



L'INFORMATTEUR

Matte Association of America

No. 10 - Winter 2022

News bulletin

ISSN 2560-872X



Remains of old mills still visible on the heritage land of the Matte in Neuville. On the left, the rivière à Matte, at its lowest level in summer.

Next gathering

August 13, 2022 in Cap-Santé

**We will celebrate the 350th wedding anniversary
of our ancestors,
Nicolas Matte & Madeleine Auvray**

Matte Association of America

<p>Matte Association of America 224, rue Dupont, Pont-Rouge (Québec), Canada G3H 1P1 418-873-2337</p> <p>Web site: www.famillematte.org Web site: www.mattefamily.org Email: info@famillematte.com</p> <p>Board of directors: Member:</p> <p>President : Claude Matte 1 516, Route 138, Cap Santé Tél. 418-285-0383 matteclaud@hotmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer: Jacques Matte 3 224, rue Dupont, Pont-Rouge Tél. 418-873-2337 jacquesmatte23@gmail.com</p> <p>Administrator: Rolland Matte 22 950, Ch. Lac Écho, Prévost Tél.450-224-4074 rmatte9@hotmail.com</p> <p>Activities responsible : Murielle Chabot-Matte 3A 224, rue Dupont, Pont-Rouge Tél. 418-873-2337</p>	<p>L'inforMATTEur is a news bulletin published biannually by Matte Association of America.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Words of the president 3 ◆ Mississipi in the cross hairs 4 ◆ The rivière à Matte 9 ◆ Dresser from a work by Victor Hugo 11 ◆ 6th Annual Gathering 13 ◆ Priest Matte 16 ◆ Brother Albert Matte 17 ◆ Card currencies 18
	<p style="text-align: center;">Our collaborators for this 9th edition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Thank you to our collaborators for this 10th edition: Mr. Claude Matte, Mr. Gaétan Matte, Ms. Diane Matte, Ms. Elizabeth Dingle, Mr. Jacques Matte, Ms. Paulette Moore-Matte. ◆ Correction of texts: : Mrs Murielle Chabot-Matte <p>Translation: Google traduction</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Subscription</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Matte Association of America</p> <p><u>CANADA</u></p> <p>Member: 25 \$ CAN</p> <p><u>ÉTATS-UNIS</u></p> <p>Member: 25 \$ US</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***Novelty***</p> <p>(payable by check, money order or Interac.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Promo articles for sale</p> <p>The Association have some promotional articles, identified to the Matte Association for sale or as a gift (cups, pens, etc.) for more information, please contact: Roland Matte.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sponsors for the Matte Association</p> <p>For any questions for a sponsoring offer, don't hesitate to contact Mr Claude Matte, our president Tel. (418) 285-0383 email : matteclaud@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Notice:</p> <p>Take note that texts published in L'inforMATTEur are under the responsibility of authors who remain owners. Total or partial reproduction is forbidden without prior authorization of Matte Association of America.</p> <p>Please note that membership fees are renewable by post or via the website at any time and are valid for one year from the date of membership.</p> <p>Thank you for your support to the Association!</p>

Matte Association of America

Mots du / Words from the Président,

In the present situation, first of all, how are you?

The Association held its annual meeting in August 2021 with the rest of you in St-Zotique. Thank you to those present and welcome to the new members present. Congratulations to Gaétan and Élisabeth for this a good day.

With a little more time, we even managed to finalize 6 people in full until their 11th or 12th generation.

For you a CONTEST, I propose a small quiz with the prize: a paid presence at the next gathering OF 2022. Answer:

As written with the capsule number.

1- I am the author of the photo that highlights the capsule 2- 4 ?

2 - We are Commbian under the political rubric ?

3 - I am the highest ecclesiastical dignitary ?

4 - I've already called myself "the little red bridge" ?

5 - Matte's DNA is the ?

6 - I Nicolas, which page of the census of 1666 ?

7 - I've been married three times ?

8 - I went to Fort Beauhamois ?

9 - We are each with 14 children as descendants ?

10 - I am appointed on February 21, 1731?

11 - We are buried under 2 flags at?

12 - I was paid \$1600 in..... \$24,000 in \$275,000 in ?

13 - There are 4 of us with the same first name ?

14 - I am the mayor in 2018 of The native parish of Nicolas and I am talking about what ?

15 - I am the father of the mother of all, I died before she left ?

16 - How many envelopes do we coat information ?

17 - I'm Nicolas' daughter who lived 4 days ?

18 - I had the reputation of a saint ?

19 - Do I have the number 37 ?

20 - How many descendants are the 3rd generation ?

If you try and you think you have all the answers, send me this one to my

personal address : matteclaude@hotmail.com, because even the people of the board except the president can participate. If more than one or one to all the correct answers, a draw will be made at the gathering with the presence of these competitors or competitors.

End of the contest: July 2022, good luck.



Happy Holidays

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Claude Matte".

Claude Matte, président

Mississippi in the cross hairs

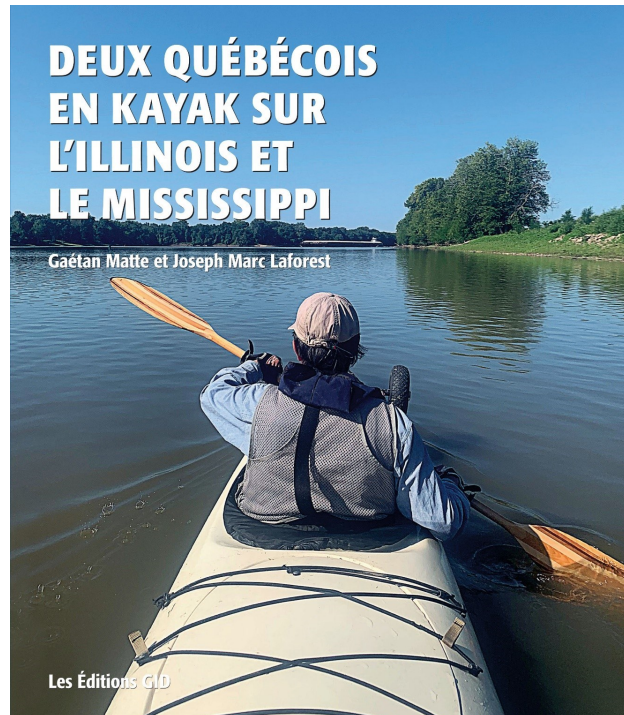
By: Gaétan Matte

There are dreams that you carry around a lifetime. It is not clear where they emerge from or why they occasionally resurface. Ever since I was in my twenties, I had had the idea of going down the Mississippi River. Did I want to impress myself? Make me look like an adventurer? As I was in my 60s, I was still thinking about this crazy project.

But I thought the expiration date had passed to achieve it. It was without counting the hazards of life. During the 2017 Desgagnés Montreal-Quebec Kayak Challenge, I met Joseph Marc Laforest. During a discussion, I mentioned the great river. He took me at my word, if not by the trap, because Joseph Marc wanted to give it a go, wanting us to take action.

So for 51 days in August, September and October 2019, Joseph Marc and I kayaked down the Mississippi, a 2,300 km journey starting on the Illinois River in Chicago.

The choice of the boat was obvious: my 22ft (7m) tandem expedition kayak. The other decision inherent in our trip concerned our camp: tent or hammock? The latter is better qualified to avoid soil moisture and "crawling critters." Despite all our efforts to travel light, we had to propel a boat that exceeded 250 kg, including the weight of the paddlers. Out of the water, we were carrying over 100 kg.



However, nothing is planned to facilitate berths for small boats, both on the Illinois and on the Mississippi, hence the importance of good physical condition. By the way, I don't know of any training that prepares you to spend six or seven hours a day in a kayak. Guaranteed muscle aches.

Matte Association of America



Mississippi Camp



Carutherville camp

First stage: the Illinois River, 550 km in 16 days

But why start from Chicago and not from the source of the river in the state of Minnesota? First, because we could reach this city more easily from Quebec. Then, for the challenge not to afford or earn the Mississippi straight away. The prospect of starting our adventure downtown and paddling through a canyon of skyscrapers appealed to us.

After the enchantment of this architectural setting, it was the shock of the industrial zone of Chicago: pollution, concrete shoreline, extreme noise and unfriendly barge tug pilots. We had to take our place, search for a long time to find a place to sleep.



Chicago, Canyon and Skyscrapers

Convinced of the uniqueness of our company, what a surprise, on the third day, to meet Stefan Von Aulock, an American who left his home at the same time as us. Instead, he began his navigation on the Des Plaines River, a tributary of the Illinois. The professionally challenged 31-year-old engineer sought inspiration on the water. Like us, he wanted to reach the Mississippi, but with rudimentary means: a 12-foot (3.70 m) canoe paid for \$ 40 that took the water.

A chemistry has set in between the three of us. We traveled together for 41 days. Slower than us and more exposed to the effect of wind and waves from the barges, Stefan paddled longer before joining us at the end of the day.

You have to believe that he enjoyed meeting up with the "two French Canadians".

Happily, nature at times regained its rights and allowed us to observe bald eagles, herons, egrets and pelicans. We should also mention this curious flying species that attacked us when emerging out of the water: the Asian carp. Quite a sensation when these carps graze your face...

Matte Association of America

Passing the locks was a challenge each time. If we waited four hours before crossing the first, the next three were closed during the day for repairs. As it was unsafe, even dangerous to paddle at night, it gave us the opportunity to meet some of the nicest people.

At the first one, a grandfather who was waiting for his sons agreed to load the kayak into his horse trailer, in order to bring us to the bottom of the lock. The second time, Chris Rush, the facility manager came to see us. In his pick-up, we searched for a portage. Getting no results, he gave the order to open the lock to let us through. Nice and unexpected!

Mississippi: 1,750 km in 35 days

We didn't know it, but the town of Alton on the Mississippi was home to the last marina where we could stop over for the night and set up our hammocks. Other than Memphis, there are no good stopping places for small boats like ours. Landing in the mud, in the waves, on the concrete, in the rocks, with escarpments to climb, these are hazards that required foresight and caution in order not to smash the kayak or even injure us.



Departure from Vicksburg

We learned to read the movements of the river to facilitate propulsion, noting the speed of the current very variable. We have also developed the ability to spot sandy and firm shores, for our stops in the middle of nature. Indeed, the experience is acquired quickly after sinking your feet in the clay a few times when you get out of the kayak! This is why we call this river the "Big Muddy".

Our first impression, as we glided down the Mississippi, was to realize that we were coming

to enter the "major leagues". The movements and countercurrents of the wave made the control of the direction of the boat at times hazardous. But the "total" we faced there at the confluence of the Mississippi and the Missouri rivers. Mike Clark, our contact in Saint-Louis, had warned us that we were going to have quite an experience there. Phew! He hadn't lied! For a few minutes, we found ourselves at the mercy of the waves. All we had to do was stay calm and try to straighten out if possible, even enjoy the moment with all these movements, counter-movements, lapping and whirling.

Memphis awaited us at the next beautiful stage, a welcome two-day kayaking break to explore the city, rest our muscles and treat our aches. We took advantage of the superb home

Matte Association of America

Dale Sanders and accommodation at Tom Roehm's business, right in the city center. It should be noted in passing that Dale is the oldest person, at 82, to have traveled down the Mississippi from one end to the other. A phenomenal and energetic man. In Memphis, we put our signatures on the Paddlers Wall of Fame, (nothing less!).

As we embarked on the second month of the trip, which we had to draw from in ourselves. The accumulated fatigue and routine threatened motivation. My mantra: tell me over and over "Hey, Gaétan, you're on the Mississippi with your kayak." This is the first and last time you have been here.



Convoy of 35 barges

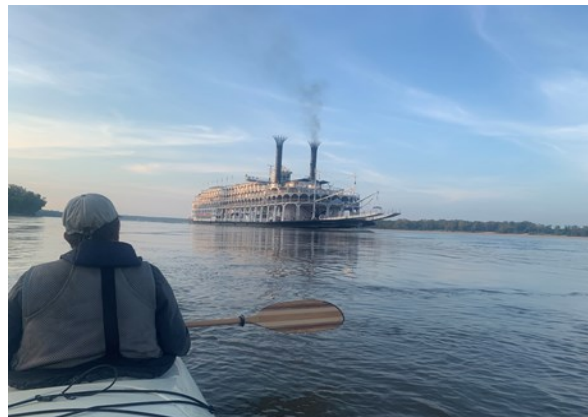
Barges were also a great way to keep us in the moment. If we care about life! With the great floods of winter and spring 2019, several buoys were washed away. Regularly, with these barges pointing in front of or behind us, with no markers, we had to guess where the channel was for their passage. For the pilots of these barges, it is unusual to meet our type of traveler, microscopic on this liquid mass.

In 2019, only about thirty "brave" people came down the Mississippi. In fact, in the entire portion of the Mississippi, we only encountered one other adventurer.

Refueling was a major source of concern. Grocery stores are never near the river and how do you get around while leaving the kayak safe? This is where the salvors of Mississippi River Angels come in. Contacted via the Mississippi River Paddlers Facebook group, their input was essential to the success of our expedition. The trip would have been difficult to achieve without their contribution.



Out of the water in New Orleans



The American Queen

Matte Association of America

After 51 days of adventure and 2,300 km, we have reached New Orleans. No "guard of honor" awaited us when we arrived, but there was a crowd in the tourist French Quarter to see us struggling through the rocks, no landing area being provided for small boats.

It's a curious feeling to walk around town the next day without having the presence or concern of kayaking. A hole. No doubt a certain mourning for all this attention that we were receiving. Kayaking has proven to be an amazing calling card for initiating conversations and eliciting encouragement. Hard return to anonymity ...

I came back from this trip, filled with a feeling of inner peace, which slowly faded ... unfortunately! But what remains etched forever is the gratitude to all those people who welcomed or helped us without even asking for anything. Our American neighbors, whose political choices we do not always understand, have taught me a whole life lesson in openness to others and hospitality.

Je suis Gaétan Matte et, depuis la vingtaine, je suis habité par la curieuse envie de descendre le fleuve Mississippi. Est-ce que je voulais m'impressionner moi-même ou me donner des airs d'aventurier pour faire l'intéressant dans les conversations? Il me semble bien que non, puisqu'en entamant la soixantaine, je caressais toujours ce rêve. Alors que je croyais qu'il était trop tard pour réaliser ce projet fou, j'ai fait la connaissance de Joseph Marc Laforest. C'était en 2017, lors du Défi kayak Desgagnés, reliant Montréal et Québec, au profit de jeunes musiciens du monde. Je lui ai partagé mon rêve et il a voulu qu'on en fasse une réalité, la nôtre. Il m'a pris au mot, si ce n'est au piège, car Joseph Marc voulait tenter l'aventure avec moi. C'est un mordu d'histoire et la perspective de cette vie en plein air 24 heures sur 24, de cette communion avec le grand fleuve Mississippi lui permettait aussi de faire un retour dans le temps pour suivre les traces de Louis Jolliet et du père Marquette, pour revoir l'histoire captivante du développement du continent, pays des Autochtones et de nos ancêtres en se rappelant que les chemins d'eau ont été les premières routes des Amériques.

Mission accomplie! Pendant 51 jours en août, septembre et octobre 2019, nous avons descendu le Mississippi en kayak. Notre périple de 2300 km a commencé sur la rivière Illinois, à partir de Chicago pour se terminer à La Nouvelle-Orléans en Louisiane. Nous vous offrons notre voyage. Si pour ma part j'ai tenu le journal quotidien de notre expédition, Joseph Marc s'est quant à lui consacré à la rédaction de capsules historiques qui viennent ponctuer mon récit. Nous espérons sincèrement que ce livre vous soufflera à l'oreille que les rêves peuvent devenir réalité.

Joseph Marc Laforest, passionné d'histoire, pratique le kayak depuis plus de 20 ans. La lancée du Défi Kayak Desgagnés en 2015 et le récit d'un kayakiste montréalais se rendant à New York lu sur le site de l'Association canot-kayak Québec l'incitèrent à tenter une aventure en solitaire en remontant le fleuve Saint-Laurent à contre-courant, de Québec à Sorel, puis à remonter la rivière Richelieu jusqu'au début du lac Champlain. Il possédait donc une solide expérience pour se lancer sur l'Illinois et le Mississippi.



Joseph Marc Laforest et Gaétan Matte à La Nouvelle-Orléans.

Gaétan Matte est un travailleur social dans la «jeune» soixantaine; il vit dans la ville de Québec. Plutôt habitué au cyclotourisme pour les longs voyages, il avait surtout fait des sorties quotidiennes avec son kayak tandem; des balades peinardes avec sa conjointe, ses enfants ou des amis sur le fleuve Saint-Laurent ou sur les grands lacs du Québec. Bref, il n'avait rien du profil des vrais aventuriers, mais s'est quand même lancé dans toute une aventure sur le Mississippi.

IMPRIMÉ AU CANADA
978-2-89634-471-0 - 34 95 \$



In closing, I would like to point out that Éditions GID has published the full story of our trip, with all the photos of the course. To get it, you can:

1. Ask for it at your favorite bookstore under the title: Deux québécois en kayak sur l'Illinois et le Mississippi, or with the ISBN number: 978-2-89634-471-0
2. By going directly to the Éditions GID website by following this link:

https://leseditionsgid.com/deux-quebecois-en-kayak-sur-l-illinois-et-le-mississippi.html?fbclid=IwAR1qk-Bm_uYSOEMfIHgYKC-hFv1nWAJ5xcb2tiQUFYF1kbXJX5HCt70cafw

3. Or with me directly at: matte_gaetan@videotron.ca.

You can also ask your local library to obtain it, for your convenience to be able to borrow it; and for others to find out as well.

The Rivière à Matte

By: Diane Matte

In recent years, a sign on Highway 40 named Félix-Leclerc, near Neuville, has attracted the attention of the Matte families and others. It is synonymous with a gem and great pride for the descendants of the ancestor Nicolas Matte who was the only Matte to come to Canadian land at the beginning of colonization, which means that all the Matte come from his lineage. I wish all Matte families would have the happiness of stopping by this place, if only once in their life, to taste the honor of having our name displayed to the winds. And what's more, to know its story.



Road sign on highway 40 near Neuville

This river is a tributary of the northwest shore of the St. Lawrence River, a tributary that flows in the municipality of Neuville, county of Portneuf. The valley of this river is served by route 365, perpendicular to the river. This river takes its source 6.1 km north of the center of the village of Neuville, 5 km northwest of the river and 1.9 km northwest of highway 40. In length, it covers 12,5 km (7.8 miles).

Our ancestor Nicolas Matte was one of the first eight settlers to be granted a lot in Neuville, in the seigneurie of Dombourg on September 5, 1670. A year later, on October 12, 1671, he married Madeleine Auvray in Quebec. The couple will give birth to 11 children. Nicolas cultivated the land there, erected a house and outbuildings near the river which flowed over his land, namely a shed and a barn. He had to besides clearing

an acre of land per year. In 1681, Nicolas had already developed 15 acres.

So every time I pass this part of the highway, a ray of pride crosses my mind. As soon as I see this beautiful Rivière à Matte sign, I can only wish that other Mattes would stop by and feel the pride and the same feeling: brave people forged our paths; in their own way, they have been faithful to ancestral customs, imported from Normandy. Now, rain or shine, this heritage belongs to the descendants of Nicolas, which we are.

Matte Association of America



Photo of the Rivière à Matte
near the route of 2ème rang in Neuville

Thus, I am proud to bear the surname of this valiant ancestor who made this part of the country fruitful. Like the water flowing in this river, the blood of Nicolas lives on in our memories. In addition, we must here recognize the merit of these tenacious people who have contributed to the realization of this project.



Photo of the rivière à Matte
taken from route 365 in Neuville



Photo of the rivière à Matte
taken from the Matte Heritage Land
in Neuville

**The Matte Association of America
would like to thank a generous donor for
a donation to the Association!**

Dresser from a work by Victor Hugo

By: Elizabeth Dingle



This unique china cabinet was entirely hand sculpted by craftsmen from Le Bucheron in the rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine for the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1889.

After being exhibited as a masterpiece of French furniture craftsmanship, it was put up for sale and acquired by Mr. and Mrs. Rousseau, who gave it to their daughter Germaine, who gave it to her daughter H el ene who then gave it to me as a present.

This work is inspired by the romantic drama *Le roi s'amuse*, written by Victor Hugo in 1832. It features the characters of Fran ois 1er, Triboulet, the king's madman with his cap with three bells. The bas-relief of the central door represents the abduction by courtiers of Blanche, daughter of Triboulet.



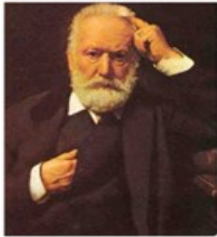
This play was performed at the Com die Fran aise on November 22, 1832 and was censored the next day. The debauchery at the king's court, which is widely discussed in the play, is frowned upon. You should know that on this date reigns the last king of France Louis-Philippe I. The work was not resumed until 1882 for the 80th anniversary of its author.

In 1851, Giuseppe Verdi was inspired by the work of Victor Hugo for his opera *Rigoletto*. Fran ois 1er becomes the Duke of Mantua, a duchy which no longer exists in order to avoid wrath, Triboulet is Rigoletto and Blanche becomes Gilda. However, this opera was banned in Austria.

Matte Association of America



Édition du groupe « Ebooks libres et gratuits »



Victor Hugo

LE ROI S'AMUSE

Novembre 1832
Edition reproduite, Hachette, 1858

1832 SOUVENIR 1882

de la
REPRÉSENTATION SOLENNELLE
LE ROI S'AMUSE

Comédie-Française — le 22 Novembre 1832



VICTOR HUGO

22 Novembre 1832 22 Novembre 1882

Programme de la 1 ^{re} Représentation		Programme de la 2 ^e Représentation	
Préface	M. Deshayes	Préface	M. Deshayes
Acte I	Le Roi	Acte I	Le Roi
Acte II	Le Roi	Acte II	Le Roi
Acte III	Le Roi	Acte III	Le Roi
Acte IV	Le Roi	Acte IV	Le Roi
Acte V	Le Roi	Acte V	Le Roi
Acte VI	Le Roi	Acte VI	Le Roi
Acte VII	Le Roi	Acte VII	Le Roi
Acte VIII	Le Roi	Acte VIII	Le Roi
Acte IX	Le Roi	Acte IX	Le Roi
Acte X	Le Roi	Acte X	Le Roi
Acte XI	Le Roi	Acte XI	Le Roi
Acte XII	Le Roi	Acte XII	Le Roi
Acte XIII	Le Roi	Acte XIII	Le Roi
Acte XIV	Le Roi	Acte XIV	Le Roi
Acte XV	Le Roi	Acte XV	Le Roi
Acte XVI	Le Roi	Acte XVI	Le Roi
Acte XVII	Le Roi	Acte XVII	Le Roi
Acte XVIII	Le Roi	Acte XVIII	Le Roi
Acte XIX	Le Roi	Acte XIX	Le Roi
Acte XX	Le Roi	Acte XX	Le Roi
Acte XXI	Le Roi	Acte XXI	Le Roi
Acte XXII	Le Roi	Acte XXII	Le Roi
Acte XXIII	Le Roi	Acte XXIII	Le Roi
Acte XXIV	Le Roi	Acte XXIV	Le Roi
Acte XXV	Le Roi	Acte XXV	Le Roi
Acte XXVI	Le Roi	Acte XXVI	Le Roi
Acte XXVII	Le Roi	Acte XXVII	Le Roi
Acte XXVIII	Le Roi	Acte XXVIII	Le Roi
Acte XXIX	Le Roi	Acte XXIX	Le Roi
Acte XXX	Le Roi	Acte XXX	Le Roi
Acte XXXI	Le Roi	Acte XXXI	Le Roi
Acte XXXII	Le Roi	Acte XXXII	Le Roi
Acte XXXIII	Le Roi	Acte XXXIII	Le Roi
Acte XXXIV	Le Roi	Acte XXXIV	Le Roi
Acte XXXV	Le Roi	Acte XXXV	Le Roi
Acte XXXVI	Le Roi	Acte XXXVI	Le Roi
Acte XXXVII	Le Roi	Acte XXXVII	Le Roi
Acte XXXVIII	Le Roi	Acte XXXVIII	Le Roi
Acte XXXIX	Le Roi	Acte XXXIX	Le Roi
Acte XL	Le Roi	Acte XL	Le Roi
Acte XLI	Le Roi	Acte XLI	Le Roi
Acte XLII	Le Roi	Acte XLII	Le Roi
Acte XLIII	Le Roi	Acte XLIII	Le Roi
Acte XLIV	Le Roi	Acte XLIV	Le Roi
Acte XLV	Le Roi	Acte XLV	Le Roi
Acte XLVI	Le Roi	Acte XLVI	Le Roi
Acte XLVII	Le Roi	Acte XLVII	Le Roi
Acte XLVIII	Le Roi	Acte XLVIII	Le Roi
Acte XLIX	Le Roi	Acte XLIX	Le Roi
Acte L	Le Roi	Acte L	Le Roi

Paris chez M. Lefebvre le Jeune, Palais National, ci-devant de l'Assemblée Nationale, ci-après de la République, ci-devant de la Convention, ci-après de la République, ci-devant de la Convention, ci-après de la République.

The book *Le Roi s'amuse* is available for free on internet.

Publicity in 1832

Matte Association of America

6th Annual Gathering August 21, 2021

By: Jacques Matte

As it was one of the most beautiful days of summer, it was under a blazing sun of 34 ° C (humidex of 42°C) that took place in St-Zotique and in Côteau-du- Lac, our 2021 annual gathering. Despite the pandemic caused by COVID-19, the relaxation of certain rules made it possible to hold this gathering. It was a much appreciated reunion between the members of the large Matte family, which for many, was the chosen opportunity for a first public activity since the confinement imposed in March 2020.

The organizers of this event, Elizabeth Dingle and Gaétan Matte, did a remarkable job in organizing such an event in which 23 people participated, including 19 residents of Quebec and 4 from Ontario.



It began in the morning at the beach of St-Zotique with a fraternal meeting, followed by the annual meeting of the members, a meal under a marquee and the visit of the Mayor, Mr. Yvon Chiasson.



Mr. Mayor, Yvon Chiasson (2nd from left)



All participants in the 2021 Gathering

Matte Association of America

Subsequently, the participants moved to the Coteau-du-Lac National Historic Site, Park Canada. A guided tour of the remains testifies to the presence of the Coteau-du-Lac military post, built in 1779-1780 on a point near the Coteau-du-Lac rapids. Due to the Anglo-American War of 1812, this military post was then transformed into a fort between 1813 and 1815.



Our guides at work



The location of part of the old military post



Part of the participating group



Visit of the interior pavilion

It should be noted that this place, home to the first canal with locks in Canada, at one time opened the way for commercial navigation. Its location was in the area recognized as a portage and camp site very popular with Native Americans. According to Parc Canada, this site has 7,000 years of history.

Back in St-Zotique, three boats (pontoons) were required to visit the canals of this unique resort in Quebec. The very mild weather prompted some members to swim safely in the St. Lawrence River. All of us want to attend the 2022 gathering.

Thank you to Elizabeth and Gaétan for your hospitality and your commitment to making this memorable gathering a success!

Matte Association of America

Photo tour of the canals on a pontoon



Priests Matte

By: Paulette Matte-Moore

The following text is taken from a genealogical research of "Priests Matte" carried out by Mrs. Paulette Matte-Moore.

- *The MATTE families have participated in the life of the Church by giving her some of her sons, some of whose names are:*
- Father Joseph MATTE, son of Ambroise and Thérèse Martel. Ordained in Quebec in 1847. He was Damase's brother. 1822-1866.
- Father Damase MATTE, born in Quebec in 1835. Son of Ambroise and Thérèse Martel. Professor at Kingston College, Ontario. Parish priest in Plessisville from 1866-1898. Retired in Lévis 1898-1904. Buried in Plessisville in 1904. He had been ordained in 1859 in Quebec.
- Father Joseph-Elzéar MATTE, born in Rimouski, in 1872, son of F.X. Alphonse and M.C. Leclerc. Ordained to Rimouski in 1899. Professor at the Rimouski seminary where he died, seminary attorney. He was pastor of several parishes in the diocese of Rimouski.
- Father Joseph MATTE, son of Adrien and Esther Graton, of Ste-Thérèse. Was vicar in St-Paul de Montreal.
- Father Adélarde MATTE, son of Arthur and Angéline Langlais-Aylwin. 1913-1971.
- Chanoine Gédéon MATTE, son of Misaël and Salomé Plamondon. Priest of the diocese of Quebec. Founding parish priest of Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix parish in Quebec. Died in Quebec in 1970. (1893-1970)
- Father Joseph-Ariste MATTE: ordained on June 29, 1913. Vicar in St-Jérôme. Died in 1925.
- Chanoine Maurice MATTE (1923-1976) born in St-Jovite, son of Adélarde and Rose-Anna Muzzey. Ordained priest at the Seminary of Ste-Thérèse on May 23, 1947. Chanoine in 1960. Later, he became parish priest at the cathedral of St-Jerôme from 1968-1976.
- Father Georges MATTE, son of Joseph and Adrienne Renaud. Ordained on May 26, 1954.

Brother Albert Matte

By: Paulette Matte-Moore

Coming from a prominent family of St-Jérôme at the time of Curé Labelle, Albert MATTE, born December 18, 1901, is the son of Émile Matte and Orise Macchabée, grandson of Joseph-Honoré Matte, industrial engineer of this city.

In 1919, he entered the Novitiate of the Brothers of the Christian Schools of Laval des Rapides. In his community, he is known under the name of Brother André (Mainfroy-andré). He died on May 8, 1983.

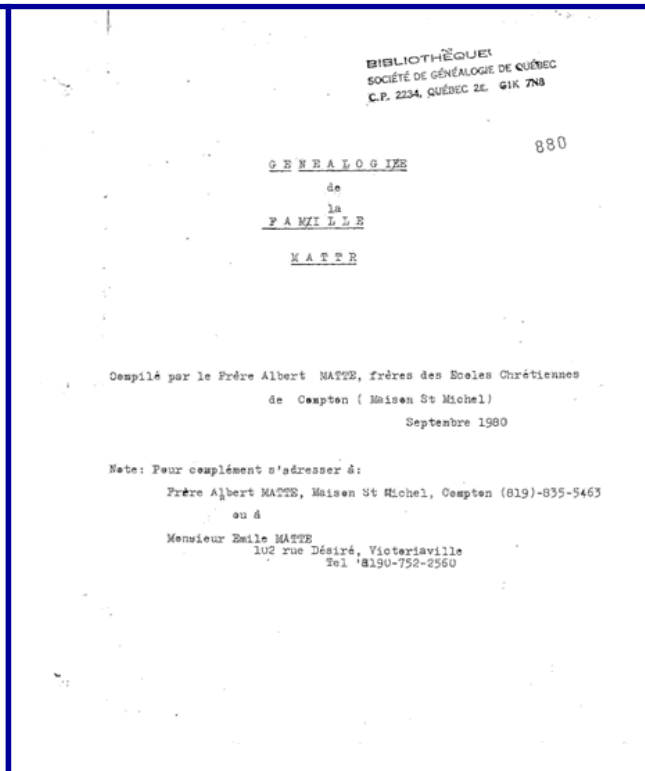
It appears from the many testimonies that Brother Albert MATTE had a full life: teacher, director, assistant director of novices. In short, he was known as a man of great availability. One of its great characteristics is to perform in a simple and unostentatious way its duty of state, with a fidelity ceaselessly on the alert.

The name of Brother Albert MATTE, Jérômien-born, also deserved to be underlined in the chapter of the little history of MATTE.

Extract from "the little story" by Mgr Labelle.

Editor's note on Brother Albert Matte

Brother Albert Matte is one of the religious natives of Quebec to have carried out genealogical research of the name of his patronym (Matte). He published his personal notes "classified by generations from the 1st to the 9th generation) as well as by" alphabetical order of names of men "as he indicates it in a document of 443 pages, dated at Compton in September 1980. He has barely started his research on the 10th generation, research considered incomplete.



Card currencies

This text is taken from Mlle Canadienne's Blog which is dedicated to her research in the history of Nouvelle France and historical reconstructions.

(Part 1)

I would like to share my new knowledge about card money with this article. Initially, I wanted to reproduce card money for my reenactments and my friends. But the project turned out to be much more complicated than expected and I would like to explain why. I opened a Pandora's box, looking a little too closely at card money.



Card money between 1742 and 1757
Source: Collection and Archives of Place Royale

First of all, I sincerely thank Emmanuel Bernier for his invaluable help in producing this article as well as its proofreading. Thank you very much. Emmanuel studied the penetration of card money into rural areas in the St-Laurent valley between 1685 and 1743 during his master's degree at Laval University. This link will take you to an interview he did on his dissertation on the radio show 3600 seconds of history on May 20, 2020. Next, I would like to point out that this information is more interested in the St. Lawrence Valley, although Nouvelle France extended to the Great Lakes region and Louisiana.

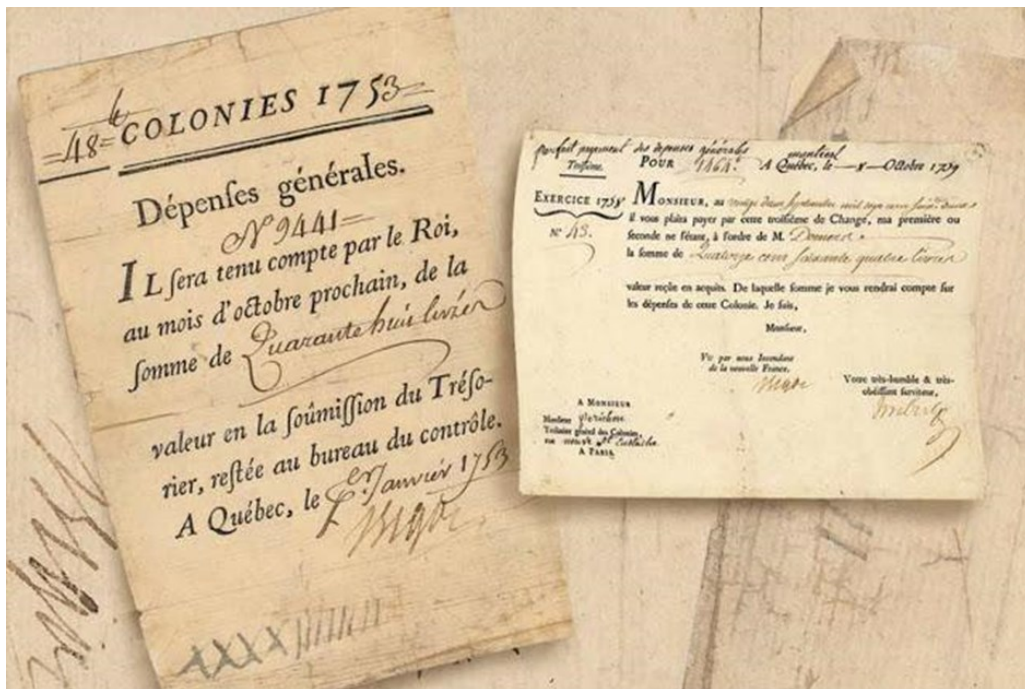
Matte Association of America

Do you know the card currency?

For many, including myself before really taking an interest in the subject, the thing is simple. In Nouvelle France, there was a lack of hard money and institutions compensated for this lack by writing on pieces of playing cards which were then used as current money: card money. This statement is only partially true and deserves the nuances and depths of this long article.

First thing to know about card money, there have been two periods of issuance of card money, interspersed with a blackout period in between. Card money was not the colony's only paper money. At the end of the French regime, it represented only a small percentage - 3.8% according to Emmanuel Bernier - of the paper money in circulation, while bills of exchange and ordinances were in the majority.

I had already done an article dealing with the difference between the different types of paper money in this article: Les perruquiers en Nouvelle-France.



Left: Ordinance of 1753, Right: Bill of exchange of 1759
Source: Bank of Canada

First period of issue: Card money on playing cards (1685 to 1714)

This is the period when card money exists as inscribed in the collective imagination: that is to say playing cards on the back of which is inscribed the amount they represent. When the intendant Jacques de Meulles arrived in the colony of Canada in 1682, he inherited a colony struggling with the

Matte Association of America

waged against the Iroquois. The colony, which imports much more goods (in monetary value) from France than it can export with its raw materials (mainly fur and cod) is continually in shortage of hard cash. With the significant arrival of military companies to defend the colony, the lack of money to pay all these people is felt more and more. In 1685, the shortage of hard cash became too great. To pay the soldiers' pay while awaiting the replenishment of the coffers with the arrival of the ships, the intendant Jacques de Meulles made the first issue of card money: all these cards will be redeemed and burned by the authorities within three months followed its dissemination. This trick, supposed to be temporary, will be repeated the first three years of use of the card money, the redemption of the cards was done entirely each year. See this document giving an account of the manufacture of card money by the intendant Jacques De Meulles on September 24, 1685. The new intendant, Jean Bochart, Chevalier Seigneur de Champigny, arrived in the fall of 1686.

No evidence allows us to know whether card money was issued for his first two years of administration, that is to say 1687 and 1688. The last one decade of the 17th century unfolded in a context of war, that of the League of Augsburg (1689-1697). The repercussions of this war are better known in Quebec by the siege of Quebec made by General Phipps of Massachusetts and the famous response of M. de Frontenac to the latter's emissary: "I have no answer for your general only by the muzzle of my cannons and with great gunshots ". The colony is once again struggling financially to pay everyone a little.



*Engraving illustrating the Battle of Quebec in 1690
Author: Charles Van Tenac 1847
(Source: Gallica)*

*******TO BE CONTINUED*******

Matte Association of America

*Members of the Board of Directors of the
American Matte Association wish you all
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

