

MARRIAGE PLANS OF ROBERT RICHARDSON

Amherstburg 30 June 1811

Dear Sir The chief intention of this letter is to communicate to you a circumstance which I Sincerely hope May meet your approbation. You must be well aware, from the situation of my family altogether, and from The

in the years 1810-30. He died, Feb. 24, 1843, and was accorded a military burial. Obituary notices in both the *Weekly Advertiser* (Feb. 28, 1843) and the *Democratic Free Press* (Feb. 25, 1843) emphasized his military services and heroism. See also Denissen, *op. cit.*; C. M. Burton, Dequindre genealogy (ms.); abstract of title of the Dequindre farm (printed); and mss. in B. H. Coll., *passim*.

68 Valentin Belanger married Jane Lafitte and lived in La Pouyade, diocese of Bordeaux, in France. Their son, Pierre, born in 1713, followed the mason's trade. He migrated to Canada and on Nov. 18, 1742, married in Quebec, Ursula Simon, who was born in Ste. Foye, Aug. 23, 1712, daughter of Pierre Lucian Simon *dit* Delorme and Ursula Hamel. Philip Belanger, eldest son of the foregoing couple, was born in Quebec, Nov. 13, 1746. He came to Detroit prior to 1771, and on January 13 of that year married here Mary Elizabeth Vallé who was born, March 15, 1752, daughter of Jean Vallé *dit* Versailles and Mary Elizabeth Drouillard. She was buried here, Sept. 9, 1799; Philip Belanger was buried, Sept. 16, 1800.

To him and Elizabeth Vallé twelve children were born in the years 1771-93. The sixth of these was Jean Baptiste Belanger, signer of the present document. He was born, Jan. 29, 1784, and was buried here, Oct. 28, 1818. On Aug. 20, 1804, he married Margaret Prudhomme *dit* Nantais, who was born, July 23, 1788, daughter of Jean Baptiste Prudhomme *dit* Nantais and Mary Ann Dellard, for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 370. They were the parents of seven children, born in the years 1805-17. Data derived from Denissen, *op. cit.*

69 Richard Hall Jones was in Detroit as early as 1799. Subsequent to the fire of June 11, 1805, he was awarded a donation lot. In May, 1812, he subscribed sixteen shillings to the fund for the purchase of gunpowder for the defense of the town. He also signed the protest of citizens against General Procter's order banishing a number of prominent citizens from Detroit. He died prior to December, 1813. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and sketch in *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 171.

70 Abraham C. Truax was born in Schenectady, N. Y., in 1778, being a cousin of Stephen Van Rensselaer, proprietor of the patroonship of Albany. He was reared by an uncle, and in early manhood made his way to Detroit, arriving here about the year 1800. He eventually engaged in trade, and on May 30, 1809, purchased from Elijah Brush a lot on Jefferson Avenue, between Wayne and Shelby streets, on which he subsequently erected a store-building. About the year 1817, Truax removed to the present site of Trenton, where in 1834 he platted the town, which was originally called Truaxton. He held various local public offices, being a captain and subsequently colonel of Michigan militia, justice of the peace, and supervisor and commissioner of roads.

In 1818 he married Lucy M. Brigham of Hanover, N. H., who died in Trenton in 1837. They were the parents of four children; two died in childhood; a son, George B. Truax, died in Detroit in 1869; a daughter, Sophia Maria Brigham Truax, married Giles B. Slocum of Slocum's Island, a leading business man of his time in Michigan. Abraham Truax was killed by a steamboat explosion on the Detroit River in 1844. Data adapted from Carlisle, *Chronography of Wayne County*, 150 ff.

71 For the Coté family line, see *B. H. R.*, I, 387. Prisque (Priscus) Coté and Magdelene Lefebvre, there noted, had four children. Prisque, the eldest, was born in Detroit, May 21, 1772, and was buried here, July 17, 1845. He lived and died a bachelor. A younger brother of Prisque seems to have been the signer here noted. He was born, Jan. 19, 1776, and appears in the record as Antoine. When he came to die, he was called Joseph, and he was also known to the Governor and Judges by this name. See *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 187; Denissen, *op. cit.*; and Ste. Anne's Church Register.