

Francois Seguin, the Canadian Pioneer (Continued)

On 19 November 1645, there occurred the baptism by M<sup>r</sup>lord Jean Brasdefer, cure of Boutancourt, of Renee, the daughter of Laurent Seguin and Marie Massieu. The father again is called "Clerk of Jamericourt". This time the god-father is M<sup>r</sup>lord Pierre Langlois, priest and pastor at the same Jamericourt and the god-mother was Renee Mauteems.

Two other children came to increase the little family's size:

Pierre, baptised at Joux, 29 January 1648.

Laurent, baptised in the same place (Joux) on 10 December 1649.

A profound sorrow strikes the Seguin family. The mother, Marie Massieu, will not have the happiness of raising her children. Early in life, at the age of 28, she dies, and is buried at Cuigy-en-Bray on 25 October 1650.

Did Laurent Seguin live at Cuigy-en-Bray, as Mgr. Tanguay suggests? It is only a little likely. The genealogist bases his contention, without doubt, on the marriage contract of Francois. This document errs by anachronism. It remains certain, however, that Laurent (Seguin) lived at Jamericourt. If there was a marriage contracted at Cuigy-en-Bray, it was because the parents of Marie Massieu were living there. We find the in the register of the same parish under the date of 6 June 1638, the Baptism of Francois Massieu, daughter of Adrien (Massieu) and Louise Beaudry. Again in the same place, on 19 December 1641, there is a record of the burial of Anne Massieu, age 7 weeks, sister the preceding. Francoise and Anne are probably nieces of Marie Massieu, wife of Laurent Seguin. These two acts prove the presence of the Massieu family in the village of Cuigy-en-Bray. The Beaudry family, allied to the Massieus, lives in the same place. As for the Seguins, they have their origin chiefly at Hodenc-en-Bray, where one can find traces of many of them and especially the birth of a cousin of Laurent (Seguin), on the 20th of June 1624. (Notes of M. Jean-Vinot Prefontaine, president of the society Academie de l'Oise, Beauvais.)

Born in July 1644, Francois Seguin, the Canadian ancestor of the family of the same name, became an orphan when he was six. Deprived of maternal solicitude, he quickly left the family home. The taste of danger and the thirst for the unknown tormented him. The famous regiment of Carignan had just covered itself with glory and enjoyed a great prestige in all of continental France. Nothing more was necessary to tempt the young Picard. Francois enrolled in the company of Captain Delamongue. In December, 1664, this regiment, billeted at Marsal, in Lorraine, received from the minister of war to return to one of the ports of embarkement of Brouage or La Rochelle with a view to getting under sail for Canada. Captain Delamongue gave his commission over to his ensign, Lord de St-Curs.

Now a soldier in the company of M. de Saint Curs, Francois with his companions in arms prepared himself for his passage to New France. Undoubtedly, he made the voyage on board the Saint-Sebastien. The trip was troublesome and on 12 September 1665, the same sailor entered the shpyard of Quebec. For the first time, Francois trod the soil of the Laurentians. With his company he passed the winter of 1665-66 billeted at Fort Saurel (Sorel) at the mouth of the Richelieu River.

The soldiers of Carignan were going to wage war for more than three years under the standard of the Fleur-de-lis. In 1668, Francois Seguin obtains his release. He is twenty-four years old. Some domaines are conceded to the captains of the regiment for cultivating. One of them is accorded to M. de Saint-Curs on