

The Charré Family

In 1820, Sebastien St. Marie Charré was a resident of Donaldsonville and a St. James Parish justice of the peace and census taker. He was married to Louise (Aloyse) Mille (in a marriage certificate Marie Louise Eura) and had the following children:

Elise Charré (May 25, 1820–Sept. 9, 1820),
Numa Antoine Charré (born July 2, 1823),
St. Marie Lucien Charré (born Sept. 14, 1821), and
Adolph Raoul Charré (born about 1814)

In the 1820 Census, St. Marie Charré of Donaldsonville (ASCE, 003) listed the following:

1 male under 10
1 male under 16
1 male under 21
1 male under 45
1 foreigner not naturalized
1 female under 10
1 female under 21
1 person in commerce

In 1821 Sebastien St. Marie Charré sold his Donaldsonville property and moved to Plaquemine.

Besides the fate of his children, little else is known about either Louise Mille or St. Marie Charré. Dudley J. LeBlanc cites a Charret as intermarrying among Canadian Indians in Acadia in "The Acadian Miracle." Several 17th and early 18th century Charets are listed in the "Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles du Québec," but none connect to Louisiana. A Pierre Charet, son of Mathieu Charet and Sebastienne Veillon is listed as marrying Marie Madeleine Giroux in 1686 in Beauport of Québec.

A Marguerite Godebert arrived in New Orleans with the Law Concession around 1720 with her sponsor Jean Francois Charas. In a later census record, a French citizen named Charré lives with the descendant of St. Marie, so it is probable St. Marie came to Louisiana directly from France.

One son, Lucien Charré, a native of Ascension Parish, married Marie Rosine Richard (daughter of Joseph Richard and Marie Suarez) on March 6, 1848. Lucien served as a Plaquemine alderman from 1857–1859, and again in 1861 and 1862. (A “J. Cherre” was listed as a Plaquemine alderman in 1860 and an “A. Cherre” was listed in 1878).

Lucien and Marie have the following children: Charles Joseph (b. Feb. 5, 1855), Emily Juliana (b. March 9, 1857), Lucien Sebastien (b. Jan. 7, 1853), Marie Claire Elmire (b. Aug. 12, 1859) and Marie Rosina (died Nov. 25, 1860).

In the 1850 Census of Iberville Parish there are several Cherrés listed: Louis Cherré, age 28, a carpenter; Madam Cherré, 20; Louisa, 1; Widow Cherré, 60 and Sally Richards, 12.

In the 1878 Census of Iberville Parish, the following Charrés are listed: Elmire Charré, age 17 (page 003); Emily Charré, age 20 (page 431) and Lucien Charré, age 57 (page 18).

Another son, Adolphe Raoul Charré, married Celestine Nerault on Feb. 27, 1831. They recorded the following contract in Iberville Parish Conveyance Record No. 407:

Here in my presence, I, John Dutton, judge of the Parish of Iberville and official notary public in and for the aforementioned parish: there presented themselves Mr. Adolf Charré, legitimate and adult son of the deceased St. Mary Charré and Mme. Marie Louise Eura, native of Soissons, Département of L’Aisne of France, and Miss Célestine Néraul, legitimate daughter of M. Francois Néraul and Mme. Françoise Mayer, deceased, the forementioned young lady native of this parish, and duly assisted by her natural tutor, the aforementioned Francois

Nérault not being present. These two intend to enter into marriage and hereby establish this marriage.

Article 1. The goods of the future wife consists at present of what she inherited from her deceased mother, Dame Francoise Mayer, and the sum which will be paid to her of 1340 piastres 37 and the money she inherited from the deceased Victorine Nérault in the sum of 335 piastres, for a total of 1675.37. This money is now in the hands of her natural tutor F. Nérault, natural tutor of the aforementioned Célestine Nérault.

The part that she will have in the succession of the deceased maternal grandmother has not yet been established.

A sum of money that she will receive from the succession of the deceased Dame Chénier has not yet been established, and the money remaining in the hands of her tutor is recognized as being in her account.

After her marriage she will reserve the right to obtain property in her own name, and will keep the right to earn whatever revenues these properties will produce as hers.

Done and sworn to in the home of M. ___ on this seventh day of February 1831 in the presence of the witness and scribe F. Guillory.

Célestine Nérault and A. Charré signed with their marks.

The document was witnessed by the scribe Francois Guillory and signed by John Dutton.

The children of Adolphe Raoul Charré and Celestine Nerault (the only ones listed in the Baton Rouge Diocese records) are:

1. Francoise Aglae Charré, born Feb. 18, 1838, baptized Aug. 4, 1838, at St. Gabriel in Iberville Parish (sponsors: Sylvain Nerault and Marie Arthemise Guedry), and

2. Victoire Charré, born Dec. 31, 1832, baptized July 24, 1834, at St. Gabriel in Iberville Parish (sponsors: Norbert Nerault and Marie Azelie Frederic).

In the 1830–40s, Celestine Charré sold her Plaquemine home to a Henrietta Keays, sold her slaves to several merchants and a lot to her brother-in-law, Lucien Charré, and left Iberville Parish for New Orleans. According to Francoise Aglae Charré's obituary, the family moved to New Orleans around 1844. It is unclear when Adolphe passed away.

Celestine's daughter, Francoise Aglae Charré, married Victor Morano on June 17, 1854, at the Annunciation Chapel in New Orleans. She lived in the

Seventh Ward of New Orleans with her husband, children and mother Celestine at 3137 Maurepas St. Francoise Aglae Charré Morano died on July 11, 1914, and was buried in St. Louis Cemetery No. 2.