

Capitaine pour leurs etre distribué et les faire reconnoitre en cette qualite.

Au detroit 9 Sept^r 1787
R Mathews, Maj^r 53^d Reg^t Comd^t

Translation

General Orders for the Militia of Detroit District

His Excellency, Lord Dorchester, has thought proper to issue directions that the militia of this district be formed into a regiment conforming in every respect to the military regulations of this Province; said regiment to consist of a lieutenant colonel, a major, and each company to have a captain, two lieutenants, and an ensign. Moreover since it is the pleasure of His Excellency to appoint Duperon Baby, Esq.,¹¹ the lieutenant colonel in command, and Captain McGregor,¹² the major of this regiment, it is further

¹¹ The founder of the Baby family in America was Jacques Baby, who was born in the diocese of Agens, in 1633. He enlisted in the army, joining the famous regiment of Carignan, which was sent by Louis XIV to Canada to defend that province against the Iroquois. In 1670 he married Jane Dandonneau, who was born at Three Rivers, July 29, 1655. They had twelve children born in the years 1671-88; the last was Raymond, born posthumously, Dec. 16, 1688, and from him all the later Baby generations trace their descent.

Jacques Baby had engaged in the Indian trade, and Raymond followed the same career. He was in Detroit as early as 1716, when he witnessed the baptism of two savages. He married at Montreal, June 9, 1721, Teresa Lecompte *dit* Dupré, and to them eleven children were born. Jacques Baby *dit* Duperon, our present subject, was born Jan. 4, 1731. He grew up habituated to the forest, and in the Seven Years' War, together with three of his brothers, he distinguished himself as a leader of Indians in forays along the upper Ohio frontier. On one or more occasions during the course of the war he was sent to Detroit, and he is supposed to have been the one who acted as spokesman for the French inhabitants in negotiating the surrender in 1760. However this may be, it is certain that he settled here at the close of the war, and until his death in the summer of 1789 he was one of the most influential of the French residents of Detroit. On Nov. 23, 1760, he married Susanne Réaume, daughter of Pierre Réaume and Susanne Hubert *dit* La Croix. In 1762 they were living in Faubourg Ste. Rosalie (modern Sandwich), although in later years they seem to have lived in the town of Detroit. They had twenty-two children, about half of whom died in childhood. Of those who grew to maturity, one daughter married Captain William Caldwell; another married Captain Thomas Allison of the regular army; and another married Lieutenant Allan Bellingham. One son studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and three became officers in the British army, one of whom attained the rank of major general. Another son, Jacques, is noted below. See Casgrain, *op. cit.*, and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.

¹² Gregor McGregor was born in 1738 and as early as 1774 was engaged in trade at Detroit. During the Revolution he was in the service of the Indian Department with the rank of captain, this connection being terminated by order of General