account of Fr. Mignault's accomplishments and virtues the bishop remarked that he was aware of those who were displeased with Fr. Mignaut's political views. He pointed out that whatever Fr. Mignault's views, his motives were always the highest. He also knew that Fr. Mignault's hot temper had caused much bitterness. (The bishop's term was "vivacite de tempere-ment") For this he considered that Fr. Mignault had compensated by his great kindness to those in trouble.

JOSEPH NIQUETTE

Joseph Niquette who was a member of the Building Committee for the 1850 St. Joseph Church, has descendants who are well known in Winooski today. The attorney and legislator, Joseph Francois Russell Niquette, who married Corinne Edwige Villemaire in 1937, is the great grandson of Joseph Niquette, charter member of St. Joseph Parish in 1850. Joseph was the first of his family to arrive in the United States. He was born in Lavaltrie, Province of Quebec, in 1818, son of Joseph Niquette and Annette LaChapelle. He married Odille Hayot. His son Joseph, was married at St. Joseph Church in 1867, just before the family was lost to the parish by the founding of St. Francis Parish in 1850. Joseph was the first of his family to arrive in the United States. He was born in Lavaltrie, Province of Quebec, in 1818, son of Joseph Niquette and Annette LaChapelle. He married Odille Hayot. His son Joseph, was married at St. Joseph Church in 1867, just before the family was lost to the parish by the founding of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Winooski. Joseph Niquette and his wife, Odille Hayot, were godparents at the blessing of the bell of the 1850 St. Joseph Church on December 25, 1856.

At St. Francis Xavier Parish, Joseph continued to be such a staunch supporter of the Church, that Fr. Audet included his photograph in the history of that parish. Joseph Niquette died in 1904 at age 86. His wife lived to the age of 90, dying in 1912. Both are buried in St. Francis Xavier Cemetery.

EDOUARD PARADIS

Edouard Paradis, a member of the Building Committee for the 1850 St. Joseph Church, was married at St. Mary Church in Burlington on January 5, 1840, to Marguerite Masse, spelled Morsey in the record, which does not state the names of the parents.

He was one of the more important members of the Building Committee present at the first two meetings, and at the second, he was given the authority to conclude the transaction with Carlos Baxter by offering him $100 for the deteriorated chapel which stood on the land they planned to use for the new church. After it became necessary to seek a new site for the church, Edouard Paradis and Francois Leclair were appointed to act as agents for the Administrative Committee. At the August 1850 meeting, these two men were appointed to handle the funds for the construction of the church, to give receipts, to pay the workers and to carry out related duties. Edouard was still active on the committee in June 1851.

Edouard Paradis died at the age of 52. The record at St. Joseph Church gives his name as Alfred Edouard Paradis. Information on the family is derived from a Burlington Free Press interview with Edouard's sister, Adelphine (Mrs. Peter Bessette), on July 26, 1913 when she was 91. She named her parents as Mr. & Mrs. Charles Parady and said that they arrived in Burlington in 1816. In 1819, her father built the brick house at 237 Main Street in which she was still living. Her father owned all the adjacent land extending to Maple and South Union Streets. On the west of the house there was a gully and her father later sold this land to the railroad. The streets extending from the lake were a series of steep hills and there were very few houses on Main Street. Catlin's grocery store was located at 92 Church Street where rum could be obtained for 6-cents a quart. In Adelphine's childhood, the church opposite Fern Hill was the nearest Catholic Church and the trip on Sunday was made through fields.

In her interview, Adelphine stated that her father, Charles, lived to be 100 years old. The Civil and Church Records give Charles' age as 88 at his death in Burlington on February 14, 1868, less than two years before the death of his son, Edward, on November 13, 1869.

JEAN BAPTISTE AND BRUNO PEPIN

It would have been strange indeed if some member of this family had not appeared in the records of St. Joseph Parish. A Burlington Free Press article of May 27, 1872, in an interview with the aged mother of this family, stated that she and her husband had 23 children. Apparently, she was somewhat confused in some of her statements, but the records indicate that she was accurate in most of these.

Francois Pepin <lit Descardonnets married Marie Josephe Hebert in 1800 at Contrecouer, Province of Quebec, and five of their children were married at St. Francois Xavier de Vercheres before 1835. The parents and their married children settled in and around Winooski, Vermont, about 1838. This was the year that St. Mary Church, the only Catholic Church in the area, was burned. The marriage of one of the sons, Jean Baptiste Pepin, was rehabilitated in 1841. Before there was a French Canadian parish, at a time when a mission was preached for the French Canadians, many children were baptized and several marriages were blessed.

Jean Baptiste was born and baptized in Vercheres. He is reported to have been a cooper by trade, as were all his
brothers. He married Adelaide Masse. He was among the Committee members who signed the protest of the dismissal of Fr. Ance in 1843. In 1850 he was a member of the Building Committee for St. Joseph Church; his name appears again among the contributors to St. Francis Xavier Church after 1868.

Bruno Pepin was another son of the same family. He was born in Canada and married Lucie Gauthier on February 9, 1850, at St. Mary Church in Burlington. This is apparently the marriage that Fr. O’Callaghan recorded as that of Bernard Peppin and Lucia Gagne. In 1889, Bruno was married to Mary Autin Couture in Winooski. He died at age 76 in 1903.

In 1861 there was controversy in St. Joseph Parish over the election of “marguilliers.” It was settled by the election of Bruno Pepin by a large majority over two opponents. Bruno was a member of the first Council for St. Francis Xavier Church and one of the laymen accorded special recognition and a picture in Fr. Audet’s history of that parish. He collected the pew rents for 35 years, refusing to be paid for his efforts.

Francois Pepin, the father of this large family, is reported to have died at age 83. His wife, Marie Josephte Hebert, died at Essex on December 31, 1874, less than two years after the interview with the Free Press reporter. It was stated that she was 104 years old, but 91 years seems to be more correct. The descendants of this couple lived around Essex, Winooski and Shelburne, but doubtless are more widely scattered at present.

The Canadian progenitor of this family is Guillaume Pepin, married to Jeanne Mechin at Trois-Rivieres in 1828. Antoine was first born in Canada and married Lucie d’Orleans, to Catherine Leblond. He became Seigneur of Trois-Pistoles. He died about 1710. His parents were Jean Baptiste Rioux and Marcelline Chamberlain. Antoine died at Trois-Pistoles, Province of Quebec in 1828. Antoine was first married at Trois Pistoles on January 10, 1860, to Sophie Lavoie. A second marriage is recorded at St. Arsene on February 20, 1865, to Emilie Roy dit Desjardins. His parents were Jean Baptiste Rioux and Marcelline Chamberland, married at Kamouraska in 1827.

Antoine died at the age of 72 on October 10, 1901, of a fractured skull. His occupation is given as carpenter, which suggests that this might have been a work-related accident. He was living at 14 Crombie Street in Burlington.

Emilie Desjardins, his second wife, died 5 years later at age 64 and was buried beside her husband. The monument appears to be that of the Roberge family. Emilie’s sister, Elizabeth Roy dit Desjardins, married Joseph Roberge at St. Joseph Church in 1874.

The progenitor of Antoine’s line in Canada is Jean Riou who arrived in New France around 1666. In the winter of 1667 he accompanied the Carignan Regiment in the battle against the Iroquois in the Champlain Valley. He was born around 1651, and was married in 1678 at Ste-Famille, Ile-d’Orleans, to Catherine Leblond. He became Seigneur of Trois-Pistoles. He died about 1710. His parents were of Ploujean, in Brittany.

**ALPHONSE ROUSSEAU**

Alphonse Rousseau was one of the members of “La Fabrique,” a “marguillier” or trustee of the Church, who was in office in 1878 when Bishop deGoesbriand changed the method of selection of marguilliers from election by the parishioners to appointment by the pastor.

Alphonse was married at Notre Dame de Quebec on September 14, 1859, to Emily Tranquille. In November 1871, they were godparents at St. Joseph Church in Burlington for Joseph Elie Tranquille, son of Prosper Tranquille and Rose Delima Chamberlan. He first appears in the Burlington City Directory of 1871-1972, listed as a shoe-maker, with a house at 103 Church Street. The term “shoemaker” in those days meant an actual maker of shoes; doubtless, Alphonse had learned his trade from his shoemaker father, Francois. The next year his home was on the corner of Bright Street and North Winooski Avenue, a more residential area. Mr. Rousseau continued as a marguillier for many years. In the 1880’s, his daughter, Josephte, was the church organist.

Alphonse wrote the address in honor of Fr. Cloarec’s 25th anniversary of ordination, June 8, 1883. He also served as choir director. When the bishop changed the method of determining the makeup of “La Fabrique,” he specifically stated that he wished Alphonse Rousseau to continue.

Mr. Rousseau served as pallbearer at the funeral of Fr. Yvinec in May, 1892. On that occasion, as the coffin was being lowered into the grave, one of the ropes broke, and in the effort to hold the coffin steady, Mr. Rousseau suffered a lacerated kidney and died the following year.

His son, Joseph, was married at St. Joseph Church in 1916 to Marie Elizabeth Hamel. Their son, Rev. Peter Rousseau, ordained on June 11, 1949, is pastor of St. Pius X Church in Essex Center. Another son, Joseph, a retired chemistry professor of the University of Connecticut, also lives in the Essex Center area. Their daughter Miss Louise Rousseau, Daughter of the Heart of Mary, is housekeeper and receptionist for Fr. Rousseau.
CAPTAIN NATHANIEL AMORY TUCKER

Captain Nathaniel Amory Tucker was the second non-French Canadian member of the original Building Committee of the 1850 St. Joseph Church. Without his services, there might not have been a French Canadian parish until later. In St. Joseph Cemetery there is a monument inscription:


Professor Jeremiah K. Durick, St. Michael's College, in a biography published in Our Sunday Visitor, stated that Captain Tucker is remembered as one of Fr. William Henry Hoyt's converts. His title of Captain comes from the fact that he went to sea at the age of 15 and in twelve years progressed from seaman, through mate, captain and shipmaster, but kept the title of Captain. Having given up the sea, he married Maria Deming of Burlington in 1842. They were ardent Episcopalians and Maria was the sister of Anne Deming, wife of Rev. William H. Hoyt, Rector of the Episcopal Church in St. Albans. When the Hoyts converted to Catholicism in 1846, they started what is referred to as the Vermont version of the Oxford Movement and about to Catholicism in 1846, they started what is referred to as the Vermont version of the Oxford Movement and about fifty persons are reported to have followed them into the Church. He brought back the bishop's verbal permission to proceed with construction of the church, but the bishop refused to take sides regarding the ownership of the land. His sister, Sophie, remained single. She returned to France to care for her father and, after his death, returned to serve as housekeeper for Fr. Audet at St. Francis Xavier Rectory.

The Canadian pioneer of this family is Jacques Rousseau who came from Lois, Ile de Re, LaRochelle, France. He married Marguerite Guillebout on July 28, 1677.

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That same year, Captain Tucker and four other men were granted a charter for a tug-boat company on Lake Champlain. The Tuckers lived at 308 Pearl Street in a mansion belonging to Mrs. Tucker's parents and built in 1816. Prof. Durick comments that the Tuckers do not seem to have suffered social ostracism as a result of their Catholicism. Nathaniel was genial and hospitable, a host and traveling companion to Bishop Fitzpatrick of Boston. Thus it was that, as a member of the St. Joseph Church Building Committee, he offered to intercede with Bishop Fitzpatrick, when the trouble arose over ownership of the land the Canadians were planning to use as the site of the 1850 church. He brought back the bishop's verbal permission to proceed with construction of the church, but the bishop refused to take sides regarding the ownership of the land.

On the evening of Bishop deGoesbriand's installation in 1840, at St. Mary Church in Burlington. He learned his trade during the building of the American Woolen Mill in Winooski and worked on the Winooski Block in 1867. Mass was said in this block for the Winooski Canadians who were organizing as a parish in 1868. In 1870, he and Pierre Fontaine contracted for the masonry at St. Francis Xavier Church in Winooski. Pierre Villemere is reported to have constructed the chapel in Lakeview Cemetery and to have worked on the wooden columns in the present St. Joseph Church. He died in Colchester August 25, 1904.

His sister, Sophie, remained single. She returned to Canada to care for her father and, after his death, returned to serve as housekeeper for Fr. Audet at St. Francis Xavier Rectory.

Pierre Villemere is the "Mr. Vilmer;' named in the Annales of St. Joseph Parish, who received the contract for the masonry work on the 1850 St. Joseph Church on the Hill. He was referred to as a "master mason and brick layer of Winooski Falls:' He is the direct ancestor of Maurice Villemaire, Choir Director of St. Joseph Church, and of Donald Villemaire, Jr., of Essex Junction, who furnished the biographical information.

Pierre was baptized in St. Henri de Mascouche, June 28, 1818, son of Alexandre/Andre Derouard dit Villemere and Charlotte Laporte, and arrived in Winooski in 1836 at age 18. His sister Sophie, age 10, arrived with him. Apparently they had arranged to stay with the Pierre Allard family. Pierre Villemere married Amelie Allard on October 24, 1840, at St. Mary Church in Burlington. He learned his trade during the building of the American Woolen Mill in Winooski and worked on the Winooski Block in 1867. Mass was said in this block for the Winooski Canadians who were organizing as a parish in 1868. In 1870, he and Pierre Fontaine contracted for the masonry at St. Francis Xavier Church in Winooski. Pierre Villemere is reported to have constructed the chapel in Lakeview Cemetery and to have worked on the wooden columns in the present St. Joseph Church. He died in Colchester August 25, 1904.

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His sister, Sophie, remained single. She returned to Canada to care for her father and, after his death, returned to serve as housekeeper for Fr. Audet at St. Francis Xavier Rectory.
In Fr. Audet's history of the Winooski parish, the following Villemaires are listed as contributors (1868-1883): Pierre and his sister Sophie; Pierre's sons, Pierre, Jr., Georges, Alfred and Michel. Another son, Joseph, died after his return from the Civil War at age 18 in 1865.

The evolution of the name itself is interesting: Villemaire is now the generally accepted spelling. In Canada we find Villemaire dit Girouard and Vilmer-Girouard, also Derouard dit Villemere and Vilmer-Drouard. The pioneer in Canada was married at Ste. Foy, Province of Quebec, under the name of Nicolas Real/Drouard dit Villemaire and emigrated from what was then Varennes in the Diocese of Liege, Belgium.