Michilimackinac and Fort St. Joseph Families – Larchevêque – Réaume Family

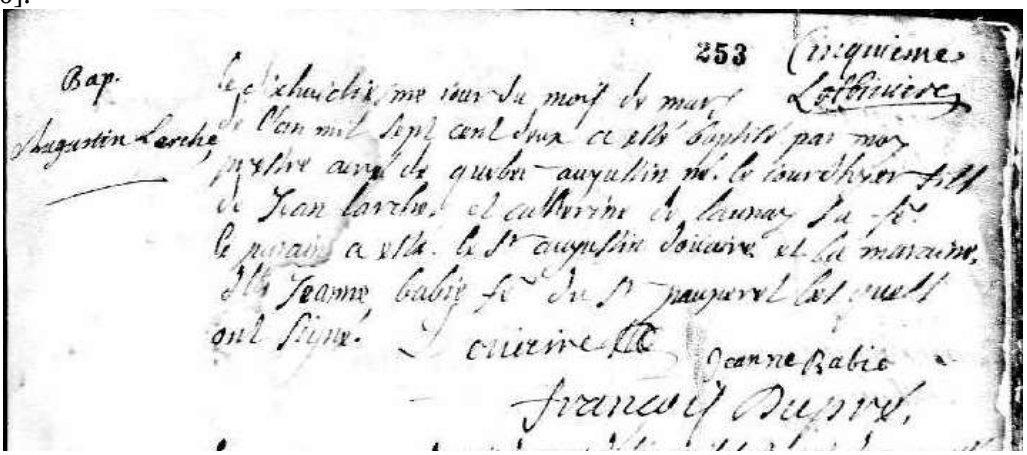
Compiled by Diane Wolford Sheppard, FCHSM Member

Other than the parish records from the Drouin Collection at www.ancestry.com, which are fully cited in brackets, the full citations for other sources used are found below.[1] Names have been standardized per Jetté.

Although the earliest baptisms and marriages at Michilimackinac are no longer extant, extracts from the earliest registers of Ste. Anne's, Mackinac, were recorded in a simple list. For most baptisms, only the name of the father was listed. For most marriages, only the name of the husband was listed. Full entries for baptisms that list both parents and the godparents do not start until 24 October 1741. Full entries for marriages do not start until 21 [or 31] July 1744, although the pages from the full marriage entries are torn. Therefore, sources for baptisms and marriages presented here are often from Jetté, PRDH-IGD, or the transcriptions of the Ste. Anne, Mackinac records rather than an image from the original records that is often just one line.

Larchevêque – Réaume Family:

Augustin Larchevêque, son of Jean Baptiste Larchevêque and Catherine Delaunay, was born 17 March 1702 and baptized the following day in Québec [Jetté, p. 654]. His godparents were Augustin Douaire [de Bondy] and Jeanne Babie [Ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, Q, Québec, Notre-Dame, 1691-1703, Image 260].



Baptism of Augustin Larchevêque

Augustin Larchevêque married **Marie Madeleine Réaume**, daughter of Jean Baptiste Réaume and Symphorose Ouaouagoukoué, 13 September 1731 in Michilimackinac [*PRDH* # 25594; 17743 – During this time period, the register does not provide any details regarding the marriages]. We do not know the

[1] Christian Denissen, *Genealogy of the French families of the Detroit River Region, 1701-1936* (Detroit: Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, revised edition, 1987) [although Denissen is fairly reliable for records in the Detroit area, it is less reliable than Jetté or *PRDH* for records from other areas; rarely lists all children born outside Detroit; and often confuses baptismal dates for birth dates. Researchers should verify birth dates with Jetté, *PRDH*, or the actual parish register. For most families, Denissen cuts off in the mid-1850s; René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730* (Montréal: Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal: 1983); *Programme de recherche en démographie historique de l'Université de Montréal online*: http://www.genealogie.umontreal.ca, hereafter *PRDH* [does not necessarily name all the children born in Détroit; the PRDH *numbers* generally refer to family sheets or certificates]; Sharon A. Kelley, editor, *Marriage Records Ste. Anne Church 1701-1850* (Detroit: Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, 2001; Gail Moreau-DesHarnais, Ste Anne's Burials

date or location of Marie Madeleine Réaume's birth, but she was probably born in present-day Green Bay, Wisconsin where her father was a trader and interpreter. See the discussion of the Réaume family.

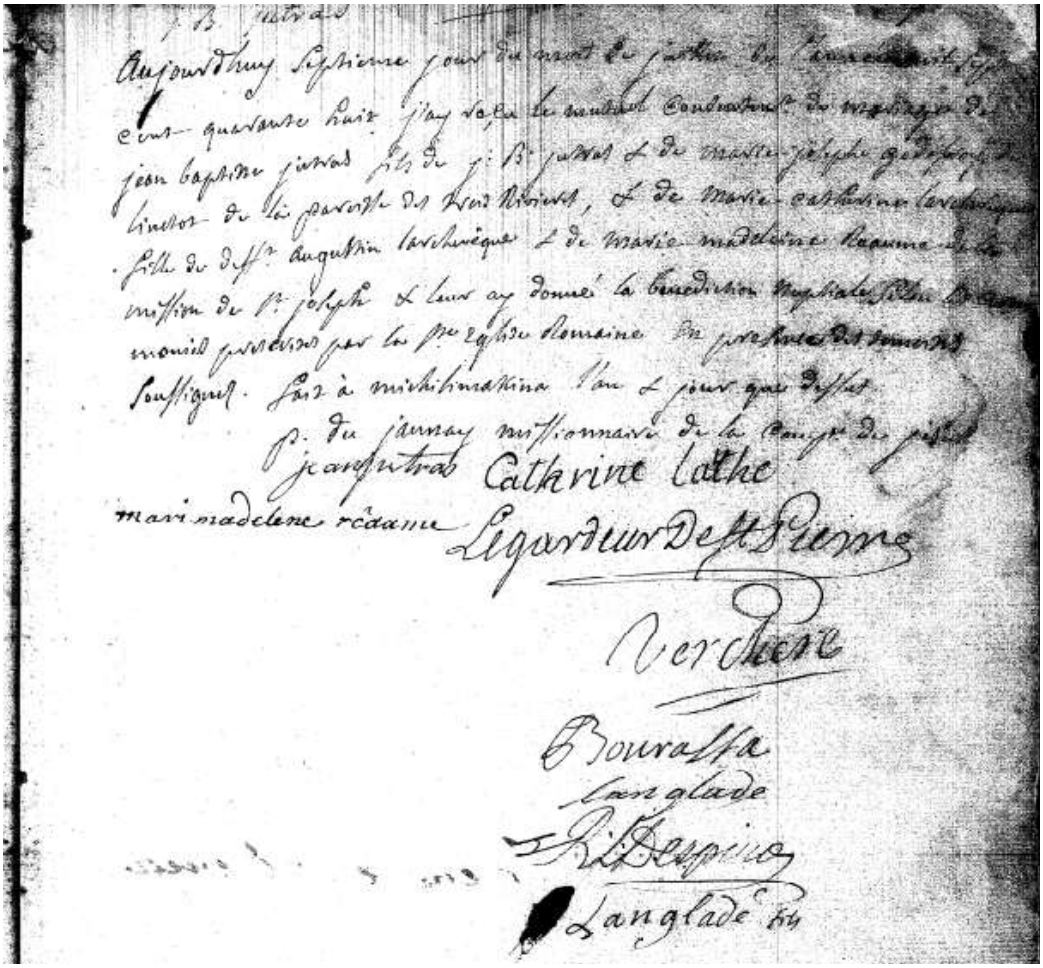
Marie Madeleine Réaume and Augustin Larchevêque had the following children: The names of their children often appear in the records as Larche.[2]

1. **Marie Catherine Larchevêque** was born 17 January 1731 and baptized 18 January 1731 in Fort St. Joseph. Her godfather was Nicolas Coulon de Villers, *commandant* of the post; the godmother was catherine ouekioukoue wife of jean baptiste baron [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St-Joseph de Michigan, 1720-1773, Image 6].

Baptism of Marie Catherine Larchevêque

Catherine Larche, a variation of Larchevêque, married **Jean Baptiste Jutras**, son of Jean Baptiste Jutras and Marie Josèphe Godefroy *dite* Linctot, 7 July 1748 at Michilimackinac [Ste Anne, Mackinac, CD, Marriages 1725-1749, Image 9; *PRDH*, # 85725]. See the discussion of the family.

[2] Susan Sleeper-Smith in *Indian Women and French Men* (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2001), and "Women, Kin, and Catholicism New Perspectives on the Fur Trade" *Rethinking the Fur Trade – Cultures of Exchange in an Atlantic World* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2009), pp. 443-480 hopelessly misreads the genealogical information, relationships with each other, and makes numerous unsubstantiated statements about business relationships and involvement in the fur trade. Readers are advised to disregard these statements unless a primary or reliable secondary source supports her allegations.

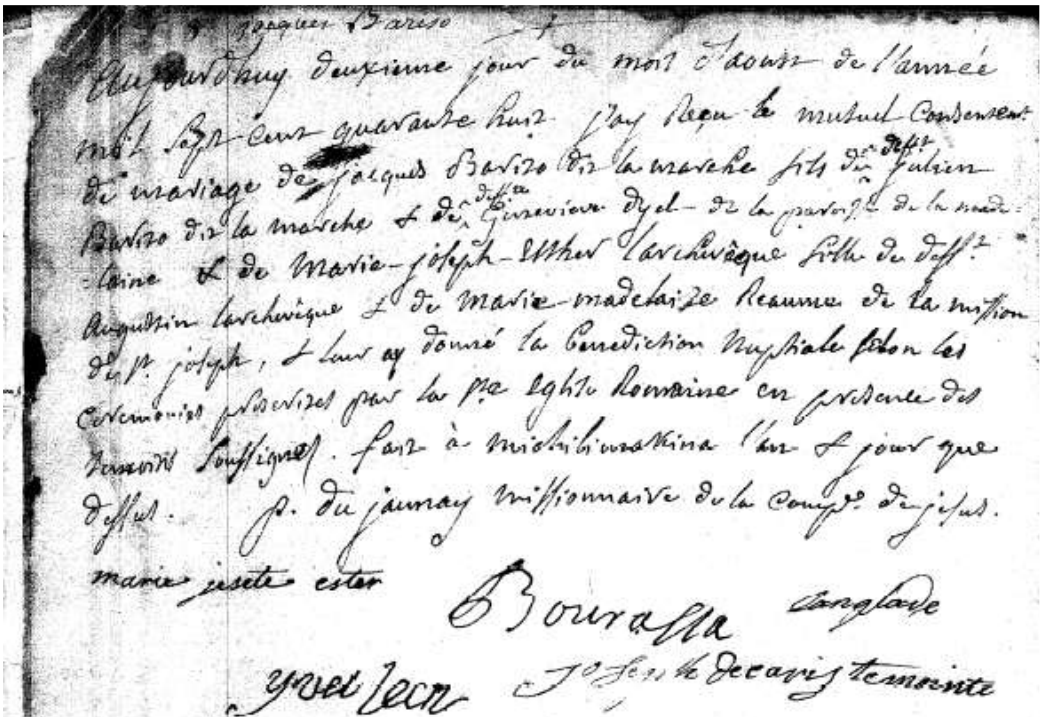


Marriage of Catherine Larche and Jean Baptiste Jutras

2. **Marie Esther Larchevêque** was probably born in January 1733 at Fort St. Joseph and baptized 1 January 1734 at Michilimackinac at the age of one year [Ste Anne, Mackinac, CD, Baptisms, 1695-1749, Image 6].

Notation of Marie Esther Larchevêque

Marie Joseph [Josèphe] Esther Larchevêque married **Jacques Bariso *dit* la marche [Bariteau *dit* Lamarche]**, son of Julien Bariteau *dit* Lamarche and Geneviève Diel, 2 August 1748 in Michilimackinac [*PRDH*, # 26483]. See the discussion of the family.



Marriage of Marie Josèphe Esther Larchevêque to Jacques Bariteau *dit* Lamarche

Marie Josèphe Esther Larchevêque remarried Thomas Brady 8 June 1779 in Cahokia, Illinois [Beauregard,[3] Couple # 111909].

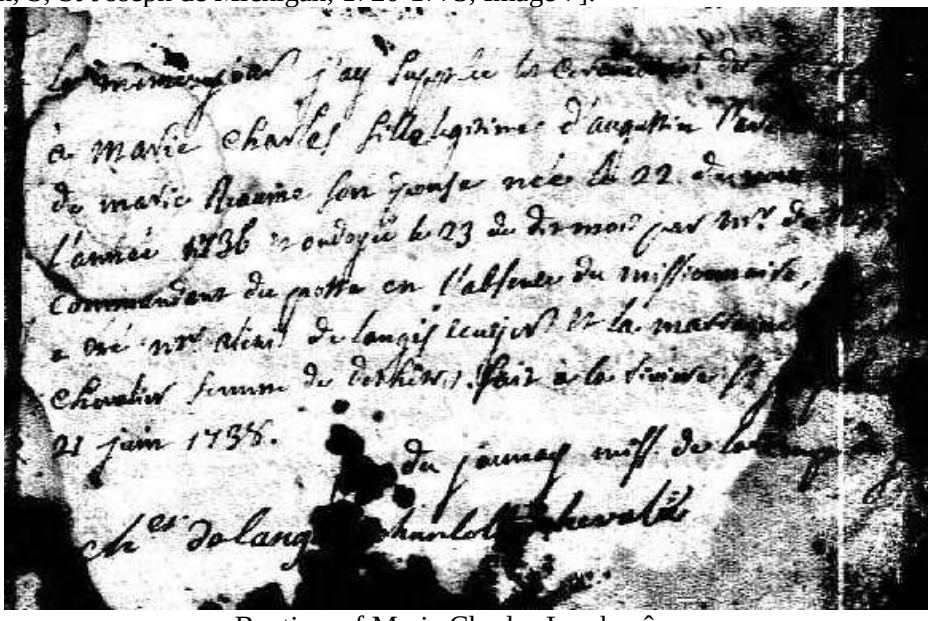
3. **Angélique Larche [Larchevêque]** was born 31 December 1734 and baptized 11 September 1735. She was *ondoye* by *M^r^*. [Jacques Pierre Daneau, *sieur* de] Muy, *commandant* of the post in the absence of a missionary. Her godparents were *Sieur* Louis Gastineau and Charlotte Chevalier, wife of [Antoine] Deshêtres [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St-Joseph de Michigan, 1720-1773, Image 7].

[3] Denis Beauregard, *Genealogy of the French in North America*, Sainte-Julie, CD-ROM, 2014 edition, hereafter Beauregard

Baptism of Angélique Larche/Larchevêque

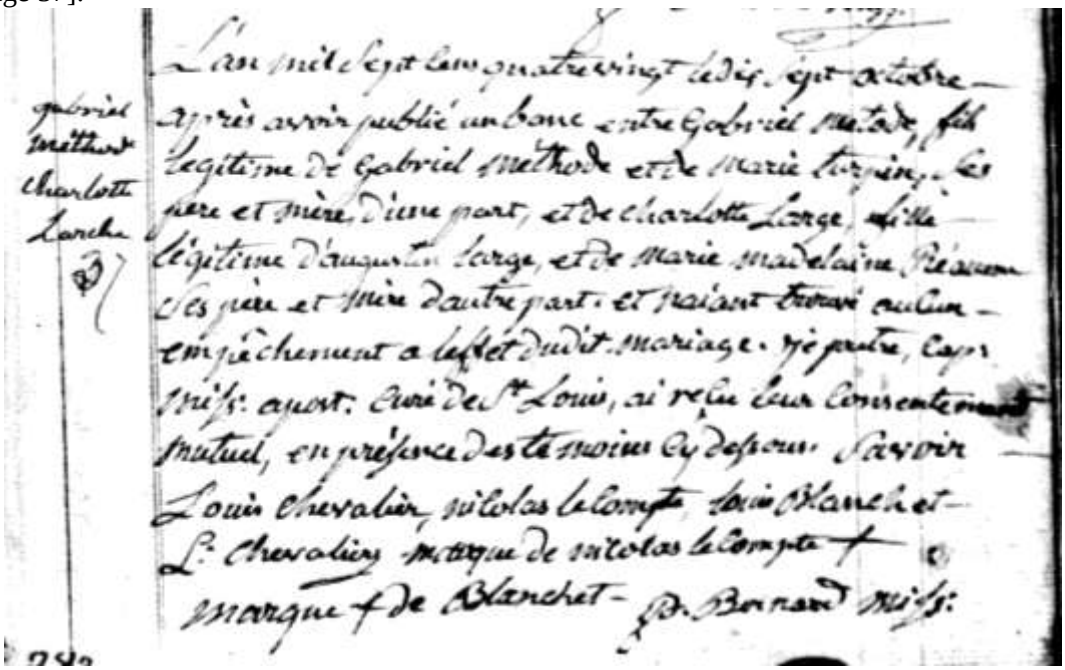
Angélique Larchevêque married **Charles Lhuillier *dit* Chevalier**, son of Charles Michel Lhuillier *dit* Chevalier and Marie Marguerite Renée Kay or Kee, 26 August 1754 in Fort St. Joseph [*PRDH*, # 31491]. The image for their marriage is missing from the Drouin Collection Images. See the discussion of the family.

4. **Marie Charles Larchevêque** was born 22 November 1736 and *ondoyé* by *M*. de Lusignan [Paul Louis Dazemar, *sieur* de Lusignan], *commandant* of the post, the following day. She was conditionally baptized 21 June 1738 at Fort St. Joseph. Her godparents were *M*^{r}. Alexis de Langis, *esquire*, and Charlotte Chevalier, wife of [Antoine] Deshêtres [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St-Joseph de Michigan, 1720-1773, Image 7].



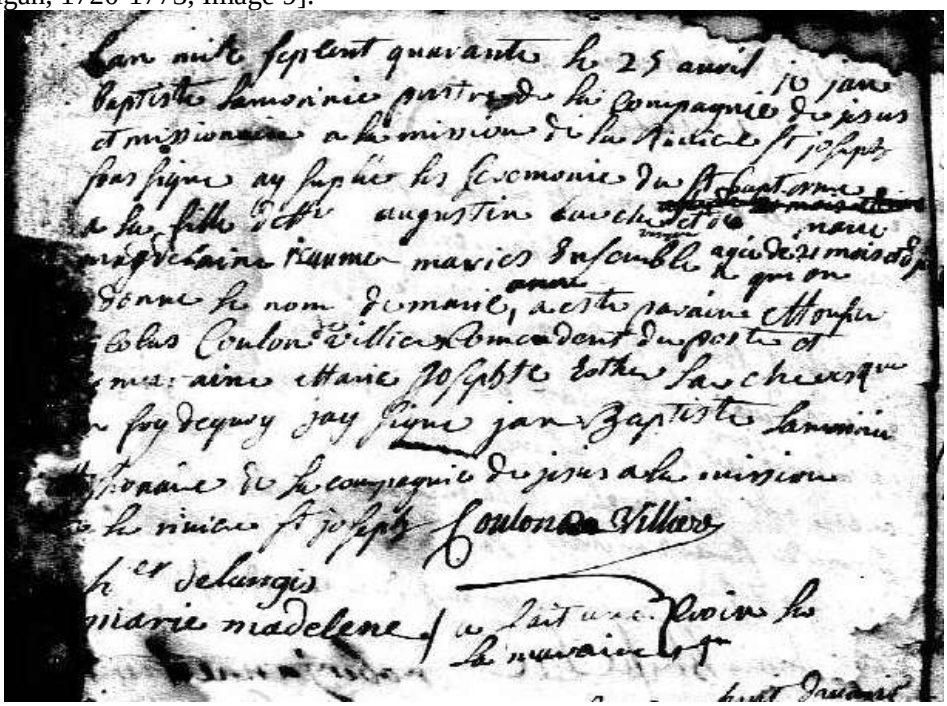
Baptism of Marie Charles Larchevêque

Charlotte Larchevêque married **Gabriel Méthot**, son of Gabriel Méthot and Marie Turpin, 17 October 1780 in St. Louis, Missouri [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St. Louis, 1766-1781, Image 57].



Marriage of Charlotte Larche and Gabriel Méthot

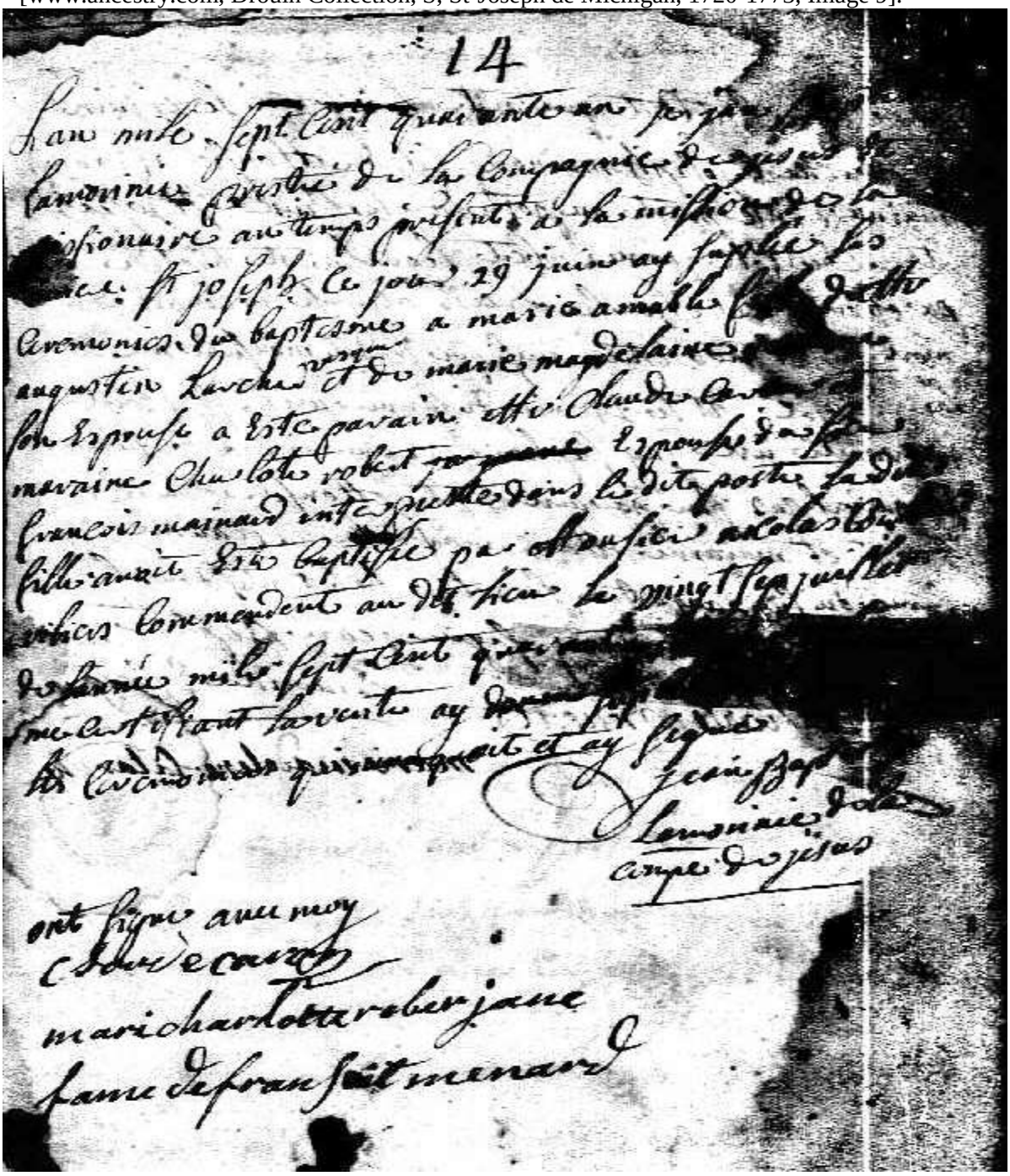
5. **Marie Anne Larchevêque** may been the daughter baptized 25 April 1740 at Fort St. Joseph at the age of 21 months, 8 days. Her godparents were *Monsieur* Nicolas Coulon de Villiers, *commandant* of the post, and Marie Josèphe Esther Larchevêque [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St-Joseph de Michigan, 1720-1773, Image 9].



Baptism of Anne Larchevêque

Anne Larchevêque married **Augustin Gibault**, son of Jean Baptiste Gibault and Marie Anne Paviot [*PRDH*, # 40575 – states the date was before 8 August 1763 – his burial date]. See the discussion of the family.

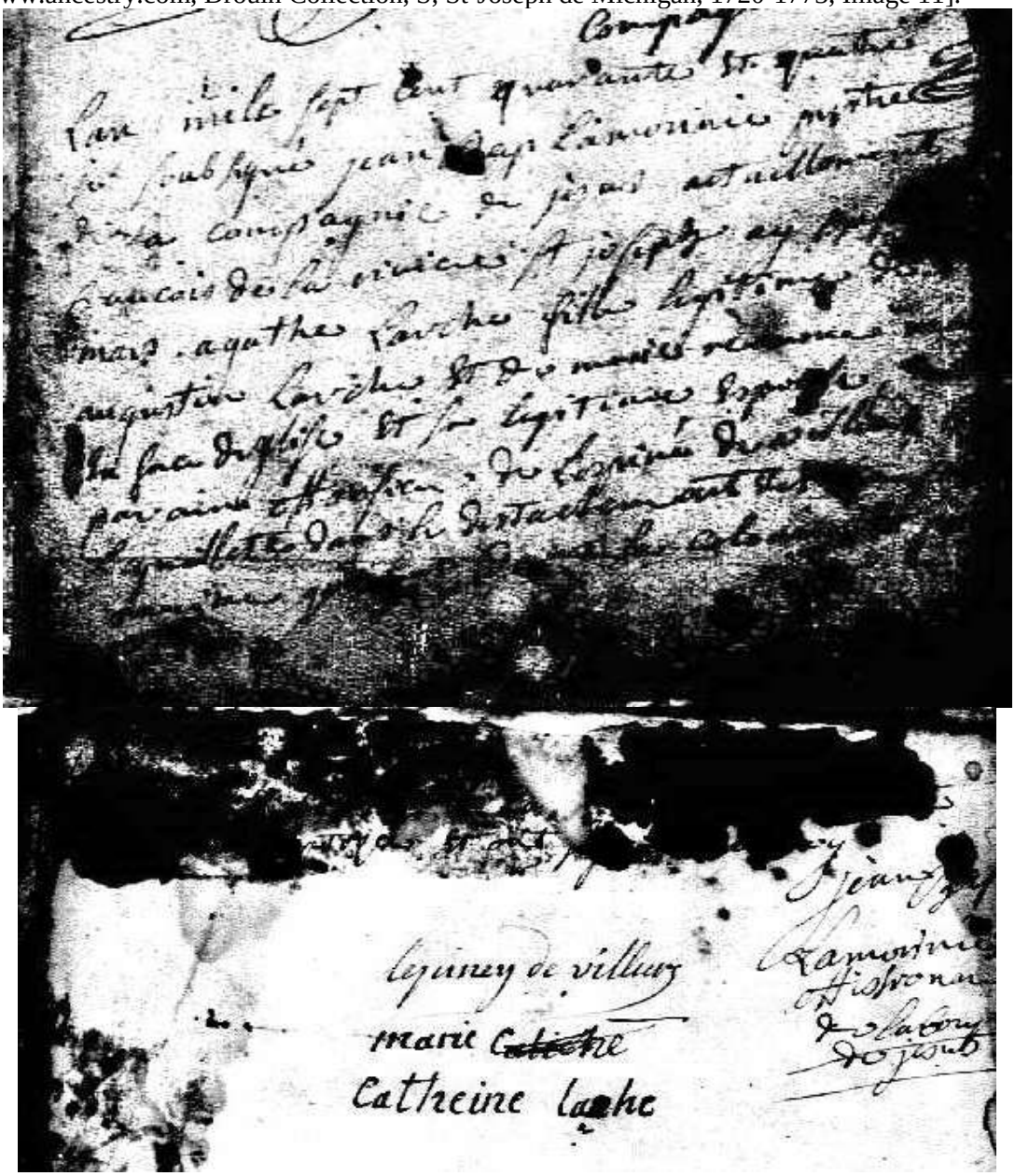
6. **Marie Amable Larchevêque** was born 27 July 1740 and *ondoyé* by Nicolas Coulon de Villiers, *commandant* of the post. She was baptized 29 June 1741 at Fort St. Joseph. Her godparents were Claude Caron and Charlotte Robert wife of François Ménard, interpreter of the post [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St-Joseph de Michigan, 1720-1773, Image 9].



Baptism of Marie Amable Larchevêque

Marie Amable Larchevêque married or had a child by **François Baptiste [Fafard *dit*] Longval**, probably the son of Michel Fafard, *sieur* de Longval, and Charlotte Godefroy. See the discussion of the family.

7. **Agathe Larche/Larchevêque** was baptized in March 1744 at Fort St. Joseph. Her godparents were *Monsieur* de Lespin de Villiers, a cadet in the troops, and Catherine Larche, her sister [www.ancestry.com, Drouin Collection, S, St-Joseph de Michigan, 1720-1773, Image 11].



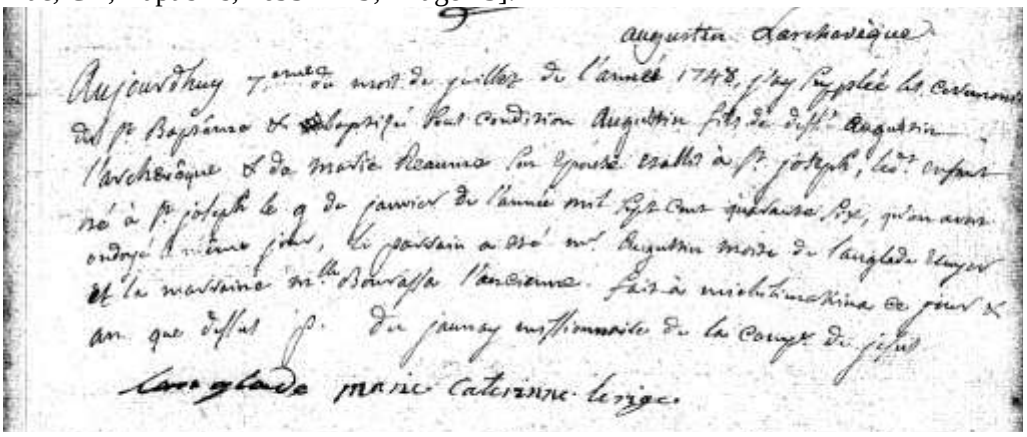
Baptism of Agathe Larche/Larchevêque

8. **Marie Madeleine Larchevêque's** birth and baptismal date are not known.

Marie Madeleine Larchevêque married **Louis Pascal Chevalier**, son of Jean Baptiste Chevalier and Marie Françoise Alavoine, before 25 May 1758 [*PRDH*, # 17743]. See the discussion of the family.

She was buried 9 November 1795 in St-Vincent-de-Paul [*PRDH*, # 17743]. She was then the wife of Francois Marcot son of deceased Jacques Marcot and deceased Marie Castongué [*PRDH*, # 17743. Rehabilitation of Marriage 9 January 1782, Varennes: PRDH 334296].

9. **Augustin Larchevêque** was born 9 January 1746 and *ondoyé* the same day. He was conditionally baptized 7 July 1748 at Michilimackinac. His godparents were Augustin Moras [Mouet] de Langlade and *M^lle^*. Bourassa, *l'ancienne* [Marie Catherine Lériger, wife of René Bourassa, *père*]. [Ste Anne, Mackinac, CD, Baptisms, 1695-1749, Image 25].



Baptism of Augustin Larchevêque

Augustin Larchevêque, *père*, died before his son's baptism at Michilimackinac.

Marie Madeleine Réaume married **Louis Thérèse Chevalier**, son of Jean Baptiste Chevalier and Marie Françoise Alavoine, before 28 May 1752.

Susan Sleeper-Smith asserts that Marie Madeleine Réaume was an active fur trader. Her allegations include the following:

- Speaking about **Marie Madeleine Réaume**, Sleeper-Smith notes the following "throughout her life she was an active fur trade participant. . . ." [p. 44].
- "During the 1850s [*sic*], there was a dramatic increase in the number of furs harvested in the St. Joseph River Valley. More engagements or contracts for hiring canoemen were issued for Fort St. Joseph during this period than in any previous period [cites Idle, and *RAPQ1930*]. Thus, fur exports, increased when the L'archevêque-Chevalier kin network and their Potawatomi allies controlled the trade." p. 50.
  Facts: there is no evidence that Marie Madeleine Réaume or her husbands <u>were active in, or controlled, the fur trade at Fort St. Joseph.</u>

  From 1714 – 1760, the fur trade was controlled by the following individuals: The Governor and Intendant; the *Commandants*, and Merchants who leased the post from the *commandants.* In addition, the following people were permitted to take part in the fur trade at a post when it was not under a lease: merchants or others who were granted permission by the governor and merchants who purchased or were granted a license (*congé*). In fact, the sources cited for the contracts during the 1750s definitively prove that <u>Marie Madeleine Réaume and her husbands did not control the fur trade at Fort St. Joseph</u>.

  Evidence of involvement in the fur trade include the following documents: engagements, obligations, merchant records, societies, partnerships, associations, and official records, permissions,

licenses (*congés*), and correspondence. Marie Madeleine Réaume and her husbands are not named in any of the these types of documents in connection with Fort St. Joseph.

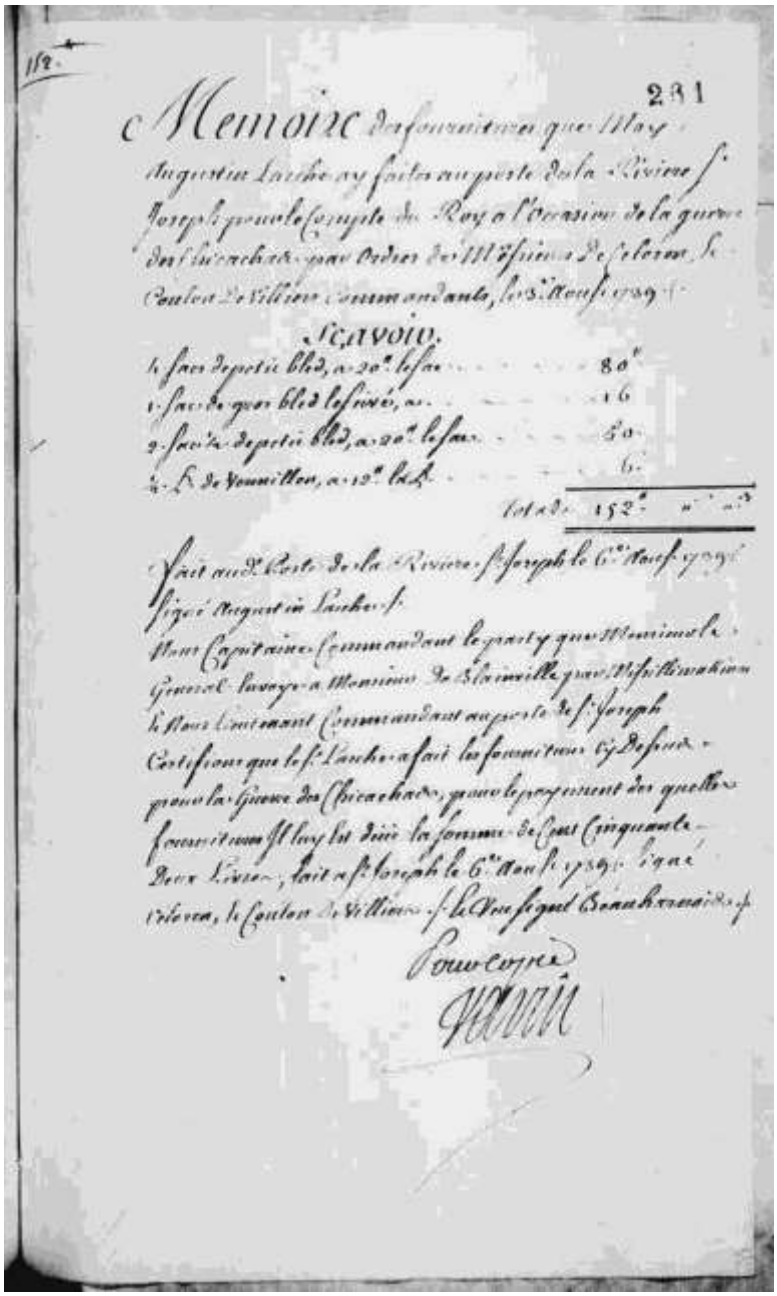
The names of the individuals involved in the fur trade as noted by Idle have been uploaded to our website on the Fort St. Joseph Page.

Sleeper-Smith continued her allegations, when she stated:

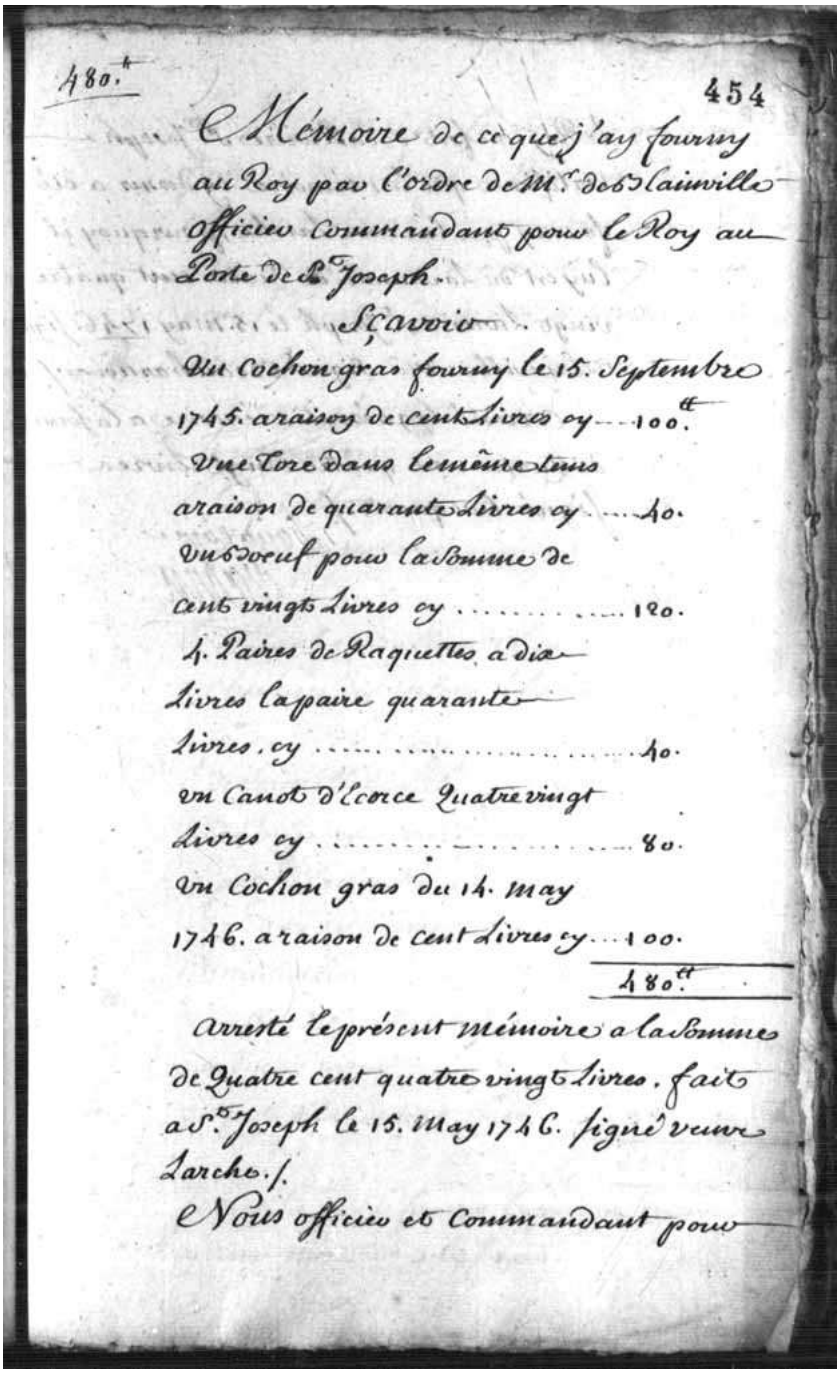
> The agricultural surplus produced by Native women also supported the military operations in the western Great Lakes. Native women were paid to feed French soldiers and Indian warriors and to feed the families of those warriors temporarily garrisoned at Fort St. Joseph.
> For example, before she married Louis Chevalier, Madeleine Réaume L'archevêque can be traced in the official reimbursement records of the fort. Madeleine supplied the wheat, oats, and corn needed by the St. Joseph *commandant* in the fight against the Chickasaw." **Traders were now brokers of foodstuffs as well as furs**. [emphasis added] p. 76.

Facts: The individuals who supplied goods or services for the benefit of the King from 1739 – 1750 does not mean that they were fur traders. The *commandants* of all of the posts in the Great Lakes ordered residents to supply goods or services that would normally be supplied by the government. For background information on the memoirs requesting reimbursement, a timeline, and a list of the other Fort St. Joseph Residents who supplied goods or services, see the Military Page on the FCHSM website:

The above reference actually was a reference to food that Augustin Larchevêque supplied to the *commandant* for the war against the Chickasaw. The following document was downloaded from Library and Archives Canada, Mikan #3068840.



Marie Madeleine Réaume's contribution: On 15 May 1746, Marie Madeleine Réaume, widow Larche filed a *memoire* regarding the items she furnished on 15 September 1745. Her contribution included a fat pig worth 100 *livres*; a cow worth 120 *livres*; 4 pairs of "Raquettes" (snow shoes) at 10 *livres* each, equals 40 *livres*; and a birchbark canoe at 80 *livres* – translated by Suzanne Boivin Sommerville. Reference: Library and Archives Canada – Mikan # 3074768.



480.ᵗ

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Mémoire de ce que j'ay fourny
au Roy par l'ordre de M.ʳ de Blainville
officier commandant pour le Roy au
Porte de S.ᵗᵉ Joseph.

Sçavoir

Un Cochon gras fourny le 15. Septembre
1745. a raison de cent livres cy ... 100.ᵗ
Une Oye dans le même tems
a raison de quarante livres cy .... 40.
Une douzaine d'oeuf pour la Somme de
cent vingt livres cy ..... 120.
4. Paires de Raquettes a dix
livres la paire quarante
livres. cy ..... 40.
un Canot d'Ecorce Quatre vingt
livres cy ..... 80.
Un Cochon gras du 14. May
1746. a raison de cent livres cy ... 100.

480.ᵗ

Arresté le présent mémoire a la Somme
de Quatre cent quatre vingt livres. fait
a S.ᵗᵉ Joseph le 15. May 1746. signé Veuve
Larcho.

Nous officier et Commandant pour

Additional Facts: 1. As already noted, there is no proof in the way of documentary evidence that Madeleine Réaume was a fur trader; 2. Although Marie Madeleine Réaume supplied items traditionally associated with Native Americans, there is no evidence that she made the snow shoes or canoe. 3. As already noted, other individuals at Fort St. Joseph also supplied foodstuffs and merchandise to the *commandant*. See the list on the Military Page on the FCHSM website: