



L'INFORMATTEUR

Matte Association of America

News bulletin

No. 1 - February 2017



Publishing of the first edition

TO SEE INSIDE

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A Matte who stood out



Président's word

By: Claude Matte



Our Goals for 2017

Our first test publication was very well received. We hope this new edition will establish a tradition of exchanging and sharing of information. We thank you all for your efforts. However, we must now address the challenges we are facing in 2017:

- » We need more members in good standing (target: 80);
- » We need to create a successful fundraising campaign and bring your genealogical research results to improve the website;
- » Hold regional activities: Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Lake St-Jean...

To accomplish these goals, the Association must rely on our members. We cannot only rely on the members of the Board. Everyone is welcome to participate! I recently saw a t-shirt that said: "Keep calm and let a Matte handle it " Please accept the challenge.

If you need tools (pamphlets, business cards, letters, etc.), send us a message: info@famillematte.org

Thank you for your support and your help.

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to be 'CM'.

Claude Matte, président



Matte Association of America



From the editor

By: Jacques Matte

With the arrival of the first edition of the Infor**MATTE**ur, we can finally declare "mission accomplished". It is a project that we felt strongly about for a long time. A printed version is still an excellent medium for information and still connects people, even today. Producing an online version is not for everyone. Many are not comfortable with it. The paper version has its advantages, and it remains within reach. If left on the corner of the table, it creates a great opportunity to show it to our visitors, and talk about the Association and in addition, you can bring it everywhere. If you're like me, you will be promoting our association.

By the way, is the infor**MATTE**ur that you hold in your hands, a newspaper, a magazine or a newsletter? The "Petit Robert" dictionary gives the following definitions: A "journal" refers to a daily publication. A "review" refers to a periodic (e.g. monthly) publication that contains essays, stories and a variety of articles. Finally, a 'bulletin' refers to a medium used to communicate information to the public, or provide you with information on the Mattes in America. That's our plan for infor**MATTE**ur. Most family associations and historical societies publish bulletins.

For 2017, the infor**MATTE**ur will be published twice (February and August). We hope that the information, will be of interest to our members. It is a challenge and to get there, we are seeking the assistance of all of our members. Do you have stories to tell about a Matte, family memories, highlights, anecdotes, stories about the Matte, a Matte that stood out, has achieved something that you want to know, a Matte who succeeded in one area in particular, both at a personal level and public? Let us know by contacting us at the following address : info@famillematte.org.

Our greatest wish is to increase the number of our publications to three or four per year. To get there, we absolutely need the participation of our members. If you participate, we will be able to increase our publications. There are many stories and photos out there to share about our Matte families. So, long live the infor**MATTE**ur.



Jocelyn Matte (left) and
Claude Matte (right)

Unveiling of the new banner of the Matte Families of America Association

By: Jacques Matte

Pictured on the front page, are the Board of Directors 2016-2017 of the Association. From left to right, Jacques Matte (Treasurer), Murielle Chabot-Matte (responsible for activities), Rolland Matte (Administrator) and Claude Matte (President).

The Association of the Matte of America held a meeting on December 11, 2016, in a private room of Mike's restaurant of l'ancienne-Lorette, for our annual brunch of the holiday season. We hope to continue this annual brunch every year. It was a pleasurable meeting for members and their guests.

Our president, Claude Matte held in secrecy the unveiling of the new banner project. It was met with surprise by the attendees and with much pride that he took advantage of this event to unveil the new banner of the Association. There is no doubt that the shape, the colors and the design of the banner will represent well the image of the Association. Produced in two languages (French and English), the fleurs de lys and the inscription 'Matte' elongated with flowers. In addition, a new logo representing the type of boat that could be used at the time of the conquest of the new-France. 'Association of the Matte of America' complete the top part of the logo. The banner was commissioned entirely by a generous donor to which we are all very grateful.

Moreover, this banner will be used during Association activities.



Matte Association of America

Holiday Brunch 2016 - 2017

Here are some pictures of the Holiday Brunch of 2016-2017 which took place on Sunday, December 11, 2016 in the lounge at Mike's of l'ancienne-Lorette.



Among the participants present at the brunch, most of the members and their guests were from the Quebec region, Portneuf County and the South Shore (sector Lévis). Rolland Matte traveled from several hours away to participate. Those present were able to exchange family information throughout brunch. If you want to learn more about the Mattes, attend these friendly meetings and you will discover common family ties. Several of the members took advantage of this opportunity to acquire items of interest of the Mattes of America.



Don't miss the next meeting of the Association! Visit the website for dates and location. 'www.famillematte.org'...



Matte Association of America

In the fall of 1995, when the first edition of the journal "Le Bulletin, Volume 1, no. 1", the La Societe d'histoire de Neuville" published the article "The Ancestry of Nicolas Matte". The Mattes are one of the 12 families established at the very beginning of the colony in Dombourg, which later became Neuville. It is with great pride that we present this article to you in its entirety. Thanks to the Société d'histoire de Neuville for accepting the reproduction of this article.

Ancestry of Nicolas Matte¹

Every **Matte** in Canada and in the United States who bear this name and are descended from Canadian ancestors is the descendant of Nicolas Matte, who was born December 6, 1636 in Sainte-Geneviève-en-Bray, France. He was the son of Charles Matte and Barbe Harache.

We know very little about the childhood of the young Nicolas Matte, except that he was educated because he was able to read and write. He very clearly signed his name on the few contracts that were found in the Canadian archives. Moreover, we know that the young boy had to follow his family of Sainte-Geneviève-en-Bray, diocese of Rouen, where he was in 1636, to Saint-Saire, in the same diocese, where they were domiciled in 1671⁴.

It is 27 years later that we find Nicolas Matte in New France. He disembarked in Quebec in 1663, during the summer. In fact, one reads the name of Nicolas Matte on the list of the first census in New France, carried out in 1666. It is enumerated with the following information: inhabitant of 26 years of age, domiciled in Notre-Dame-des-Anges⁵.

Four year later, Pierre Lafine, the Dombourg miller, gave Nicolas Matte A dwelling on which was "five arpents, a pickaxe and a hut". His two neighbors were Leonard Faucher and Lucien Talon. Matte was obliged to sow the soil, and to weed and winnow, and prepare the harvest. He also had to construct a building to store grains and vegetables, and to clear an acre of new land. In return, Lafine would pay 40 pounds per new arpent of land, and Matte was to deliver half the grain. The lease is for three months.

Once he settled in, Nicolas Matte feels the need to start a family. He contracted marriage with a daughter of the King, a Norman like him, Madeleine Auvray, October 12, 1671 in Quebec City.

Less than a year and a half after the agreement with Pierre Lafine, Nicolas Matte canceled his lease and was granted land that was to become the ancestral property. On May 31, 1672, the lord of Dombourg (Neuville), Jean-François Bourdon granted Nicolas two arpents of land with frontage on the St. Lawrence River, by forty arpents of depth "in the land to start the high tide and to finish at the end of the said forty arpents planted at the top of the woods. The neighbors were Denis Gentil to the southwest and the Lord Bourdon himself to the northeast. In 1964, the land was owned by Pierre Warren⁹.

Matte had fishing rights, and was obligated to homestead on his land, to allow the roads which would be considered useful and necessary for public convenience, to grind his grain at the mill of the seignior, etc.

While attending to the work of the land, Nicolas Matte and his wife Madeleine Auvray also grew their family. The census of 1681 describes this family as follows: Léonard 10 years, Françoise 8 years, Laurent 5 years, Jeanne 3 years. Two other boys and five girls will complete the eleven branches of these two ancestors Matte and Auvray.

The Matte's youngest child was not yet born when the oldest children left home to marry. In fact, Françoise united her destiny with François Laroche in Neuville on 14 February 1695 and Jeanne married Jacques Bourgoin, also in Neuville on 3 November of the same year. The others will follow.

Matte Association of America



But there were also trials. Léonard died while still a teenager and Marie, the 8th child, died in 1698. Similarly, Jeanne was married for only 8 years when she died in 1703.

The eleven children of the Matte couple are in order: Léonard, born at Neuville and deceased at the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec on August 3, 1698; Marie-Françoise, born at Neuville in 1675; Laurent, born in Neuville in 1677 and married to Françoise Sylvestre; Marie-Jeanne, born in Neuville; Nicolas born in Neuville in 1682 and married in Neuville to Marie-Angélique Coquin; Marie-Madeleine, born in Neuville in 1685 and married to Noël Pelletier in 1703; Marie-Anne, born in 1687 in Neuville and married to Romain Dubuc in 1709; Marie, born on 3 November 1688 and died on the 10th of the same month; Alexis, born on 14 February 1692 and married to Marie-Françoise Carpentier in 1721; Marie-Louise, born July 20, 1694 and married in 1714 to Jean-François Constantineau; And the last child, Marie-Angélique, born on June 22, 1697 in Neuville and married in 1717 to Joseph Garnier.

In Neuville, the descendants of Nicolas Matte and Benoit Matte, Paul Matte, Richard Matte, Réjean Matte, Dominique Matte, François Matte, André Matte, Valère Matte, Rodrigue Matte, Robert Matte, Léo-Paul Matte and Vianney Matte, etc.

It is necessary to recall that Sister Dina Bélanger, beatified on March 20, 1993 in Rome, is the daughter of Séraphina Matte de Neuville, married to Olivier-Octave Bélanger at Neuville on June 22, 1896. Dina Bélanger was born in 1897 and died in 1929.

Rémi Morissette

¹ An abstract taken from the Memoirs of the Canadian Genealogical Society, Vol. IV, No. 1, pp. 19-22, January 1950.

² The province of Normandy, or department of Seine-Maritime in France, is divided into three major districts: Havre, Rouen and Dieppe. Among the twenty cantons of Dieppe, you find that of Saint-Saën with its fifteen communes including that of Sainte-Geneviève-en-Bray.

³ The documents also call her Barbe Horace.

⁴ This is revealed to us by his marriage certificate in the year 1671.

⁵ This seigneurie of Notre-Dame des Anges is none other than "Charlesbourg" today.

⁶ Neuville bore the name of Dombourg at that time.

⁷ Reading and clearing.

⁸ « La livre » (money) then was roughly equivalent to our dollars.

⁹ The Neuville terrier, by Marc Rouleau, Feuillet 122 and map of Marc Rouleau, land history, first concession, 1657-1980.

¹⁰ The bibliography for this article includes the following two sources: "Our ancestors", VOL. 12. Pp. 119-127, Gérard Lebel, 1986 and the Genealogical Dictionary of the Families of Quebec, from the origins to 1730, René Jetté, 1983



Matte Association of America

Summer Reunion - 2016

Theme: King's Daughters « Fille du Roy »

The 2nd Matte Families Association of America reunion was held on August 13, 2016 . The theme was to learn more about the King's Daughters (Filles du Roy). Our maternal ancestor Madeleine Auvray, wife of Nicolas Matte, settled in New France as "Fille du Roy" in 1671. She is one of the 48 King's daughters who settled in Neuville at the very beginning of the colony. As soon as they arrived on the continent, the Filles du Roy were taken in by the sisters of the congregation of the Ursulines of Quebec. It was therefore an excellent opportunity for all of us to learn more about the customs and practices of the arrival of the "Filles du Roy" in New France. Due to two fires in the buildings of the Ursulines, many archives were destroyed, including those concerning our ancestor Madeleine Auvray.

The rally started with a guided tour of the Ursulines Museum, followed by a visit to the chapel and finally a garden. Our guide Veronique made us discover the history and the life of the Ursulines since their arrival in 1639. It was a meeting very appreciated by all the participants.





Summer Reunion - 2016

Theme: King's Daughters (Fille du Roy) (continued)

After the visit to the Ursulines Museum, the group visited the St Roch Recreation Center where the Annual General Assembly was held in the presence of the members followed by a generous buffet. Afterwards, a King's Daughter Society Conference was held by Mrs Irene Belleau who is President of the Society. This was the most interesting part of the reunion. This dynamic conference is in its 84th year and that day were fortunate to be able to attend Mrs Belleau's 100th Conference about the King's Daughters. She is also a descendant of a King's Daughter and founded the Society. Mrs Belleau has a real passion for this topic which is rarely seen. Her presentation lasted 90 minutes.

She was accompanied by Mrs. France Morin, who came as the personification of Louise Chartier, a King's Daughter who was part of the first contingent of the daughters of the King in 1663. Mrs Morin came wearing clothing similar to those worn in that time period, and provided a detailed description of the daily life of a King's daughter. Between the years 1663 to 1677, there were approximately 764 King's Daughters who arrived in New France and 48 of them settled in Dombourg (Neuville). Our ancestor, Madeleine Auvray, was one of them. Many took this opportunity to buy books on the King's Daughters.

By: Jacques Matte





Matte Association of America

Matte Ancestors in France

By: Jeannine Matte-Richardson

The Matte family occupations seem to have been plowmen (worked on farms plowing the fields with horses) and merchants and appear to have had some education as they could read and write as Nicolas' grandfather (also named Nicollas born in 1585 but birthplace unknown) signed his name as Nicollas Matte on legal documents. Nicollas was married to Guionne Vasseur.

Based on the researched conducted by Mr Lucien Dubois of the Rouen, Seine Maritime that was completed for the Association Famille Matte d'Amerique, Mattes resided in this area since at least the 16th Century. The Mattes spent their years living in this area probably traveling from farm to farm wherever their services as plowmen were needed. Unfortunately, we do not know what types of merchants they were but cheese, apples and porcelain were prominent industries in the area at that time.

Note: Mr Dubois is related to us on his mother's side. His ancestor is Charles Matte's brother Nicolas (our Nicolas' godfather).

Charles Matte (our Nicolas' father), was born in Fontaine en Bray 1609 and married Barbe Harache before 1634. Barbe Harache was born in 1613 in Mesnil-Mauger to Antoine Harache and Marie (unknown). Charles and Barbe had two children: Antoinette b in 1635 and our Nicolas b in 1636 both were born in Ste Genevieve en Bray. No records were located for Antoinette.

Charles had two brothers: Jean and Nicolas (our Nicolas'godfather). Nothing is known of his brother Jean but Nicolas married Catherine Auge b. 1620 in Beaussault and after Catherine died, he married Marie Caron in 1676. He still has descendants living in France. The name Nicolas was passed down from his grandfather, to his uncle then to our Nicolas who passed it down to his son and so forth. We know there have been at least 6 generations of Nicolas Mattes.

Charles Matte died in 1680 in Beaussault at the age of 71.

On May 23, 1636, the same year Nicolas Matte was born, his father Charles was named on the Baptismal Certificate of Marie Harache the daughter of Jean Harache dit Prevost and Jacqueline Ma?? (Perhaps Charles sister?).

The Harache Family

Barbe Harache (Nicolas mother) was born in Treforest (another hamlet within 10 miles of Beaussault). She was the daughter of Antoine Harache and Marie (last name unknown). Her family lived in a chateau known today as Le Chateau de Treforest. According to some records she married at age 16 to Charles Matte who was 26 years old.

There is a mass celebrated once a month in the Chateau's Chapel by the Harache descendants.

Madeleine's Ancestors

Madeleine Auvray was born in Rouen France in 1649. She was christened in St Vivien Church. She was the oldest of four children but the only one to travel to New France as a Fille du Roi (Kings Daughter). Madeleine was not related to the king but in order to populate New France they needed to send young women to marry the men already living in New France. Unmarried women of good quality who were orphans were chosen and given dowries to go to New France.

Her parents were Antoine Auvray and Marie LeNormand. Her family appears to have been tile workers in Rouen.



Nicolas Matte and Madeleine Auvray's Birthplace

Both traveled to a New World only to marry someone who lived within 25 miles of their homes in France. The earliest records found for their ancestors were Nicolas' grandfathers who were Nicollas Matte born in 1595 and Antoine Harache born in 1585.

The families of Nicolas Matte and Marie Madeleine Auvray lived in the Dieppe District of the Seine Maritime Province in Northern France. Based on the records I have found they resided in this area since at least the 16th Century. Their ancestors lived in these towns.

- **Rouen** - In the 10th century Rouen became the capital of the Duchy of Normandy and the residence of the dukes, until William the Conqueror established his castle at Caen. Even in the 17th Century, Rouen was one of the largest cities in Europe. This 17th Century drawing shows a sprawling city surrounding a large church. Madeleine Auvray was born in Rouen in 1649.



- **Fontaine en Bray** - A small farming village situated in the Pays de Bray, some 33 miles (53 km) southeast of Dieppe. Birthplace of Charles Matte and his two brothers.
- **Ste Genevieve en Bray** - A farming village situated in the Pays de Bray, some 28 miles (45 km) southeast of Dieppe. Three small tributaries of the Béthune River have their source in the land around the village. This is the birthplace of Nicolas and his sister Antoinette. We do not know anything further about Antoinette other than she was born a year before Nicolas.
- **Beaussault** - A tiny hamlet farming village (population in 1722 was 245 inhabitants and today has 345 inhabitants). Beaussault is located in the Pays de Bray by the banks of the Béthune River, some 26 miles (42 km) southeast of Dieppe. Beaussault was first occupied and named by the Romans (Latin name was Bellus Saltus meaning pretty forest) and then conquered by the Normans during the Norman Conquest of 1066. In the 12th Century, a gentleman by the name of Simon (a Norman) built himself a castle in this hamlet and was then known as Simon de Beaussault. The castle still exists but has long been abandoned and closed to visitors. The last owners were a family of nobility called the Montmorancy. Here's a photo of the castle.



Matte Association of America

Chateau De

Beaussault, France



- **Mesnil-Mauger** – Another small farming community within the Dieppe District. This is the town where Nicolas mother, Barbe Harache, was born in 1613 on the estate of Treforest. Today, Treforest is owned by SCI Treforest, a real estate business specializing in rental housing. There is a chapel on the grounds and a cemetery dedicated to World War 1 French pilots and one Canadian who died during the war.



References:

Cambridge University Press 0521571723 - *The Norman Frontier in the Twelfth and Early Thirteenth Centuries*

Mattefamily.org

Famillematte.org

Matte Families of North America

Mrs. Jeannine Matte-Richardson, the author of this article published this book "History of the Matte Families of North America"

This book of 386 pages contains a lot of informations about the Matte who lived in America (Canada and U.S.A.) We are grateful for her implication in Matte Association of America.

Thanks a lot Jeannine !



The Blacksmith's Daughter

By: Diane Matte, Omer's daughter

When I was born, they named me Diane. I was born in Pont-Rouge (Sainte-Jeanne parish), the eldest daughter of a family of six children. My father is Omer Matte and my mother is Jeanne D'Arc Légaré, daughter of Edgar Légaré and Léa Plamondon and originally from Saint-Sauveur in Quebec City.

My father was born at Pont-Rouge; He is the 6th of 11 children in the family of Théophile Matte and Corinne Leclerc. They are Evelyne, born October 16, 1908; Dollard, born June 1, 1910; Gilbert, born January 6, 1912; Donat, born July 12, 1913; Célédine, baptized on April 1, 1915; Omer, born December 12, 1916; Émilien, born on 26 December 1918; Brigitte, born July 31, 1921; Adrian, born on August 7, 1923; Victorin, born August 7, 1925; Marie Thérèse, born and died on May 8, 1928. My grandfather Théophile was a farmer. His house, his farm, and his lands were situated in the rank of Terrebonne, between the farm of Laroche and that of the Langlois.

My father Omer learned the trade of blacksmith in a building of the Old Port of Quebec, which then occupied the ground where today is the Espace 400e Bell, in front of the basin Louise. On weekends he traveled by train from Quebec City to Pont-Rouge; He went down to the station which was situated behind the hardware of M. Lucien Marcotte.

In the meantime, he "retired" in Quebec City - which enabled him to meet his wife, five years after he met her on the Dollard Park rink in the parish of Saint-Malo. The lovebirds married in the local church on September 2, 1943, after which they went to stay in Saint-Basile where Omer had found a job as a blacksmith at Mr. Mercure's hardware after completing his apprenticeship.



House of Omer Matte, 1944-1950. At the far right, the forge shop. On the left, the Jacques-Cartier River



Matte Association of America


Several years passed and Omer purchased a piece of vacant land facing the Marcoux Mill, next to the bridge that crosses the Jacques Cartier River where he built his home. and his blacksmith forge behind the house. The house was built from red brick and when a surveyor bought the home years later he changed it to beige bricks before it was demolished about five years ago. The snack bar owners have acquired all of the land that now serves as a parking lot and warehouse.

My father worked the blacksmith trade at Pont-Rouge from 1944 to 1950. By 1950, people preferred to drive cars and take trains, there were fewer horses needing horseshoes and less work in the blacksmith shop. Heartbroken, Omer decided, one day, to sell everything and go to work in the city in a tobacco factory, the Rock City.

You could tell that he regretted leaving his native parish, so we often went to Pont-Rouge too visit my grandfather's farm. Omer liked to help milking the cows and haying. My brother André and I spent two weeks each summer at Theophilus. We so looked forward to playing with our friends Jocelyn and Jocelyne Matte...

One day, my father bought a property in the Grand Capsa, at the corner of the so-called marriage road, to build a cottage - which filled him with happiness, because he didn't stay in town. Thus, he felt closer to his native village, his relatives and his beautiful County of Portneuf, as he liked to say. I share my father's attachment to the village of Pont-Rouge where I feel good. This is why I do not miss the opportunity to go there, I have even done volunteer work in the area.

My family tree



Première génération		
Nicolas Matte	Québec 12-10-1671	Madeleine Luvray
Deuxième génération		
Alexis Matte	Cap. Santé 17-02-1721	M. Françoise Carpentier
Troisième génération		
Jean-François Matte	Cap. Santé 14-02-1752	M. Joseph Richard
Quatrième génération		
François Matte	Neuville 22-11-1784	Thérèse Papillon
Cinquième génération		
François Matte	Cap. Santé 21-11-1814	Josephite Galarneau
Sixième génération		
Jean-Baptiste Matte	Cap. Santé 19-01-1847	Adélaïde Savard
Septième génération		
Jean-Baptiste Matte	Pont-Rouge 07-01-1873	^{Époux} Lea Richard
Huitième génération		
Theophile Matte	Pont-Rouge 09-07-1907	Corinne Leclerc
Neuvième génération		
Omer Matte	Québec - 02-09-1943	Jeanne Parc Légaré
Dixième génération		



Don't Miss these Events

- ⇒ Guided tour of the Charlesbourg Trait-Carré
- ⇒ Guided tour of the Moulin des Jésuites
- ⇒ Dinner with hot meal (bring your own wine)
- ⇒ Guest speaker

2017 Reunion of Matte Families Association

Date: Saturday, August 5, 2017 at 1:00 pm

Start of activities: 1:30 pm

Location: Moulin des Jésuites (7960, Henri-Bourassa Blvd, Charlesbourg) G1H 3G3

Reply coupon (to be returned with your payment by July 20, 2017)

Cost per person :

Adults: (18 years and over)	55\$
Students (6 to 17 years)	35\$
Childrens (5 years and under)	gratuit

***After July 20, please add \$ 10 per participant ***

Name: _____ First name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Zip Code: _____

State: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Total: Adults: _____ Students: _____ Childrens: _____

Please return the reply coupon with your check or money order payable to:

Association des Matte d'Amérique

224, rue Dupont, Pont-Rouge (Québec) G3H 1P1 (Canada)



Matte Association of America

A Matte who stood out ...

Did you know Lucien Matte, the Jesuit Father?

Claudette Matte, daughter of Georges-Élie Matte and Amanda Bussièrès, tells us in a few words the story of her uncle Lucien, who was his father's half-brother.

Lucien Matte was born on November 2, 1907, in the parish of St-Fidèle (Limoilou district) in Quebec City. He is the son of Dr. Rosaire-Georges Matte and Josephine Paradis. He had four sisters and three brothers from two marriages, since his father remarried after becoming a widower.

Her uncle studied classically at the Petit Séminaire de Québec, and then studied theology at the Grand Séminaire de Québec. In 1930 he became a Jesuit and entered the Society of Jesus. He realized his dream of becoming a priest by being ordained on April 18, 1938. For some years, Lucien Matte assumed the task of professor at the Scolasticate of the Immaculate Conception.

In 1943 he was appointed director of the Jesuit College of Quebec, a position he held until 1945.



**Lucien Matte, Jesuit father, born on
2 November 1907**

At the end of the Second World War (1945), Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, who was in exile in England, due to Italy's colonial domination of his country, returned to Ethiopia. Having known Jesuits and their method of teaching during his exile, he entered into communication with the superior general of the Jesuits. The emperor asked him to have, as missionaries, Jesuits of French Canadian nationality who could work in English, to build a high-level education system for his Ethiopian people.



**Emperor Haile Sélaissé 1st, with his
real name: Tafari Makonnen**

This request marked the call for the return of the Jesuits to Ethiopia, since they had been expelled from the country in the 17th century. Because of this bad episode, the Canadian Jesuits had to dedicate themselves solely to their role as educators, without having the right to wear their clerical garments, identifying them as a priest.

Pope Pius XII immediately accepted the conditions of the emperor.



From the beginning of this adventure, Lucien Matte was chosen as the person in charge of this teaching mission. In June 1945, Father Matte, in his farewell address to his Jesuit colleagues at Collège Saint-Charles-Garnier, mentioned the conditions specified by Emperor Haile Selassie and quoted a famous quotation from the French poet Charles Péguy. « Je ne sais pas si je serai grand, mais je vous promets de ne pas être petit » Which loosely translates to "I do not know if I will be famous, but I promise not to be insignificant."

The work he carried out in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 1945, and until his final departure from Ethiopia in 1962, testifies that he kept his promise. After the success of the Tafari Makonnen School in 1958, the Emperor asked Father Matte to found the University College of Addis Ababa in the Ethiopian capital. It was one of the first modern universities in Africa. He was its founder and rector until 1962. Despite the political and religious oppositions, Fr Lucien Matte was the man they needed to found and direct this college.

Without ceasing, he assumed his task with confidence and authority, his leadership was remarkable. His decision-making was rapid and he became impatient when contradicted. On two occasions, in the wake of a vote of an important decision, two fellow Jesuit colleagues (Pion and Beaudoin) who had voted against his opinion, each received Father Matte's ticket for a "one-way" Montreal.

He was, in fact, a generous man, he was generous

with money when it was for good work and for the benefit of the missionaries from other congregation's who worked in the Ethiopian "bush". When the bride of a professor gave birth, he visited her on every occasion, carrying flowers and chocolate.

Father Matte's job often led him to frequent travel to England, Canada and the United States. The purpose of these trips was to purchase school materials and to keep abreast of existing secondary and university education programs.

On the other hand, he was not very close to members of the Ethiopian community, but rather sensitive to the needs of his religious and secular collaborators in their educational activities. Father Matte's health led him to leave Ethiopia and return to Canada.

In 1962, shortly before his departure from Ethiopia, Fr Lucien Matte came back to meet his Majesty the Emperor one last time to bid farewell. The latter said to him: "Your superior in Rome can not imagine the depth of my friendship for you. He can not understand our attachment to each other. Nevertheless, I agree that you should leave but I am very sad." Father Matte left Ethiopia to head the University of Sudbury, Ontario. The Emperor said to him: "They do not know what opportunity they have been given."



Here are some photos illustrating Father Lucien Matte in the company of the Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie I



Matte Association of America

After completing his mandate successfully, he made his final recommendations to his peers: "Continue our mission in Ethiopia by serving the Church wherever we may be called to serve, whether in education or in development."

In recognition of Father Matte's work for Ethiopia, Emperor Haile Selassie donated \$ 10,000 for the construction of the University of Sudbury.

Father Lucien Matte, a Jesuit priest, was appointed rector of the University of Sudbury from 1962 to 1966. He was the instigator of the creation of Sudbury College, of which he was also named "rector" and a teacher at Laurentian University.

Unable to count on subsidies from the Government of Ontario, he organized a fundraiser and raised more than \$ 300,000 from Catholic institutions and donors.

A residence for 180 students is now called "Pavillon Lucien Matte".

Prior to his death, he was a chaplain at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal.

By: Jacques Matte



Collège Sacré-Cœur of Sudbury



Pavillon Lucien Matte

Father Lucien Matte is a direct descendant of Nicolas Matte (5th child), son of Nicolas Matte and Madeleine Auvrey. He died in St-Jérôme, on September 23, 1973, at the age of 66 years and 11 months.



Did you KNOW that...

The first mention of Nicolas Matte in New France was found in the Census taken during the Winter of 1665 and 1666 by Jean Talon the intendant. In fact, it was the first census and a good part of the inventory of the colony was completed by Talon himself. He went to the residences of the inhabitants of the time. Talon intoner has a total of 3,215 inhabitants, 2,034 men and 1,181 women (representing 37% women).

The census included the name, age, occupation, marital status and the relationship with the head of the family (eg wife, child, etc.). The name of Nicolas Matte appears as a volunteer engaged in the seigneurie of Notre-Dame-des-Anges (sector of Charlesbourg). Few details appear. He is reported to be 26 years old. In fact, he was 29 years old because he was born on 4 December 1636. No other precise indication of the exact location of his place of residence or the name of the family that housed him.

Before crossing to New France, we believe that Nicolas would have signed a 36-month contract, as a farmer's aide in Notre-Dame-des-Anges (Charlesbourg). The purpose of this on-farm learning was to learn the rudiments necessary to successfully establish themselves on a farm.

We invite you to join us at our 3rd gathering to be held on August 5, 2017 in Charlesbourg. The guided tour of the Trait-Carré will make you discover what was the daily life of the inhabitants who lived there in the time of our ancestor Nicolas Matte. Be one of us !!!!

The Matte Association of America has a total of 78 members, 48 of whom have renewed their membership. This first publication of the InforMATTEUR will be distributed to all our members and ex-members.

TAKE NOTE THAT ONLY MEMBERS WHO RENEWED THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE AMERICAN MATTE ASSOCIATION WILL RECEIVE THE NEXT PUBLICATION.

We are looking for members who want to get involved in the Association
Feel free to contact us!



Matte Association of America

The Matte Association of America is looking for sponsors to help fund the costs of our "Famillematte.org" web site, our activities, and the publication of our newsletter the InforMATTEur..

If you are interested in contributing, or if you know of a company or organization that may become a partner, please contact our President, Claude Matte (418-285-0383)

IF YOU HAVE APPRECIATED THIS PUBLICATION, WE INVITE YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES AND PHOTOS THAT WE WILL BE HAPPY TO PUBLISH, AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS

info@famillematte.com

Do not hesitate to send us your comments on the contents of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Do not miss the next meeting of the Association! Visit the website "mattefamily.org" ...