



THE FRIGONS

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FRIGONE, FREGO, FREGOE,
FREGON, FREGONE FAMILIES

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ANOTHER LOOK AT THE LIFE OF MARIE-CLAUDE CHAMOIS

(1 de 5) Gérald Frigon (116)

The life of Marie-Claude Chamois has always intrigued me. Even though, to this day, twelve articles of our newsletter have recounted her lawsuits and vicissitudes, I still have a panoply of questions requiring clarification.

MARIE-CLAUDE'S FATHER

First, there is her father, his relationship with the Count of Harcourt, and the political situation in mid-17th century France. Her father, Honoré Chamois, was Secretary to the Count of Harcourt before becoming Secretary to the King¹ and Herald of Arms. According to the *Dictionnaire de la Noblesse* compiled by M. De la Chenaye-Desbois, the House of Harcourt was "one of the largest and most illustrious of Normandy and even of the kingdom." Henri de Lorraine, Count of Harcourt, had married Marguerite de Cambout, Cardinal Richelieu's niece, in February 1639. In 1643, the Count of Harcourt was the Grand Squire of France, and chief of one of the King's army corps, campaigning in the Pyrenees and later in Italy. It was under his patronage that Honoré Chamois was appointed Secretary to the King. After 1641, this position as King's Secretary was a function to which was attached a title of nobility². (We know that under Henry IV several titles of nobility as well as positions of Secretary to

the King had been sold. However, the nobles by birth took offense, and Richelieu, by means of the Edict of November 1640, "de-nobilized" those who had bought their titles.³) The title "Herald of Arms" was mostly honorific and was most often attributed to men of war or to those who followed them.

Cardinal Richelieu died in 1643 and was replaced

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¹Page 506 of the 22nd Speech for the defense, taken from the work of M. Le Chancelier Henry-François D'Aguesseau, Edition Les Librairies Associés.

²*Nouveau Nobiliaire de France*, by L. d'Izarny, J.J.Lavigue, J. de Vauchier, Éditions Mémoires et Documents.

³*Dictionnaire Universel de la Noblesse de France*, by M. de Courcelles, edited in Paris in 1820.

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by Mazarin. Shortly thereafter, a political movement (the Fronde, 1648-1653) that united some of the nobles was organized to overthrow Louis XIV who was still a minor. France was in the midst of war with Spain which supported the rebels. The Count of Harcourt, as far as he was concerned, resolutely supported the king. At the beginning of his mandate, Mazarin was favourably looked upon in Paris, and in December 1650, “he triumphantly entered (Paris), the Count of Harcourt leading the way on horseback accompanied by 4 marshals, dukes and friends⁴.” In the summer of 1651, the Fronde had gained in popularity in Paris and this song was current⁵:

“The big and fat prince
So well-known in history
This grand count of Harcourt
All glory-crowned
Helped Casal, took Turin by force
And now he’s Mazarin’s slave.”

The Count of Harcourt quit his position as Chief of War in August 1652 following a quarrel with Cardinal Mazarin⁶. He then returned to Alsace, to his Philipsburg estate, where his wife had gone three months earlier, fleeing Paris “incognito”⁷, (the city) being under the control of the Fronde. Flanders and the eastern part of Normandy, including the Harcourt estate, were still at war against the Fronde. In April 1653, after the victory of the king’s armies over the Fronde to which the Count of Harcourt had greatly contributed in Franche-Comté and, on the western front, from La Rochelle to Bordeaux, the Count’s severance pay was finalized: he received 500,000 pounds in cash⁸, was appointed Governor of Anjou, and, his son (the future Count of Harcourt) was given a yearly income of 40,000 pounds⁹. He (the Count of Harcourt) retired in 1659, to Royalmont Abbey, 30

km north of Paris, where his son was commendatory abbot. In an extract from the twelfth volume of *l’Histoire de Royalmont, sa fondation par Saint-Louis et son influence sur la France* (History of Royalmont, its Founding by Saint Louis and its Influence on France), we read on page 251: “Nobleman Amable Bolin, treasurer of My lord the Count of Harcourt, and Sire Honoré Chamois, his secretary, composing the council (of the abbey) of Mgr. Alphonse Louis de Lorraine, abbot of Royalmont, under the authority and the orders of My lord Henri de Lorraine, his father, the Count of Harcourt.” Therefore, Honoré Chamois was still in the service of the Count of Harcourt after the autumn of 1659. The latter died in July 1666, at the Abbey, at the time of a family gathering.



Around 1664, Henri of Lorraine, Count of Harcourt who, when younger, was nicknamed “Cadet Pearl” because he wore a pearl on his right ear.

(Continuation on page 60)

⁴Letters of the Fronde, reported by « The Ranum’s Panat Times »; letter dated December 31, 1650.

⁵Ibidem, letter dated September 29, 1651.

⁶Ibidem, letter dated August 27, 1652. Note: when his neighbor died heirless, the Count of Harcourt hoped to enlarge his Philipsburg estate, but Cardinal Mazarin gave this estate to the future husband of his niece.

⁷Ibidem, letter of May 21, 1652.

⁸This amount includes the buying back of the Philipsburg estate, evaluated at 190,000 livres

⁹Idem, letter dated April 25, 1653.



Louise Frigon (83)

Greetings !

The members of the Board of Directors are enthusiastically preparing our next annual meeting which will have as its theme "Our history...a family". They are working together so that the day will be enjoyable for you and leave you with pleasant memories. In the current newsletter you will find the information you need for registering as well as the program for the day.

The reunion should be much more than an administrative meeting with a recreational aspect tagged on. It should be a break that we give ourselves to socialize, share and renew the bonds that link us as a family. We hope to welcome a large number of you and it is with great pleasure that we will receive you at the Manoir des Chutes Montmorency in Quebec on August 18th. Let's make this an unforgettable family reunion!

ANNUAL GATHERING- MANOIR MONTMORENCY - AUGUST 18, 2012

Theme « Our History ... a Family »

To thank you for your participation in the Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors has decided to give a promotional article to each member present. Welcome to one and all!

www.genealogie.org/famille/frigon/index.html

DID YOU KNOW THAT



The former mayor of Chambly in the '70s, Robert A. Frigon with the current mayor Denis Lavoie (on the right).

Chambly – Robert A. Frigon bequeaths his literary collection of 300 volumes to the Municipal Library of

Chambly. Having no children, he decided to give his books to the young (and the not so young) of the municipality. The books will be available in the course of the next few weeks, after they have been catalogued and placed on the shelves.

This collection consists mainly of history books and about fifty novels (hardly more than two or three are detective stories). Mr. Frigon has favoured the development of the Recreational Services of the municipality. He was at the origin of the construction of the Robert-Lebel Arena and the Municipal Library.

At 80 years of age, Mr. Frigon wishes that Chambly will continue to develop and that his passion for books will be shared.

Extract from the Journal de Chambly, March 30, 2012

<http://www.hebdosregionaux.ca/monteregie/2012/03/30/>

lex-maire-frigon-fait-un-legs-a-la-bibliotheque-municipale

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Legal deposit - 2nd Newsletter 2012
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Honoré Chamois' titles would have been attributed to him between 1643 and 1653, most probably in 1646 when he replaced Nicolas Faret as secretary, following the Count of Harcourt on his war expeditions. His family remained in Paris, where he returned between campaigns. At that time, armies were demobilised in October or November and reunited again at the end of April to pursue the war.

In winter, work had to continue at the government headquarters. We can believe that at the time of his death (1660), Honoré Chamois was still practicing his function of Secretary to the King in Paris, concurrently with that of Secretary to the Count. In fact, the needs of the Count, now retired, must have been minimal. This would have accounted for Honoré Chamois' still residing in Paris. At the death of Mazarin in 1661, King Louis XIV decided not to replace his "first" minister and to keep (for himself) the management of the entire apparatus of the French crown. There were, at that time, 44 secretaries to the king, principally in the finance, justice and military services. Moreover, a few other service heads bore the title of Secretary to the

King; for instance, the secretary of the Académie Française, the curator for publications, etc. Honoré Chamois was probably still in the service of the army, although the country was no longer at war (the last victory of Turenne over the Prince of Condé was in 1658), but there were still some fighting in Spain, Denmark, England and, in New France, against the Iroquois.

Being chosen as secretary of this great man was no small matter. What could have been his income? In 1643, Nicolas Faret received 3,000 pounds as wages when he was Councillor-Secretary to the King¹⁰. Faret's title was changed in 1641 from "Secretary to the Count of Harcourt" to "Secretary to the Army of the King in France commanded by the Count of Harcourt". Therefore the king became financially responsible for him. Faret died in 1646 (Nicolas Faret, member of the Académie Française, is especially known for his book *L'honneste-homme ou l'art de plaire à la court* [sic] (The Honest Man or the Art of Pleasing the Court), published in 1630¹¹.) After a few years of service, Honoré Chamois' wages must have reached a similar level. The fact that he did not own a chateau and that the family rented its lodging, the annual accumulation (of money) could have resulted in a nice inheritance.

¹⁰ *Dictionnaire critique de biographie et d'histoire*, August Jal—1867, pages 564-565.

¹¹ *Orientalism in Louis XIV's France* by Nicholas Drew—2009, page 87.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Two Trois-Rivières students distinguished themselves at the "Matins de la poésie" event.



Published October 6, 2009 in the Hebdo Journal.

Ariane Frigon
and Laurence St-Louis from
Jacques-Buteux

School, stood out in the literary contest "Les Matins de la poésie" (Mornings of Poetry) and won respectively the first and third prizes. They are

shown here with teacher Manon Trépanier, school principal Martin Bisson, Suzanne Charrette, in charge of the "Matins de la poésie" and Christiane Dupont-Champagne, honorary president of the 2009 event.

The parents of Ariane Frigon are Daniel Frigon and Maryse Béliveau.

Ariane comes from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Oliver.

1 Taken from: <http://www.lhebdojournal.com/Culture/Arts-et-spectacles/2009-10-06/article-551285/Deux-eleves-de-Trois-Riveres-se-distinguent-aux-%26laquo%3BMatins-de-la-poesie-%26raquo%3B/1>



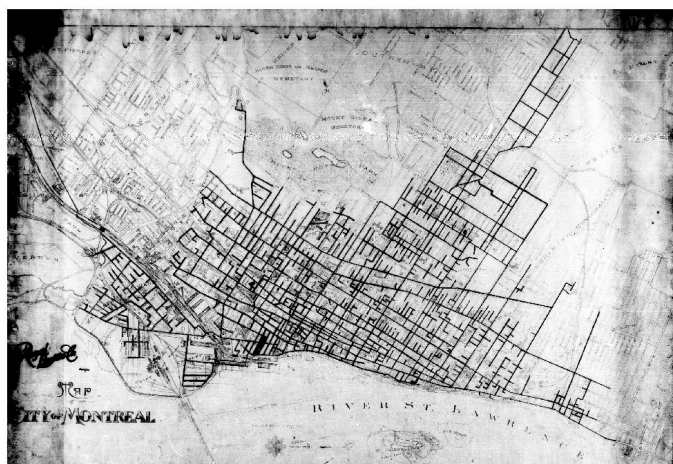
The Utility Poles of Montreal

2-A Forest of Poles and Electrical Cables

Pierre Frigon (4)

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“Most of us do not know that there are thousands of kilometres of electrical cables beneath the sidewalks of Montreal. It was not always so. There was a time when all the telecommunication and electrical cables were attached to poles. At the end of the 19th century, the situation became intolerable in the city centre. That is why the chambers of commerce and the insurance companies in particular began to demand that the electrical cables be installed underground.”



This 1901 Royal Electric Co. map illustrates the rapid growth of the electrical distribution network in Montreal. Roughly, on the west, Atwater and Du Parc Avenues; on the south, the St. Lawrence River; on the north, St. Joseph Boulevard, Pine Avenue and Sherbrooke Street; on the east, Papineau Avenue and Iberville Street. Credit. VM6,S5,P072.

“Nowadays, it is difficult to imagine the indescribable disorder brought about by the anarchic proliferation of poles and electrical wires in Montreal. The business district had become a real forest of poles and cables serving the telephone and telegraph companies, public transportation (tramway), the stock exchange for transmission of quotes, as well as the companies that provided electricity for industrial or domestic installations. Add to these the police and fire alarm system cables and those of the aqueduct. All of them had poles and several shared theirs, especially the telecommunication companies.”



Southeast view of Mont Royal Avenue at the intersection of St. Lawrence Boulevard, March 20, 1928. Profusion of poles and street lights. Signs on the building on the right advertise the *Mount Royal Hotel*, the *United Cigars Stores*, the *Mount Royal Cafe*, *Molson Beer* and *Frontenac Export Ale*. There is an offer for 35 cent meals. Building on the left: Martineau Pharmacy with a rooftop panel advertising *Frontenac Export Ale*. The cables of the street light system were buried before those for the distribution of electricity. A street light can be seen on the left. Credit.VM98, SY,D2,P056.



The same intersection, November 8, 2010. The Martineau Pharmacy has been replaced by the Pharmaprix Pharmacy. Upstairs, the *Luso Medical Clinic*. The building on the right is occupied by the *Rôtisserie Kiri-Piri* on the ground floor, and by offices upstairs. Credit. Pierre Frigon

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(Continued from page 61)

“On certain thoroughfares, there are two rows of poles on each side. You can even see up to seven poles on a single street corner, to the point that in Montreal,” according to Jean-Claude Nepveu, president of the CSEM from 1965 to 1971, “on certain streets such as St-Jacques, Notre-Dame or Commissaires, the wires and poles are like spider webs that prevent the penetration of the sun. Almost everywhere there are lines that cross streets, to the point that the firemen complain that they cannot pass with their tall ladders.”

“Company employees harassed one another, going so far as sabotaging the installations of their competitors. Tramways encumbered the downtown streets more and more. In short, anarchy reigned in a desperately hideous urban landscape. The public space had become dangerous and the risk of fires caused by electricity was constantly growing, causing a substantial increase in insurance premiums. Cases were reported of equipment failure that caused the death of citizens by electrocution. Discontent was in the air.”



Caption. The entire district is deprived of electricity when there is a fire. The overhead wires are also a source of danger for the firemen and the workers. Rue Saint-François, January 1922.

Source. Templeman. 1911-1930 Report, p. 27.

Credit. CSEM

The next article will deal with the question of underground conduits.

¹Fleury, Jean-Louis, *Les porteurs de lumières, histoire de la distribution de l'électricité au Québec*, p.11.

²BAnQ, *Le Monde illustré*, Vol.11, no 57, p. 307 (27 octobre 1894) : *Saint-Henri : M. Deguire foudroyé par l'électricité*.

The Montreal Daily Star, 16 novembre 1912, p.4: *Conduit Plans Await Public Utilities/Death of Miss McKay by Live Wire Resurrects Question*.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...



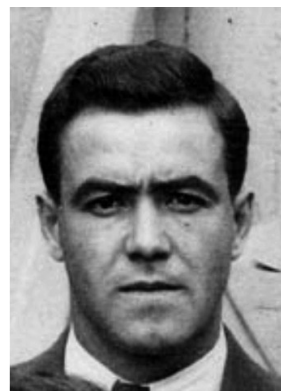
► **Prosper Frigon**
(1868-1948)

Biography

Was born in Ste-Geneviève-de-Batiscan on May 12, 1868 to Elzéar Frigon and Elénore Massicotte. Was an elected municipal councillor from 1929 to 1930. Married Antoinette Marchand in Ste-

Geneviève on July 10, 1900. Died on May 1, 1948, at the age of 79. Was buried in the cemetery of St-François-Xavier Parish. Was the father of Louis-Étienne Frigon.

Louis-Étienne, BK-2721, came from the line of Louis-Augustin, Branch of Elzéar. /gef November 20, 2011.



► **Louis-Étienne Frigon**
(1914-1977)

Biography

Was born in Batiscan on August 6, 1914 to Prosper Frigon and Antoinette Marchand.

Was an elected municipal councillor from 1956 to 1962. Married Rachel Grandbois in Batiscan on January 5, 1940. Died June 21, 1977, at the age of 63. Was buried in the cemetery of St-François-Xavier Parish.

Louis-Étienne, BK-2721, came from the line of Louis-Augustin, Branch of Elzéar. /gef November 20, 2011

October 2011

Thérèse Frigon, spouse of the late **Ronald L. Broadhead**, died in **Buffalo Grove**, Illinois, USA, on October 25, 2011, at the age of 87. Thérèse was the daughter of the late Charles-Edouard and the late Cora Cayer, and the sister of Maurice (158), Marcel (28) and Georges E. (93).

Thérèse came from the line of Louis Augustin, branch of Hubert.

Mario Frigon, son of the late **Jean-Marie Frigon** and of **Blandine Blais**, died in **Sherbrooke**, on October 31, 2011, at the age of 42 years, 6 months.

Mario came from the line of Pierre Antoine, branch of Souleine.

November 2011

Barbara Hodson, spouse of the late **Victor Frigon**, died in **Midland**, Texas, USA, on November 2, 2011, at the age of 85.

Victor came from the line of Joseph, branch of Joseph.

Pierre Frigon, son of **Paul-Henri Frigon** and the late **Renée Marchand**, died in **Gatineau**, on November 13, 2011, at the age of 66.

Pierre came from the line of Louis Augustin, branch of Hubert.

December 2011

Marcel Lemay, spouse of the late **Thérèse Trottier**, friend of Aline Frigon, died in **Shawinigan-Sud**, on December 2, 2011, at the age of 81.

Aline comes from the line of Joseph, branch of Joseph.

Jacqueline Frigon, daughter of the late **Bruno Frigon** and the late **Rachel Giguère**, died in **Shawinigan-Sud**, on December 12, 2011, at the age of 87.

Jacqueline came from the line of Louis-Augustin, branch of Hubert.

Elsie Solke Frigon, spouse of **Pascal Frigon**, died in **Edmonton**, Alberta, on December 13, 2011, at

the age of 77.

Pascal comes from the line of Joseph, branch of Joseph (Louiseville).

February 2012

Raymonde Déziel, spouse of **Denis Frigon**, died in **Trois-Rivières**, on February 13, 2012, at the age of 65 years and 4 months.

Denis Frigon comes from the line of Louis-Augustin, branch of Hubert.

Claude Saint-Germain, spouse of Lise Manseau and companion of **Thérèse Frigon**, died in **Montreal**, on February 29, 2012, at the age of 81.

Thérèse comes from the line of Louis-Augustin, branch of Silvestre.

March 2012-05-12

Louis P. Cervenak, spouse of Jane (Jeanne) G. (Frigon) Cervenak, died in **Palmerton**, Pennsylvania, USA, on March 12, 2012, at the age of 82.

We do not know the line or branch of Jeanne.

Rolande Simard, spouse of the late **François-Aimé Gauthier** and spouse of the late **Léopold Frigon**, died in **Saint-Félicien**, on March 22, 2012, at the age of 91 years and 11 months.

Léopold came from the line of Pierre-Antoine, branch of Souleine.

Roland J. Frigon, spouse of the late **Mildred T. Blais**, died in **Coventry**, Rhode Island, USA, on March 30, 2012, at the age of 85.

Roland came from the line of Olivier-Pierre, branch of Toussaint.

April 2012

Guy Massicotte, a native of Saint-Prosper de Champlain, died in **Saint-Sulpice**, on April 9, 2012, at the age of 72. He was the son of the late Clément Massicotte and the late **Monique Frigon**.

Monique came from the line of Pierre-Antoine, branch of François-Xavier.

55 EMERALD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY 55



Georges E. Frigon and Françoise Béland
Robert - Georges jr. - Sandra

GENEALOGICAL SKETCH

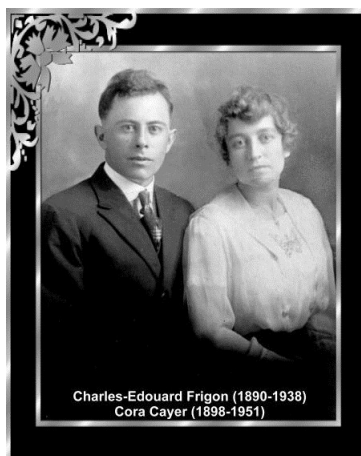
François and Marie-Claude Chamois
|
Jean-François and Gertrude Peros
|
Antoine Pierre and M.-Anne Trottier
|
Louis Augustin and Marie Lefebvre
|
Abraham and Josephite Dontigny
|
Hubert and Sophie Cloutier
|
Alphée and Délina Pronovost
|
Charles-Édouard and Cora Cayer
|
Georges E. and Françoise Béland
|
Robert and Lise Richard
Georges jr and Louise Provencher
Sandra
|
Gilles and Anik Savoie-Lafrance
Renée and Yannick Poudrier
Mélanie and David Parent

gef (93)

Françoise Béland is the daughter of Rosaire and Juliette Filion. Georges E. (93) comes from the line of Louis-Augustin, branch of Hubert. Georges and Françoise have five great-grandsons (12th generation).



Françoise Béland and Georges E. Frigon, married in Sainte-Jeanne d'Arc Church, Shawinigan-Sud, April 2, 1956.



Charles-Édouard Frigon and Cora Cayer, married in Shawinigan, May 28, 1917.



Alphée Frigon and Délina Pronovost, married in Sainte-Geneviève-de-Batiscan, February 12, 1872.

Send your wedding anniversary photos to the Association, your own, those of your parents or those of your grandparents.

Let all the members share the descendants of our Frigon families

Please get in touch with me. I will be happy to send you the details. **Sylvie Frigon**



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or by e-mail: sylvie.frigon@videotron.ca