

Came the plaintiff, Michael Houde,¹ a resident of the North-East Coast of Ste. Anne's parish, saying that his house was robbed of several articles, and that an Indian told him that a panis named François formerly belonging to Hypolyte Campau,² had the said articles, namely, two bed covers, two shirts, and some other things. On hearing this, the said Michael Houde went to the Indian's hut in the rear of the house of Baptiste Meloche³ and there identified some of the said goods in the presence of Charles Lespérance,⁴ but that he did not dare take them as he had no weapons and the panis was armed with a knife. Therefore the said plaintiff demands redress according to law.

1 Noël Houde and Ann Lefebvre lived in the parish of Manou, in Perche, France. Their son, Louis Houde, born in 1617, came to Canada and married at Quebec on Jan. 12, 1655, Magdelene Boucher, a native of that place. Their great-grandson, Michael Houde, married at Lotbinière, Sept. 9, 1765, Mary Magdelene Le May, daughter of Francis Le May *dit* Poudrier and Mary Louisa Perreault. They came to Detroit, where Michael was buried, Aug. 20, 1793. He had a son, Michael, who married on Feb. 4, 1788, Mary Meny, widow of Jean Baptiste Billiau *dit* Lespérance. Michael died before 1804. We have been unable to determine whether the father or the son was the complainant here noted. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*

2 Hypolyte Campau was the son of Jean Baptiste Campau and Catherine Perthuis, and the grandson of Jacques Campau and Cecilia Catin. He was born at Detroit, May 13, 1741, and married here on April 11, 1768, Mary Ann Louisa Pepin *dit* Descardonets, widow of Pierre Boyer. Hypolyte's name appears in the census rolls of Detroit of 1779 and 1782. Denissen, *op. cit.*

3 The Detroit Meloches were descended from Francis Meloche, who married Mary Blouin and lived in the city of Cogne, France. Their son, Francis, born in Cogne, married at Montreal, Oct. 25, 1700, Mary Mouffet, a native of Lachine. They had two sons, Pierre, born Sept. 1, 1701, and Anthony, born in 1725. Pierre married at Lachine, Aug. 16, 1724, Jane Caron, daughter of Vital Caron and Mary Perthuis. The young couple came to Detroit shortly after their marriage and settled on a farm east of the fort now known as Private Claim 7. Jean Baptiste Meloche, a son of Pierre and Jane Caron, was born here Feb. 19, 1741. On Nov. 11, 1760, he married Mary Louisa Robert, daughter of Anthony Robert and Mary Louisa Becquemont. Jean Baptiste obtained title to the farm from his father, and here he spent his entire life. He operated a gristmill on Parent Creek, better known by the name of Bloody Run, where the British troops under Captain Dalzell were defeated on the night of July 31, 1763. Of this affair Mrs. Meloche in old age dictated an account which is published in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, VIII, 340-44. To Jean Baptiste Meloche and his wife nine children were born. He was buried Sept. 16, 1820. His wife was living as late as 1824. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*, and *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, VIII, 340.

4 Charles Lespérance was the son of Charles Moran *dit* Grimard and Mary Meny, the wife of Jean Baptiste Billiau *dit* Lespérance. The union of his parents was an adulterous one, and Charles, born, Dec. 25, 1775, assumed the name of his mother's lawful husband, Billiau *dit* Lespérance. He married at Sandwich, Feb. 24, 1800, Mary Pitre, daughter of Jean Baptiste Pitre and Mary Frances St. Cosme. They left nine children. Denissen, *op. cit.*