Nollette Family History

By Martin Nollett, Jr.

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KANKAKEE AND IROQUOIS COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

The settlement of Kankakee and Iroquois counties began in 1830 when Francois Bourbonnais, a fur trader hired by the American Fur Company, came to Illinois. The town of Bourbonnais was named after him.

The first white land owner was Noel LeVasseur, who came in 1832, and was instrumental in attracting French Canadian settlers from Quebec.

In about 1837, a large land owner in the Kankakee area drained much of the swampy land by lowering a natural stone dam down stream on the Kankakee River. This resulted in a great loss of water fowl by destroying their habitat.

About 60 families arrived from Canada in 1848 and 1849. By 1850, Bourbonnais was a village of nearly 2000 people.

The Dutour's (Paul, Victor and John), came in the early 1850's and on January 15, 1852, John Dutour bought 40 acres of land north of Bourbonnais from Noel La Vasseur. Paul and Victor also each bought 40 acres from LaVasseur in the same section.

In 1852 the Illinois Central Railroad came through and bypassed Bourbonnais. Thus the town of Kankakee was created. Many residents of Bourbonnais moved to Kankakee and it became the fastest growing town.

Settlers who came later, such as the Hilaire Nollette family, who came to Illinois from Napierville, Quebec in 1865, settled in areas farther south, such as near L'Erable¹.

¹ The name "L'Erable" is pronounced "LaRab"]

NOLLETTE FAMILY

Hilaire Nollette² was born 13 June 1823 at Napierville, Quebec, Canada. He was the son of Joachim Nollet, and Josephte Campbell, . He was the only son in the family, having six sisters. Joachim died in 1827 before Hilaire reached the age of four. Hilaire was of the sixth generation of Nollet's in Canada, descending from Sébastien Nolet who came to Canada in 1666 from France. Hilaire's great grandfather, Guillaume (William) Campbell, was born in Scotland about 1730, and came to Canada before 1760.

Hilaire Nollette married Marie Mailloux, at Napierville on 20 Sep 1842, and 11 children were born to them there. One of them, Cordella, died at age 5.

The Hilaire Nollette family came to Illinois in 1864, and here the youngest child, Felix, , was born on 22 March 1866 and was baptized at St. Jean Baptiste (St. John the Baptist) Catholic Church at L'Erable, Iroquois county, Illinois on 14 April 1866.

On 31 March 1871, Hilaire Nollette purchased land near Pittwood, Iroquois Co., Illinois (sec 33, NE1/4) for \$1600.00 He sold this land on 10 Jan 1884 for \$2400.00. It was said that here they raised corn in the dry years and hunted ducks in the wet years.

After the Great Chicago fire of Oct 1871, it is believed that Hilaire Nollette went to Chicago to help in rebuilding the city. It was here that Adeline Nollette met John Soucie.

In March of 1884, Hilaire and Marie Nollette arrived in Cherry County, Nebraska after camping near Stuart for a short time. Coming with them were their sons, Joseph, , Louis, , Avila, , Ephrem, and Felix, . Also a daughter and son in law, Leocadia, and Louis Taylor [Tellier], came to Nebraska at this time, and farmed for a season near Stuart or O'Neill before coming to Cherry County.

The Nollette's homesteaded in northeast Cherry County, near the South Dakota border in an area that came to be known as "The French Settlement", in the Kewanee community. Kewanee got its name from a town in Illinois and is from an Indian word meaning "Prairie chicken."

Hilaire "Elie" Nollette filed his homestead claim in Valentine, Nebraska on May 15, 1884. Their home, an 18 X 24 Ft. Log house was completed on July 15, 1884 and they moved in on Oct 8, 1884.

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² The family name has been spelled several ways, including Nolet, Nollet, Nollett, Nolette, and Nollette. The original spelling was Nollet, and was pronounced Naulay. The pronunciation now seems to be either with a long "o" or a short "o". As each branch of the family has chosen a spelling and pronunciation, that is correct for that family.

From the 1885 Nebraska Census: In June 1885 Hilaire Nollette had 5 horses, 5 milch cows, 2 other cattle and 2 calves dropped in 1884. Joseph Nollette had 2 horses.

Joining the Nollette's in the French Settlement after the spring of 1885 were Louis and Philomine (Nollette) Mosier, John and Adeline (Nollette) Soucey, John and Josephine (Nollette) Dutour, Isaac and Mary (Marcotte) Dutour, and Nicholas and Margaret (Dutour) Renville. Many of these had stopped at Spencer and Sheldon, Iowa before coming on west to Nebraska. Also with this group was Marie Dutour, a sister to John and Isaac Dutour and to Margaret Renville; David Gibeau, John Dutour's step son, as well as several younger children in the families. The Dutour's; John, Isaac, Margaret & Marie were children of John Baptiste Dutour and Margaret Remillard.

Another son of Hilaire and Marie Nollette, Frank Ferdinand, stayed at Spencer, Iowa for a few years, and then moved to Currie, Minnesota. About 1900 the family moved to Campbell, Franklin County, Nebraska. Frank Ferdinand's wife was Matilda Dutour, a twin sister to Margaret Renville. Frank Ferdinand and Matilda were married in 1882 after the death of his first wife, Eulalie Trudeau.

The oldest son of Hilaire and Marie, Hilaire, Jr., moved to Toledo, Lewis County, Washington in the 1880's. His occupation was Railroad coach carpenter. He appeared to have retired from this job rather early. Hilaire and his wife, Julie (Courville), ran a hotel in the early days of Toledo, Washington. Hilaire, Jr. enjoyed socializing with people and was well liked by everyone. He died in April 1931 and Julia died in Nov 1942.

Hilaire Nollette, , Sr., died June 11, 1886 and Marie died 4 Aug 1887. They were the first to be buried in "St. Joseph" Cemetery in the French Settlement. The cemetery is on land homesteaded by Ephrem Nollette. Hilaire and Marie share the same headstone with Peter and Sophia Robidou; the parents of Mrs. Louis Nollette and Mrs. Felix Nollett. Peter died 7 Feb 1900 and Sophia died 20 Nov 1902.

Life was not easy for the homesteaders, Joseph, Nollette, filed on his homestead on May 5, 1885, but was unable to move onto the land because he had no means to purchase materials to build a home. He then worked out for six months for wages and built his home, a 18' X 20' log house, in the winter of 1885 1886. Joseph, moved into his home May 1, 1886 and lived there continuously the first year, and the second year he worked out again for six months to earn money to buy a horse.

John Soucey also was late moving onto his homestead. He filed on 11 Nov 1885 but his wife was ill and he was unable to move onto the land until 7 Aug 1886. John built his home, a 14' X 20' log house, in the spring of 1886, and broke 15 acres of land that year.

The 1885 Nebraska census lists Hilaire Nollette, as having \$100.00 worth of machinery, and \$700.00 worth of stock and 5 horses. Joseph, had \$200.00 worth of stock and 2 horses. Louis Taylor, had \$100.00 worth of stock.

The Nollette brothers bought a 12 horse power threshing machine in 1887 and advertised in the Democratic Blade on July 28 that they were prepared to take orders for threshing. They threshed along the North Table to Crookston and went south of Crookston into the German Settlement. They brought the first threshing machine into the German settlement in 1888. In the Republican on Aug 1, 1890 they advertised to thresh oats at 2 cents per bushel and wheat and rye at 3 cents. They spent about six weeks each year threshing going as far west as Nenzel.

The story was told that at a threshing in the German settlement that chicken was served for the meal, and that Felix liked the gizzard, so he took a gizzard but upon cutting it open found that it had not been cleaned. He promptly threw it under the table, took a biscuit, wiped out his plate with it, and threw the biscuit under the table.

In the 1890's the area suffered a drought, and many settlers moved away from Cherry County, Nebraska.

A newspaper reporter from the New York World in Jan 1894 depicts the Valentine area as a catastrophe. Though these reports were exaggerated, these times were hard for settlers just getting started with no livestock and little cash in an area with less rainfall, perhaps, than they were accustomed to.

There were songs people made up about the Nebraska drought:

We've reached the land of desert sweet,
Where nothing grows for man to eat.
We do not live we only stay,
We are too poor to get away,
Our chickens are too poor to eat,
Our pigs go squealing through the street.

Oh Nebraskaland, my Nebraskaland,
On your desert soils I stand,
And look away across the plains,
And wonder why it never rains.
But Gabriel calls with trumpet sound
And says the rain has gone around.

In March of 1892 Ephrem Nollette left for Guide Rock, Nebraska "to visit a brother" according to THE REPUBLICAN, Valentine, NE. March 11, 1892. That summer, Ephrem married Margaret King of Guide Rock. Margaret was the daughter of Moses King (Roy) and Salina Dutour. Salina was a sister to the Dutour's in Cherry County. Moses King came to Nebraska in 1871 and settled in Webster County in the spring of 1872. Ephrem stayed at Guide Rock until his death in 1956. Avila moved to Ste Anne des Chenes, Manitoba in 1900.

Louis Mosier's moved to Kansas and later to Kansas City, Missouri and were thought to have also lived in Arkansas sometime in early 1900's where Philomine possibly died. Louis Taylor's moved away for about 7 years, living in Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas. In June 1900 The Taylor family was living on a rented farm in Jewell County, Kansas and Louis'

widowed father, Luk, (Louis?) was living with them. The Taylor family returned to Valentine by 1903.

John Dutour's moved to Kansas, as did Isaac Dutour's. John Dutour's then moved to Pierre, South Dakota, and on to Elie, Manitoba, Canada. John Soucey's moved to Iowa, living at Rands, Calhoun County, for some time. John Soucey's sister, Catherine Trembly lived near there also at Lourville. In November, 1899, the Soucey family loaded on a train at Des Moines and headed for Elie, Manitoba, settling at St. Eustache, Manitoba, Canada. The Trembly (or Trumbla) family also moved to St. Eustache. Nicholas Renville moved away in the 1890's too, living for a while in Georgia where his wife died, and then to Kankakee, IL.

Isaac Dutour's moved 1 mile into Kansas south of Red Cloud, NE in about 1893 and later moved again to Kankakee, IL.

In Cherry County, the three remaining Nollette brothers, Joseph, , Louis, and Felix continued to thresh along with their farming. They bought their second threshing machine about 1900 and a third about 1910. The third partly owned by Bristol and Shelbourn.

DUTOUR FAMILIES

Some mention should be made here of the family of Victor Detour. Victor was one of the early settlers of the Bourbonnais area of Kankakee County, Illinois. Born near Montreal, Quebec in 1822, married to Catherine Boudreau in 1846, they moved to Bourbonnais around 1848. A short time later they moved to L'Erable, Iroquois County, Illinois. They had twelve children, five dying in infancy. In March 1869 they headed for Nebraska City, Nebraska. He arrived there a day too late to join a wagon freight train headed west that was massacred near Kearney, Nebraska. This changed his mind on going on west at this time.

Victor was said to have seen the last buffalo alive in the area.

In 1872 the Victor Detour family moved to Webster County, Nebraska, settling near Guide Rock. They made the trip by ox team. Once there, his son, Lee, age 10, broke 40 acres of land with the ox team.

Victor Detour died in May 1912, and was buried in the Guide Rock cemetery. The descendants of Victor Detour use the spelling "Detour" rather than the spelling "Dutour". Victor was an uncle of John and Isaac Dutour who came to Cherry County, NE.

In November of 1837 the family of Catherine Boudreau was an innocent victim of the rebellion started by Louis Joseph Papineau. When Papineau fled to the United States, the Government thought he was rousing up support from the farmers and sent the military to the farms. They burnt the Boudreau farm house and the family fled to the forest where they hid for four days living on burnt and frozen potatoes from their cellar.

ROBIDOU FAMILY HISTORY

Peter Robidou was born in the 1820's in New York State, the son of Pierre Robidou and Francoise Tessier who were married 1 Aug 1825 at St. Regis, Quebec. Pierre's parents were Joseph Etienne Robidou and Margaret Gendron. The next generations back are Paul and Monique (Barbe/Abel) Robidou; Charles and Marie Anne (LeHoux)Robidou; Guillaume (William) and Marie (Guerin) Robidou and finally back to <u>Andre Robidou</u> known as L'Espagnol, (the Spaniard) who came to Canada in 1666 and was indentured as a sailor to Eustache Lambert of St Marie, Quebec. Andre married 7 June 1667 to Jeanne LeDuc and had 2 sons and 3 daughters. Andre was buried 1 Apr 1678 in Montreal, and his widow married Jacques Surprenant in Aug 1678. Jacques is an ancestor of the Detour families.

Peter was a 4th cousin of the Roubideaux brothers, Joseph Selico and Antoine Louis who were near Scottsbluffs, NE in 1849 and 1850. In about 1851, Peter married Sophia Hurteau, she was born about July 1835 in Canada. Peter and Sophia were probably married at Malone, Franklin County, New York. Two children were born in New York; Joseph, about 1853, and Mary about 1856. We find the first two children baptized at Ormstown, Quebec as Pierre born 18 Sept 1852, and Mary born 29 Oct 1855. The sponsors of the first child were Francois Hurteau and Angelique Hurteau. Angelique appears to be the widow of Pierre Robidou who died at Ormstown on 15 June 1849. Angelique was the second wife of Pierre Robidou and was the step mother of Peter Robidou of this story.

The Peter Robidou family next moved to Waukegan, Illinois where on 19 Oct. 1857 Emeline was born. Two more daughters were born here; Sophia about 1859, and Catherine on 15 March 1861. Peter farmed or worked on a farm near Waukegan. Among his close neighbors were Joseph and Catherine Labarge, and Christopher and Eliza Robidou. Catherine Labarge and Christopher were sister and brother to Peter. Catherine first married Pierre Hurteau on 5 Feb 1844 and next married Joseph Labarge on 20 Sep 1847 at Ormstown, Quebec. Peter Hurteau was an uncle to Sophie (Hurteau) Robidou. Christopher married Eliza Duggan on 21 Jan 1850.

Their next move was to Iowa, possibly near Clinton. Frank was born in March of 1863, Margaret born Feb 1866 Eliza born Nov 1867, and Christopher born about 1869. They next lived possibly near Anamosa, Iowa where Agnes was born Dec 1870, Annie was born May 1872, and Ellen born June 1874. The youngest, Peter Nelson, was born 10 Nov 1876 in Iowa. Two other children were born also, apparently dying as infants.

The Robidou family next moved to Turner County, Dakota Territory (South Dakota). Here they located on the southwest quarter of Section 2, Township 98, Range 52 on March 8, 1880. This is about 1 ½ miles west of Naomi, SD on the north side of the road. This land was originally Military Bounty Land Warrant # 35051 issued July 24, 1856 to

Private Leroy A. Stafford of Captain Graham's Co., Louisiana Volunteers, war with Mexico. Stafford died on May 8, 1875 in Richmond Virginia.

The Robidou family probably came to Turner County when the Milwaukee Railroad arrived in 1879. It was here that Emeline met and married Martin Brazzell on 1 May 1881. The children, Mary, Joseph, and Sophia were not listed in the 1880 census so may have died between 1860 and 1880. Peter Robidou received a patent on this land June 10, 1882. He then sold it and moved on west.

He farmed near Long Pine, Brown County, Nebraska in 1882 and then moved on to the site of Valentine, Nebraska in the fall of 1882. He worked as a carpenter for the railroad and camped in Valentine in a tent covered by another tent and banked with sod. Peter helped to build the first hotel, the Valentine House, for Peter Donoher. He had met Peter Donoher while living near Long Pine.

In May of 1883, The Robidou family moved about 7 miles west of Valentine on SW 1/4, SEC 24, TWP 34, R29 along the Minnechaduza Creek. Peter broke 5 acres of land and planted potatoes and corn and built a house. The house was made of log, and was 1 1/2 or 2 stories high and measured 18' x 24'. It was shingled, and a kitchen was added to this 14' x 16'. The house had 7 windows and 2 doors, and was valued at \$500.00. He built a stable, 14' x 32' of hewed log, valued at \$100.00. He had a dug well 12' deep, a 12' x 12' hen house, and a 20' x 70' sod shed.

On July 2, 1983, the day the land office opened in Valentine, Peter was the 16th in line to file for his homestead.

Peter broke about 20 more acres of land in 1884, 40 in 1885, and 55 acres by 1889. He fenced his land on three sides using 400 rods of wire. By September 1889, when he proved up on his homestead, he had 2 plows, mower, self binder, cultivator and a horse rake. The livestock consisted of 12 cattle and 4 horses. The household furniture consisted of 2 stoves, 4 bedsteads, 2 tables, 10 chairs and cooking utensils. The crops raised consisted of corn, wheat, oats, rye and potatoes. In 1884 he harvested 25 tons of hay.

In first years in Nebraska, Sophia Robidou took in washing and cooked for railroad crews. Sophia was said to have weighed about 90 lbs. when she was married and about 250 when she died in 1902.

In the fall of 1886, Peter worked for one month at Boiling Springs for Frank Fisher at chopping. Frank Fisher ran the Valentine House, so Peter was probably chopping wood for the hotel.

On 10 April 1883, Margaret Robidou married Sidney Grandon at Rosebud Agency in South Dakota. Catherine was married to Dave Walters. Frank was the first teacher at Prairie Bell School, located about 2 miles north and west of their place, in 1883. Eliza

married Joseph Laraviere and lived near Ft. Pierre, SD. Joseph Laraviere died in 1895 and Eliza married Carlton Pratt on 3 April 1899 at Rapid City, South Dakota.

On May 1, 1899, Annie married Felix Nollett, at Crookston, Nebraska. Ellen married Louis Nollette on 6 Oct 1890; Agnes married William Louis Polen 6 June 1887. Christopher had moved to Rapid city, SD where he married Dora Belle Friend on 11 April 1891. Frank married Alice Paxton on 18 April 1892, and on 17 Feb 1902, Peter Nelson married Jessie Archer.

Peter Robidou moved from his homestead about 1891 and lived for a short while in a place a few miles north, and then moved to the Sparks Kewanee area. Here on Feb 16, 1900 Peter died at the age of about 72 years.

In the spring of 1900, Sophia went to Sheldon, Iowa to visit Emeline (Melinda) and Martin Brazzell and their three children.

Frank Robidou moved to Deadwood, South Dakota where he was on the fire dept. and worked as a teamster. He later moved to Casper, Wyoming.

GRANDON

On April 10, 1883 Margaret Robidou married Sidney Grandon at Rosebud Agency and then made their home 16 miles west of Valentine, which was at that time the end of the railroad.

Sidney was a son of Isaac Newton Grandon who had settled along the Minnechaduza Creek NW of Crookston. Crookston was not yet established, but was the homestead of Joseph Langlois. I.N. Grandon was a Civil War Veteran. Also homesteading near I.N. Grandon was his son in laws, James Beed and Ben Arnold. Isaac had 3 sons and 7 daughters.

In about 1890 Sidney and Margaret Grandon and family moved to Lyman Co. SD, then to Charles Mix Co. SD about 1900. They then lived in Holt Co. NE from about 1904 to 1908, then homesteaded in Brown Co., NE and finally moving to Plainview, NE where Sidney died in October 1915. It is not known where Margaret moved to after that.

FELIX DUTOUR

Felix, one of three children born to Jean Baptiste Dutour and Josephine Nollette, celebrated his birthday on 03 April although his birth certificate, which spelled his name as Phelix, stated that he was born 04 April 1882. Born in Sheldon, Iowa he moved to Nebraska and Kansas before settling in Manitoba about 1901. In Manitoba, he lived in Saint Anne near Winnipeg for one year and then moved to Elie where he began to farm. He later worked as a carpenter for two years until he took over the Post Office in Elie in 1911. At the same time, Felix also farmed 240 acres of grain six miles south of Elie, took over the John Deere agency and held the Westinghouse radio agency. His son Aime had only the second radio in town at the time.

Felix later sold the farm and gave up the agencies. He then went to work for the Canadian National Railway as a pump man at various locations. He was at Elie first and at McCreary for a long time. He also worked at Russell where he took care of the coal dock and water station.

In 1912, Felix married Anna Hogue, the daughter of Louis Hogue and Julie Turcotte. Anna celebrated her one hundredth birthday 19 July 1984. She passed away 23 September 1986 at the age of 102. Felix had previously passed away 28 January 1961 in Winnipeg, Manitoba at 78 Years of age.

Felix and Anna had ten children. They were:

1. Aime Joseph Dutour born 26 Mar 1913 in Elie, Manitoba

2. Ida Dutour born 31 May 19143. Annie Dutour born 07 Aug 1915

4. Ella Dutour born 02 Dec 1917 died 1919 of Flu

5. Della Dutour born 01 Jan 19196. Terry Dutour born 20 Sep 1921

7. Orille Dutour Twins, born 13 Oct 1922, died at 10 months of diarrhea from sour milk.

9. Raymond Dutour born 22 Dec 1924 10.Cecille Dutour born 04 Mar 1926

Felix's brother, John B. Dutour was born 05 December 1879 in L'Erable, Iroquois County, Illinois. He died 26 October 1967 in San Francisco. He had worked as a draftsman.

Felix's sister, Leocadie Dutour was born 13 April 1884 in Spencer, Iowa. She married David Roy in Elie where she died in 1905 shortly after the birth of her son Orille.

FELIX AIME JOSEPH DUTOUR

Aime, the eldest of 10 children of Felix and Anna Hogue, was born 26 March 1913 near Elie, Manitoba. Aime attended Public school in Elie until the end of Grade 8. He completed Grades 9 and 10 in McCreary and then spent two years at St. Boniface College which was run by the Catholic priests in Winnipeg.

In 1930, Aime moved to McCreary where he started doing farm work. Aime first met his wife Yvonne Angela Bouchard when several families, including Aime, the Bouchards, and Cantlins, hiked up Bald Hill in Riding Mountain National Park near McCreary. Yvonne was with Lionel Cantlin that day, but Aime then went out with her for the next five years before marrying her 25 Feb 1936 in McCreary. Yvonne, the ninth of thirteen children of Ephrem Bouchard and Hortense Gamache, was born 09 September 1911 in McCreary. She attended a convent in Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba for six years.

After he was married, Aime first cared for about 200 hives of bees at Tedford's farm in McCreary. He had to walk four miles to and from the farm each day. He earned \$1 a day. Aime next leased a quarter section of wheat, oats, barley, and some cattle. He also had 435 beehives.

During World War II, Aime worked as a mechanic on the Royal Air Force planes at the Elementary Flying Training School #35 at Neepawa, Manitoba. Aime never did like to fly!

Aime left the farm in 1946 and he moved to Laurier where he worked as an electrical contractor. In 1951 he moved to Vibank, Saskatchewan near Regina where he worked as a carpenter. He traveled back and forth between Vibank and Laurier until he could move

the whole family to Vibank in 1954. In 1956, Aime moved his family to Surrey, B.C. near Vancouver. The family stayed with their uncles Gerry and Eugene Bouchard for about three weeks until Aime bought a house that Eugene owned on Industrial Avenue in Surrey.

That July Aime started his apprenticeship to become an electrician. In June 1959, Aime bought a house and moved his family to 148A Avenue in Surrey. He completed his apprenticeship in 1960 and joined the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 213. Aime worked mainly in the Vancouver area until he finally retired in 1985. He had worked at various locations for short periods of time in between. He worked at Powell River B.C. for 10 months in 1967 and at Fernie B.C. for three months in 1970. He worked at the Syncrude tar sands in Fort McMurray, Alberta for 14 months in 1976 77. Aime also worked at Hudson Hope, B.C. for three months in 1979, at Powell River B.C. for six months in 1981, and at the Port Melon Pulp Mill for seven months in Gibsons, B.C. in 1982.

Aime joined the Port Moody Legion, Branch 119 in 1970 and the Eagles in Abbotsford in 1979.

Yvonne passed away 14 October 1968 in New Westminster, B.C. at the age of 57. Aime soon after met Christine Vodden and married her 23 April 1969 in Vancouver, B.C. They divorced in 1971. On 24 June 1972, Aime married Nina Lydia Nohr, nee Ritland. Nina was born 03 December 1907 in Holden, Alberta. In 1973 they moved to Clearbrook, B.C. Aime and Nina lived happily there until his passing at the age of 73 on 07 October 1986 in Abbotsford, B.C.

Yvonne and Aime had thirteen children. They were:

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1. Marie Lucille Rita	born 07 Jan 1937 in McCreary
2. Marie Jean Lorraine	born 19 Apr 1938 in McCreary
3.Joseph Ernest Paul	born 06 Jan 1940 in Ste.Rose du Lac
4. Joseph Lucien Leo	born 03 Jun 1941 in Ste.Rose du Lac
5. Joseph Aime Eugene	born 11 Sep 1942 in Ste.Rose du Lac
6. Marie Antoinette Denise	born 27 Jan 1944 in Ste.Rose du Lac
7. Joseph Normand Laurent	born 04 May 1945 in Ste.Rose du Lac
8. Marie Nathalie Sylvia	born 27 May 1946 in Ste.Rose du Lac
9. Joseph Rene Cyrille	born 14 Jun 1947 in Ste.Rose du Lac
10. Marie Rita Annette	born 05 Oct 1948 in Ste.Rose du Lac
11. Maurice Joseph	born 12 Feb 1951 in Ste.Rose du Lac
12. Diane Annette Marie	born 29 Dec 1952 in Ste.Rose du Lac
13. Marie Isabelle	born 09 Jan 1954 in Ste.Rose du Lac

Stories on Felix and Aime Dutour by Greg Dean

FRANK (DAVID) ROBIDOU – ALICE TORENTHE PAXTON

There is some confusion as to where Frank Robidou was born. Believe the family lived in Waukegan, Illinois but moved to Clinton, Iowa before he was born, causing the confusion. He was born on March 8, 1863. Believe him to be one of 15 children, with probably 2 dying as infants and three dying as young children.

The name Robidou is spelled many ways ... Robodoux, Rhubidue, Rabidou, Rheubadue, Robodeaux, and possibly Roberdal and Robido.

Frank Robidou was a teacher for a short time in Cherry County, Nebraska. The following was taken from school records:

"District 3 had a 60 day term of school in the spring of 1884. Frank Rhubidue qualified for a 3rd grade certificate by examination on December 24, 1883, and taught the 3 (20 day) months at \$30 per month." District 3 was called Prairie Bell School. Martin Nollett, Sr. went to the auction when the school was sold as he wanted to buy the bell as he said that his uncle, Frank Robidou, taught there. (The bell sold too high and he didn't get it.)

School began in Kewanee Dist #4 in the fall of 1884 with the first teacher as Frank Rheubadue. Kewanee School was the school near Sparks near what was known as the French Settlement. Prairie Bell School was just about 2 miles north of the Robidou homestead west of Valentine.

Allice Torenthe Paxton was born to Charles T. and Johanna Marie Arndt Paxton on 4 Aug 1873 in Omaha, Nebr. -moving with the family to a vegetable farm on the Niobrara River south of Valentine in 1883.

Frank David Robidou and Alice Torenthe Paxton were married April 18, 1892 at the Charles Paxton family home on the Niobrara River four and one half miles from Valentine, Nebr. Frank Robidou and his family were Catholics, Alice was not. They were married by Fr. Ferdinand Lechleitner, Missionary Priest of the Catholic Church. (The Catholic Church building was not built until the fall of 1892). It was a simple ceremony with no Mass as was usual in marriages where one spouse was not Catholic. Frank's brother and sister, Peter and Eliza were witnesses. Alice promised to raise their children Catholic until they were old enough to make their own choice [this was required at that time in the Catholic Church in mixed marriages] but she was always shunned by the Robidou family, even though in time she joined the Catholic Church.

Francis Leonard, (always called Leonard), their first child was born 26 Oct 1893 at Rapid City, S.D. His baptism is recorded in St. Charles Borremeo Catholic Church in St. Francis, South Dakota. St. Francis is about 30 miles northwest of Valentine, Nebraska. He was baptized on Sept 9, 1894 and his Grandmother, Sophia Robidou was the only sponsor. Leonard died at approximately 22 months of age of diphtheria in Rapid City, S.D. and is buried there.

Frank and Alice moved to Black hawk, S.D. in the summer of 1894 by team and wagon. In 1898 they moved on up into the hills settling in the little Spearfish Canyon a short distance from the Homestake pumping station now called Hannah. In 1902 they moved to Lead City where Frank drove team for the Homestake Mining Co., for several years. Frank was on the fire department at Lead.

Nine children were born to Alice and Frank Robidou: Francis Leonard, Lenora May and Dora Anne, twins; (Dora died young - 18 months to 3 years) Alice Katheryn, Margaret Novella, Myrtle Audrey, Franklin______, Luelle Mae Francis, and Frederick David. There was also one adopted son, Walter Robidou Larson. Walter was adopted at about 5 years of age, but in later years took back the family name when he was trying to locate some of his family.

Frank was a freight hauler from Pierre to Rapid City thru the Indian Reservation. Had a good friend at LaPlant, who was married to an Indian, had quite a big family. Ed Rentz and Frank used to stay up all night talking in French. In about 1899 they moved to Hanna and Frank gave up his freight job and sold Singer sewing machines from a buckboard wagon. He was on the road somewhere when daughter, Margaret Novella (Maggie) was born so she was delivered by her Grandmother, Johanna M. Paxton-Reece. They were living in Ward Pocket or Robidou Gulch at this time. Frank also cut fence posts and sold them around Lead, S.D. Frank played the fiddle (same fiddle now in possession of my brother Clayton E. Peterson), used to hold dances at Engelwood, lived there until about 1914 (maybe later) when they moved first to Mills, Wyoming and then to Casper, Wyo.

When the family moved to Mills, Frank worked for some time at one of the refineries. He passed away 11 June 1932 in Casper and is buried there. He died of heart failure.

It is not known exactly when the family moved from Mills to Casper. Alice lived in Casper after his death, continuing to operate a small shop in her home where she sold "fancy work", embroidered linens, pillow cases, etc. Her last residence was at 1164 North Kimball. She lived there until her death on 28 Feb. 1963 of heart failure following debility following a paracentisis. Both Frank and Alice Robidou are buried at Highland Cemetery, Casper, Wyoming. Alice is buried in Lot A-8 Block 14.

Notes: Alice Catherine Robidou was baptized at Elk Creek (Black Hawk) S.D. Nov. 28, 1897. Sponsors: Christopher Robidou, (uncle) and his wife, Dora Belle Friend. [From records at Catholic Cathedral at Rapid City, SD.]

Story about Frank Robidou by Cecelia Raycher.

FELIX NOLLETT FAMILY

Felix Nollett was born 22 March 1866 in Iroquois County, Illinois about 15 miles south of Kankakee. He was baptized 14 April 1866 in St-Jean Baptiste Catholic Church in L'Erable, IL.

In 1884 he came with his parents to Cherry County, Nebraska at the age of 18. His father, Hilaire "Elie" Nollette, filed on a homestead in the Kewanee community in northeast Cherry County on May 15, 1884. They built a log house, and moved into it on Oct 8th, 1884. Felix's father, Hilaire, died 11 June 1886 and his mother, Mary, died on 4 August 1887.

Once when Felix came to Valentine it began to storm and he stayed in the livery barn that night. He had no money to pay the owner of the establishment, but was told to write his name on the door frame with the other names. When he returned later to pay the man he was told that he was the first to ever come back and pay. Felix came to Valentine and filed on a homestead claim on April 7th, 1887.

Felix and his brothers purchased a 12-horse power threshing machine in 1887 and threshed grain that fall.

On May 1, 1889, Felix married Annie Robidou. Annie was born at Anamosa, Iowa on May 12, 1872. The marriage was performed at Crookston, NE by Rev. Henry Grothe, S.J., a priest form St. Francis, SD.

The following spring, March 1990, Rev. Ferdinand Lechleitner was appointed to care for the whites in northern, Nebraska and made Valentine his home.

Felix's brother, Louis, married on Oct 6, 1890 to Ellen Robidou, a sister to Annie. The father to these sisters, Peter Robidou, was born in New York state in the 1820's and married Sophia Hurteau in about 1851. They came to Cherry County with the railroad, and spent the winter of 1882-1883 in Valentine living in a tent. They built a log house on the Minnechaduza west of Valentine in the spring of 1883 and filed on a homestead on that place when the land office opened in July.

In the early nineties drought caused many settlers to move out, including some brothers and brother-in-laws of Felix.

Felix and Annie had a family of 13 children: Mary, Albert, Josephine, David, Martin, Catherine, Peter, Felix, Louis, Aldoph, Ella "Sr. Clara", Leo, and Cecelia.

The family spoke French at home and when the first children began school the family changed to English. They still often said the Rosary in French at home in the evenings. The Nollett family always celebrated New Years day with a family get-together. This was carried on for many years later.

Priests from Valentine would stop at the Felix Nollett place on their way back from Norden. Mass was held in Norden about once a month. Later Felix had a spring buggy and a fast team of horses to go to church in Valentine. He could make the 15 mile trip in 45 minutes.

On Feb. 7, 1900 Peter Robidou died and on Nov 20, 1901 Sophia Robidou died. Both were buried in St. Joseph's cemetery with the other Nollette relatives. On 20 Oct 1903, Ellen Nollette, the wife of Louis, died of hemorrhage after childbirth. In June 1907, Martin Nollett, 10 years old, was kicked by a cow and has his leg broken.

In 1907 Felix and John Shelbourn purchased a 28-inch threshing machine together. Prairie fires often occurred, and in 1910 a fire went through the Nollett place and Annie put Ella in a tub of water and Aldoph and Louis in a tank to keep them safe.

On 26 May 1908, Mary Nollett married Vernon Stilwell.

In 1912 Felix shipped seed corn to Nenzel at \$2.00 a bushel.

In 1912 Felix purchased a Model T Ford with carbide lights. Later Prestolite gas lights were used.

In Feb 1912, Felix shipped a carload of hogs to Omaha to the market. This was his first carload shipment of his own hogs.

In 1916 Felix and a brother-in-law, Louis Mosier, visited relatives in Manitoba. Also in 1916 Felix and Louis both purchased Overland cars. Felix bought a Buick in 1920. Albert had worked in Valentine for Stewart, a plumber, and on June 6, 1917 he married Lizzie Cavanaugh at Nenzel, Nebr. And they lived on a place north of Crookston. He lost that place and moved to a place in Todd County, SD about 7 miles south of St. Francis. He purchased a herd of Texas cattle and ran them on this place. They didn't stand the weather very good and he lost most of the cattle.

In 1917 Josephine Nollett moved on a homestead in the Military precinct and Aldoph lived with her one summer. They first lived in a chicken coop while the house was being built. Josephine married John Simmons in 1918. Some years later they moved to Washington State.

On March 30, 1918 when the new officers were elected for the County Fair Association, Felix was on the board of directors. In April of 1918 the Farmers Union Co-op was organized with Felix Nollett as the president.

While Albert lived in Todd County there was an elk in the area that the Indians had been chasing. Albert, along with Ben and Art Pavelka and a brother of Frank Lanz went after it, roped and butchered it. Albert later moved to Hot Springs, SD.

The 1920 census lists Frank Lanz and his family along with two brothers, Fred and Erhart G. living on the Mission Ranch south of there just across the state line in Nebraska. The Mission Ranch was homesteaded and owned by St. Francis Mission.

At about this time, Pete and Martin worked on the P.H. Young ranch for a while. The 1920 census taken in January 1920 lists Martin still on the Young Ranch and Pete was back home.

In the spring of 1920 Martin and Pete Nollett moved to a place their father had bought in Todd County, SD near where Albert had lived. There was no house, so they lived in a house in the "White Horse Place" just to the north. In 1924 they built a house, with the help of Felix, Jr.

David Nollett married Isabelle Green on 30 June 1919 and some years later moved to Stoneham, MA.

On 12 Oct 1921 Catherine married Frederick Crowe. The lived for a time with Martin in Todd County SD. In about 1926 Fred and Catherine Crowe went to Canada to find and visit relatives. They drove a Model T Ford.

Felix Nollett died on 12 July 1925 after being ill for a couple of years. Annie Nollett lived in Valentine after this time at 212 N. Wood St. until her death in 23 January 1935. In the will of Felix Nollett, he left portions of land to his sons, Martin, Felix, Louis and Aldoph, subject to payments to the other heirs. Martin had two quarters of land in Todd County, SD; Felix was on the "Bartz" place north east of Valentine, and Louis and Aldoph on the home place.

Peter Nollett married Rose Robertson on 23 December 1925 and later lived on the "White Horse Place" for a few years and then moved to a place two miles south and west of there where he lived until in the 1950's when he moved to Valentine and was employed at Yeast Hardware.

Felix, Jr. was married in June of 1927 to Evelyn Barrington. In the 30's times were very hard and he could not make a living on the "Bartz Place" so he left and found work in Hot Springs, SD. Felix, Jr. later moved to Omaha where he did carpentry work and died after a

fall from a building on June 13, 1941. The "Bartz Place" was later sold by the heirs to Harry Harper and the house was moved to 212 N. Cherry in Valentine.

Martin Nollett was married at St. Francis, SD on 11 April 1928 to Irma Lurz. They continued to live on the place in Todd County, SD the rest of their lives.

Aldoph was married on 21 Nov 1929 to Elizabeth Gengler at Verdel, NE. He did order buying for the sale barn beginning in 1934 and in 1944 became ½ owner of the sale barn. In 1952 he sold his share in the sale barn and continued as a cattle buyer.

Ella Nollett became a Catholic Sister on 6 Aug 1931 and became known as "Sister Clara". She taught school in several places; Louisville, KY; North Platte, NE; Omaha, NE; Sidney, NE; Camden, MS; Cumberland, KY; Colombia, SC; and then back to Louisville, KY.

Leo Nollett married Helen Howe on 3 Nov 1931. Leo farmed for many years. He retired and lives on his place north east of Valentine.

Cecelila Nollett married in 1934 to Maurice Hensley. They moved to Washington State where they still make their home.

HILAIRE FRANCIS "SAVY" NOLLETT SR.

Hilaire Francis (Savy) Nollette, son of Louis and Ellen (Robidou) Nollette was born December 12, 1891 and died June 16, 1955.

Hilaire was only thirteen years of age when his mother passed away at the time the youngest of Hilaire's brothers and sisters was born. Savy or Eli as he was better known was the oldest in his parent's family.

He attended the Sweeny Automobile School in Kansas City, where he graduated from Machinist school.

Savy and his cousin, David, farmed together north of Valentine until (Savy, Eli, or Hilaire) was called into the Service during World War I. Savy had to sell all of his livestock, his half of the machinery, etc. He was on the train when the Armistice was signed, so was just inducted and later was discharged, but too late to farm.

Hilaire and I were married April 23, 1919. We lived on the Fred Grooms' place north of Valentine, about a mile from my parent's home. Savy was always inventing things. He loved doing mechanical work as a hobby or as a necessity. He built a telephone line on the barb wire fence so that we could call my parents.

From there we moved to the Henry Becker farm, north of Valentine where our first child was born, a daughter, Virginia Ruth, on September 24, 1921.

While there he invented a little wind mill on top of the milk house to churn the butter in a barrel churn. He never tried for a patent on any of his inventions, but got a lot of pleasure from building useful gadgets.

In 1928 we moved to Todd County, South Dakota to a large ranch where Savy and Calvin Lamoureaux ranched and worked together for a number of years.

Francis Ellen was born here on July 3, 1929, the year that the awful depression started.

Our son, Hilaire Francis Nollette, Jr. was born here also on January 28, 1933. This was during the years of the drought when there were no crops, no hay and no feed for the cattle.

It was very hard times, so Savy and I played for dances every Saturday night, which was our only way to keep food on the table.

While on this place Hilaire Sr. Built the first wind charger which supplied the electricity to run our radio and the lights of hour home. It was built on a tower with a large blade. He made the blade by planing and patiently whittling until it was just right. It took a good

many hours to get it planed just right so that it would balance correctly and so that it would catch the wind in order for it to run to generate the electricity.

Virginia became a teacher and while she was teaching at the Wm. Grimm School she gave a Christmas program and her Daddy wired up the stage with lights which was quite an accomplishment at that time as the country homes didn't have electricity as yet, with the exception of our own home.

Besides being a farmer and rancher, Savy was also the neighborhood mechanic and could be depended upon to keep the neighbor's cars and tractors in good running order. Among his numerous skills, he also did a lot of the veterinarian work that was needed in the neighborhood and at home. He was also an outdoors man, who loved to fish and hunt.

Busy as my husband was, he never hesitated to take time to help build a kite for the children and assist them to get it off the ground or whittle them numerous tops from spools.

On October 15, 1942, we held as sale and moved to Valentine as Eli's health was not up to running tractors anymore. Virginia Ruth was teaching school at the time we came to town at Oelrichs, South Dakota. We purchased a home in Valentine at this time. Frances and Hilaire were in grade school at the time. Savy went to work for Lawrence Clements as their main Mechanic and Electrician, where he worked until the day he died, June 15, 1955. When people thought of Maytag, they just naturally thought of Savy Nollette.

The family are grown and spread far and wide. Virginia is married to Dale E. Junker and they live in Indianapolis, Indiana. They have two sons, Joseph and James and three daughters, Connie Kay, Anne Marie and Mary Janet. All are married except Mary Janet. Virginia and Dale have three grandsons; Joe and Chris have a son, Jeff, Jim and Jean have a son: Jesse, and Connie and her husband, Dennis Onken, have a son; Matt. Dale owns and operates his own construction company, Mis-States Erectors Inc. Both of their sons work for him. All of their children live in Indiana except Anne who is married to Dennis Hall and lives in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Frances Ellen is married to Donald Stillwell and lives in Valentine, Nebraska. They have six children, Sherry Ann, Bob Michael, Doris Marie, and Triplet daughters, Jean Anita, Jane Beverly, and Joan Christine. Sherry is married to Willie C. Kuntz and they live in Weeping Water, Nebraska. Sherry has her own Beauty Shop and her husband works for Unites Parcels in Omaha. They have two daughters, Amy and Tina. Bob is married to Lynell Kime and they live in Mitchell, Nebraska. He works as an electrician for the Burlington Railroad and Lynell teaches English in the Scottsbluff High School. They have two daughters, Amanda Kay and Megan Elizabeth and a son, Michael David who was born August 22, 1980. Doris Marie graduated from the University of Nebraska, is single and works and lives in Weeping Water, Nebraska. Jean has three little girls, Dawn, Dana and

De Anna, Jane has a little girl, Michelle, and a son, Donald, and Joan has one daughter, Tami and two sons, John and Shannon.

Hilaire Francis Nollette, Jr. is married to Carolyn Lee and they live in Yorba Linda, California. Hilaire works for a Medical Supply firm. They have four daughters, Lisa Jean, who is in her third year of college, Jodi who is married and has a little girl, Jesse, Lori Kay, who is in her first year of college, and Keri Anne, who will graduate form High School this spring. On August 21, 1979, Hilaire Francis Nollette, III was born. This was a real highlight of the year, as the name will now be carried on.

Hilaire, the father of our children and the grandfather, was a fine man, a good kind husband and much loved and missed by all of us. I live by myself now at the Valentine Apartments, 521 West 3rd St., Apt 208, Valentine, Nebraska.

Story on Hilaire "Eli" or "Savy" Nollette written by Martha Nollette January 27, 1981. {Martha died on October 3, 1981}

Appendix A NOLLETTE FAMILY ANCESTORS

The Nollett / Nollette families in this book descend from:

SÉBASTIEN NOLET, son of VINCENT NOLET and JEANNE MARTEL, was born 1628 in Ste-Pexine, Au Poitou, France. He died 16 April 1708 in Beaumont, Quebec. Beaumont is located on the south side of the St. Lawrence River just east of Quebec City. Sébastien came to Canada ca. 1666 and married on 26 Oct 1671 in Quebec City. His wife was JEANNE AUGER, daughter of SAVAIGNAN AUGER and MARIE RUEL. Jeanne was one of the "King's Daughters", her passage to Canada was financed by the French Government.

JEANNE AUGER was born in St-Benoit, Paris France. She died on 18 Oct 1735 and the age given was 98.

LOUIS-FRANCOIS NOLLET was born 20 Sep 1681, the son of SÉBASTIEN and of Jeanne Auger. He married 10 Nov 1710 in Beaumont, Quebec to MARGUERITE LIS, who was born in 1693, daughter of ZACHERIE LIS AND MARIE MARANDEAU.

LOUIS NOLLET, son of Louis-Francois and of Marguerite Lis, died in March of 1760 and was buried on the 12th of March. He was married 12 Oct 1744 in Ile de Orleans, Quebec, to MADELEINE PELLETIER, daughter of Jean Pelletier and Ursule Frelan.

JOSEPH NOLLET, son of Louis and of Madeleine Pelletier, was born 4 April 1752 in St. Charles de Bellechasse, Quebec. He was married on 22 Feb 1773 in Notre Dame, Quebec City to JOSEPHTE TRUDEL, daughter of Pierre and of Marguerite Jacob.

JOACHIM NOLLET, son of Joseph and of Josephte Trudel, was born in 1789 and died 19 April 1827 in Napierville, Quebec. He married on 15 Feb 1813 in L'Acadie, Quebec to JOSEPHTE CAMPBELL, daughter of Guillaume Alexander Campbell and Josephte Bisaillon. Guiallaume Alexander was the son of Guillaume (William) Campbell who was born about 1730 in Scotland.

HILAIRE NOLLETTE, son of Joachim and of Josephte Campbell, was born 13 June 1823 in Napierville, Quebec. He was married on 20 Sep 1842 to MARIE MAILLOUX, daughter of JOSEPH MAILLOUX and of MARGUERITE DUMAS. Marguerite was the daughter of Jerome Dumas and Marguerite Lamarguerite. Marie Mailloux, was born 17 March 1825 in Napierville and her mother died 2 days later. Joseph remarried on 26 Sep 1826 to Judith Laventure. The names of Joseph Mailloux's parents are not mentioned in either marriage record, and a record of his birth has not been found.

Appendix B THE "MISSOURI" ROBIDOUX'S

The Robidoux family of Missouri descends, as all Robidou families in America do, from Andre Robidou who came to Canada in the 1660's. Andre had two sons, Joseph and Guillaume.

Descending from Andre to Joseph of Missouri is as follows: Guillaume married 11 June 1697 to Marie Guerin Joseph married 7 January 1721 to M. Anne Fontenau Joseph married 3 Feb 1749 to Marie Anne LeBlanc Joseph married in St. Louis 21 Sep 1782 to Catherine Rollet [These last two Joseph's came to St. Louis, Missouri in 1770]

Joseph and Catherine Rollet had six sons who were famous as fur traders and explorers: Joseph, Louis, Michel, Antoine, François, and Pierre Isidore.

Joseph became the most well known of these as he was the eldest and took over his father's fur business. This business took the Robidoux brothers far into the lands to the west.

In 1826 Joseph established a trading post at the site of St. Joseph Missouri. In 1843 he platted a town out at this site and named it "St. Joseph".

Louis Robidoux began trading over the Santa Fe Trail as early as 1822. He settled in Santa Fe about 1824. Here he married Guadalupe Garcia. He built a couple of flour mills in Santa Fe. In 1844 he moved to California (near Riverside) and operated the Rubidoux mills in the community of Rubidoux. The mill was discontinued in 1862.

Michel worked as a trapper in the Gila River region in New Mexico and Arizona and to Ft. Laramie in Wyoming in the 1830's

Antoine had a trading post in southwest Colorado and was at the Uinta river in Utah in 1837. He also worked around Taos, NM and Santa Fe.

Francois trapped and traded in Indian villages, attended business in St. Louis, and traded on the northern plains of Kansas and on the Yellowstone.

Pierre Isidore traded on the plains of northern Kansas and upon the Yellowstone river and in Santa Fe. He headed wagon caravans along the Platte River to where the north and south Platte joined, and along the north Platte to Ft. Laramie.

The book, "The Oregon Trail" by Francis Parkman mentions "Roubidou, the blacksmith" at Ft. Laramie in 1847. Also mentioned at the same time was Rouleau, a trapper. This

same Hubert Rouleau is buried in the old "Minnechaduza" or "Boot Hill" cemetery in Valentine, NE.

Later, in 1849, the "Roubideau" trading post and Blacksmith shop was in operation south of Scotts Bluffs in Nebraska. This was along the "Oregon Trail" at a place called "Robidoux Pass". This pass was used until 1851 when a trail farther north was widened and became more popular.

There were two brothers; Antoine, baptized at age 5 1/2 months on 6 March 1817 and Joseph, baptized 24 July 1820 at St. Louis, MO, both sons of Francois Robidoux and Therese Deslisle. It seems likely that Antoine was the blacksmith at Ft. Laramie, and that he was also known as "Louis" and that he and his brother, Joseph "Sellico" (Sylvester) were at Scotts Bluffs.

A sign noted in 1849 at this trading post in 1849 had the name "A. Rubidue" on it. A daughter of James Bordeaux gives the name of Joseph Sellico Roubideaux as the one at this post. One traveler gives the name of one of the Robidoux's as "Antoine" and read a letter to him from his uncle Joseph telling him not to go to California. Another traveler reported in 1851 of an old blind man who had wintered at Scotts Bluffs. Francois had went blind in 1841 and his brother Antoine went blind in 1852, so this old man was probably Francois.

Another story told by the Indian Roubideaux's is that one of the Roubideaux brothers was kicked and killed by a mule at Scotts Bluffs. This is said to be JosephSellico Robidoux. Francois, the father of Sellico also died in Nebraska, the grave stone in St. Joseph, MO tells us that he "Died on the plains of Nebraska 1857".

The Roubideaux's also say that one of the brothers at Scotts Bluffs left his Indian wife and went to California, was this the Antoine mentioned above? His Indian wife was later killed in a battle, probably the "Battle of Ash Hollow" in 1855. A descendant of Pierre Isadore Robidoux mentions that "Louis" a son of Francois Robidoux, died in California

The two sons of Joseph Sellico, Louis and Charles, came to the Rosebud Reservation (Todd County, SD) where many descendants now live. Charles was baptized at St. Francis Mission on 2 March 1902 when he was "in serious doubt that he had ever been baptized". Charles gave his birth date as 4 July 1855 and his father's name as "Sillicon" and mother's name as "Mary".

There has been much written about the "Missouri Robidoux's", The book "The Great Platte River Road" by Merrill Mattes has a chapter on Mr. Scott's Bluffs and Mr. Robidoux's Pass". The book, "The "Robidou, a breed apart" by Clyde Rabideau of Plattsburgh NY, also gives more detail as to who operated the place at Robidoux's pass. Probably the best account of the Robidoux brothers is another book by Clyde Rabideau, "BEAVER TALES, Trappers, Traders, Mountain Men & Scoundrels", published in 2002. He has done a lot

of research and found many stories of the adventures of the six Robidoux brothers and of the people they encountered.

Joseph "Sellico" and Antoine "Louis" Robidoux were 4th cousins to Peter Robidou who was an early settler in Cherry County. Peter and his family came with the railroad in the fall of 1882 and camped at the site of Valentine that winter. The next spring he moved to a homestead along the Minnechaduza west of Valentine.

The brothers, Peter Robidoux of Wallace, Kansas fame and Joseph Robidoux, an early business man of Benkleman, Nebraska, were 5th cousins once removed to Peter Robidou of Cherry County, Nebraska, and also 5th cousins once removed to Joseph Sellico and Antoine "Louis". They descend from Andre's son, Joseph, rather than Guillaume.

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<u>Sources</u> – This document was edited from documents written by Martin Nollett, Jr. These documents were in WordPerfect format, and had the names N_HISTORY.WPD, MOROBIDO.WPD, and Ancestors.WPD. Minor changes were made for formatting purposes, and to correct some typographical errors. In addition, the editor added a table of contents, an index, footnotes and internal and external hyperlinks. Pronunciation notes originate with Mr. Nollett.

Edited by Robert J. Ritchie