

The Poisson Family (Concluded) (2)

1. Antoine Poisson, b. 1612
2. Michel Poisson, b. 1615
3. Jean Poisson, b. 1618 (This article treats of Jean and his family at great length, but we have omitted it here)
4. Pierre Poisson, b. 1622
5. Mathurine Poisson, b. 1628
6. Barbe Poisson, born in 1631 (Census of 1681, Sulte, Histoire, V, 69b) or 1634 (Census of 1666, Sulte, Histoire, IV, 60b) married the first time at Montreal 12 October 1648 Leonard Lucault dit Barbot, originally of Limousin (France), died 20 June 1651 of wounds received in combatting the Iroquois (On this encounter, see Faillon, Histoire de la Colonie Francaise, Vol. II, 123-124; On Lucault, see also pages 103, 203, 208 of the same work).

Barbe Poisson married a second time at Montreal on 19 November 1651 (Contract Closse, 9 November) Gabriel Celle dit Duclos, son of the deceased Jean (Celle) and Colasse Reques of Nonant, near Bayeux, in Normandy.

The historians, in rivalry with each other, have celebrated the courage of Barbe Poisson, Dame Duclos. In February 1661, the Iroquois came upon a group of Montrealists without means of defense. Alerted, the young woman seized upon a brace of arquebuses and carried them, without regard to the enemy, disseminating them here and there among her fellow citizens in danger. The Abbe, Dollier de Casson marvels on this matter: "If the guns had been in a more readied state, a strike of great value could have been made; but this amazon merits even more our praises for having saved her friends and neighbors by giving them the means so necessary to stop the enemy, thus giving an even greater assistance." (Dollier de Casson, Histoire du Montreal, ed. 1868, p. 156; Faillon, Histoire de la Colonie Francaise, Vol. II, pp. 427-428; Faillon, Mademoiselle Mance, Vol. I, p. 254; Bulletin des Recherches Historiques, Vol. 1927, p. 181)

The above article states elsewhere that Barbe Poisson came to Canada with her brother, Jean Poisson, and his family between May, 1644, and February, 1647; by 1649 the Poissons had settled at Trois Rivieres (pp. 216-217)

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