

September 2, 1988

Margaret Reiman
5411 Dupont Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Harriet D. Munnick
420 South Wilda Road
West Linn, OR 97068

Dear Mrs. Munnick:

Thank you for your May 31st letter regarding the Douglas County Longtains.

Enclosed is a xeroxed copy of Mart Moisan's "History of Thomas Moisan..." which may be of interest; if not, please don't bother to return it, just toss it out.

In your St. Paul annotations, you described a family photograph of Thomas Herbert (1832-1874), Genevieve Longtain's first husband.

If this old photograph can be located, and if the owner is agreeable, my grandmother (Mary C. Moisan) and I would like to make arrangements for the purchase of a 5"x7" or smaller copy.

In our attempts to locate this photo of Thomas Herbert, we've contacted the historian at Champoeg State Park, MCHS, OHS, YCHS and the Mt. Angel Library and Museum. (Genevieve's daughter, Mary (McCann) McMahan, died at the Benedictine Nursing Home at Mt. Angel. My grandmother believes Mary McMahan left her estate in care of a Father Vanderbeck for St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Salem.) We've also spoken to several family members who knew Mary McMahan, all without success.

Do you have any suggestions as to whom we might contact regarding the location of this old photograph? Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Margaret Reiman

*This is the information I had given you
wasn't able to locate it, Juanita*

Salem, Oregon
December 31, 1953

received

16 March 1988

Juanita (Nash) Pettit

HISTORY OF THOMAS MOISAN, FROM THE RECORD
AND INFORMATION FROM THE FAMILY.

Thomas Moisan Sr. Was born at Montreal, Canada in the year 1810. He was the only one of ten children to leave. After a College Graduation he joined the Hudson Bay Company and with thier Agent Dr. John McLaughlin, He came west to Ft. Vancouver, B.C.

After being with the Hudson Bay Company for several years; In the year of 1838 He left and came south into the than called Grand, or Big Prairie, later years named French Prairie, since Marion County on Lake LaBish, where he glazed and staked out a track of land. He then went on into California, but he did not like it there so he came back and settled on this land in the year 1839. This land claim ran across the than Stage Road now 99E Highway, When the Railroad came through in the year of 1871 and the station there named Brooks, his land reached there across the road in a V shape, so shortly after he sold this 17 acres to a new settler Mr. John Blanton, and he secured more Lake LaBish swamp land which was on the East end of his land on which he settled on.

Near the center of this land, near the heavy timber he built a log cabin with a fire place in it built with mudd, clay and straw for cooking over a fire, and for heating. He had to go down the Willemette River in a skif for his provisions. ^{to Oregon City} After about three years of batching, with alot of hard work making improvements, plenty of wild animals around he decided that he must have a help mate so he arranged to have a Frenchman Andrea Longtain, at St. Paul, Oregon who settled there in the year of 1830, bring his daughter to make thier acquaintance and see her next home. He was digging a well.

After he received two dispensations; Rev. F.N. Blachet, Vicar General, United in Holy Bonds of Matrimony, Thomas Moisan, son of Equaus Moisan and Elizabeth Burk, of Montreal, Canada, and Henrietta Longtain, daughter of Andrea Longtain and Nancy Okanogan, and gave them the nuptual blessing in the presence of Francis Bernier, John Gingras and Francis Rivet, Friends of the bridegroom, At St. Paul, Oregon Catholic Church October 3, 1842. Signed by Antoine Langlois Priest, Taken from the St. Paul Catholic Church record.

After this marriage and thier return to the bridegroom's home, the bride beVvery young she was very unhappy and she cryed for days for there was only boards in one corner for a table, a few knives and forks, only very little cooking utenciles and all of the balance of the furnishings in proportion, but in a short time a better dwelling was built and in 1856, what was at that time a eligent house, was built by two frenchman taking them two years to construct with all hand plaining.

The nearest Catholic Church was at St. Lewis, about ten miles away where they attended by going on horse back across country laying rail fences down and back up after going through. After building the home in 1856 that still stands to this day, They had a large squire piano which had been used for a alter for saying mass by Missionarie's Priests, The few settlers at that time attended by being notified on horse back. In 1857, I believe, the first Catholic Church was built in Salem, and towards the last of the 1880's a church was built at Brooks, at nearly all of Thomas Moisans expense, Dedicated by Archbishop Gross, Father Anselm, Bastor of Brooks, and Gervais, Churches, Father Vermeersch Pastor of St. Lewis, Church. Father Adelhelm, first Prior of Mt. Angel, Monstery, Frs. Barabas, Placidus, and Father Maurus, were frequent visitors at the Moisan home.

Thomas and Henrietta Moisan, worked very hard clearing, and developing the land into shape to raise grain crops and raising a family of three children. A plow was moulded by Thomas Moisan, He having his own blacksmith shop, wagon shop and many other out-buildings, He split rails from the finesh timber ever grown, and after several years the mile squire land was fenced allaround with cross fences into fields, for different crops and pasture as he raised many head of cattle and hogs. He planted a large fruit orchard with many different varieties before the land was surveyed, He built a celer from large hughed squire logs for potatoes and apples, A wine cellar for apple cider, with his own manificured press he pressed out the apple juce from which he aged and prepared for champaign which was strong and very good, The grandchildren having a oppurnity to sample it. He made his perforated lantern, mold for candles and spirm candles. The first settlers raised tobacco

(Continued)

and cured it for thier own use for smoking and chewing, chewing tobacco called twist, it being in a twisted shape taken from the name 'Virginia Twist' chewing tobacco. The first grain crop was cut with a hand cradle and threshed out with a hand flalley which was made with the club part attached to a longer peace of wood for a handle with loose buckskin string, the string being from cured hides of the many deer killed, years later a reaper was secured, the bundles being bound with wire and the grain threshed out by horses continuously tramping over the grain strow placed on a inside floor.

After several years the first horsepower threshing machine in that part of the country was purchased, which remained in the family into the early 90's at which time the son Alexander bought a steam threshing out-fit.

In the first of 1850 a large barn was built, bens for several hundred bushels of grain, horse stables on two sides each for twenty horses, A driveway in the center with bridge approaches on each end, For the foundation large holes was dug out, filled with gravel and blocks placed there, the blocks sawed out from large oak trees, the sills and timbers all houghed squire with a hand broad adz, the rafters from peeled poles and the roofing was split out of the finest kind of timber, called shakes or clabboards. The timbers was mortised to fit together with hard wood pins. After 100 years this building still in good condition.

The dweeling built in 1856 (which the record states) was built on the same substancial plans as the barn, foundation the same with 12x12 hand houghed sills and is still in good condition in 1954. in view of 99 E. highway looking east a mile south of Brookes.

Previous to 1856 when this house was built, Thomas Moisan with bad afflicted leggs, and the Doctors at that time not knowing any better for treatment, cut the cords in both leggs leaving them stiff and he could only get around with much effort on crutches, So He had a cupelo built above the roof on the house with a library of many french books, and after giving his son's instructions working the land he would go up in there and with a long field glass "called spy glass" to see how they were getting along and look around over the pastures where there was many head of cattle. Tom Moisan, the first grandchild born whom they raised was the only one that would read and write french, so in the first of the 1900, the french books was given to a young french Priest. Tom received his education at old Mt. Angel College in the eightys and nineties.

In the first of 1860 Oregon had a bad freeze and blizzard, There was a large stock shed with plenty of feed, but with all due care among over two hundred of cattle 40 was lost. The Willemette River froze over and stated to be the worst cold spell in Oregon.

Record states; "Which must have been when the last buildings was constructed. That Robert Crossan, near Lake LaBlah, did a thriving business with his saw mill, from which all the rough lumber came, for the siding on the buildings and for the lumber of the home built in 1856 which had to be hand plained, The mill then not having a planner."

Thomas Moisan, remained on his donation land claim from the time of settlement until the time of his death January 15, 1888. His oldest grandchildren was told by the first settlers and business men, that he was one of the most honest man that ever lived. When the first settlers came into the neighborhood they called on him for advice, some not having the cash to pay for seed wheat, He furnished them with the amount of wheat for seeding of the ground they had prepared which like amount to be returned to him after raising a crop while others charged \$5.00 per bushel cash.

When the two son's and one daughter married, He devided the land into three farms giving each a farm with the provision after his death that each one pay a crop share to Henrietta, his wife and thier mother, for her support but after about 25 years this was in sufficient so they arranged to pay in cash for her support untill her death December 4, 1913, With thier joint will; thier children had a life lease on the land and after thier deaths, willing the land to the second generation thier grandchildren, Some unborn at the time. This will on record in the Marion County Court House in long hand.

Thomas Moisan had the land in the best of shape and all improvements, As much as 80 bushels of wheat to the acre was raised. Although he voted at Champoeg, May 1843, He was very conservative, honest and charityfull he would not have any thing to do with politics, or allow any publicisity of himself.

(3)

MEMORIAL

Thomas Moisan born in Montreal, Canada in the year 1810
He passed away on his farm at Brooks, Station Lake LaBish, January 15, 1888

Henrietta Longtain, born at Ft. Vancouver, British Columbia in the year 1824
Passed away on the home farm December 4, 1913

Both are burried in the Gervais Catholic Cemetary at Gervais, Oregon

THOMAS MOISAN AND HENRIETTA LONGTAIN MARRIED AT ST. PAUL, OREGON
OCTOBER 3, 1842

Having received two dispensations, Rev. F.N. Blachet Vicar General, United in Holy Bonds of Matrimony, Thomas Moisan, son of Equaus Moisan and Elizabeth Burk, of Montreal, Canada, and Henerietta Longtain, daughter of Andrea Longtsain and Nancy Okanogan and gave them the nuptual blessing in the presence of Francis Bernier, John Fingras and Francis Rivet, friends of the bridegroom. (Catholic Church Record)

Signed Antoine Langlois, Priest
St Paul Catholic Church
St. Paul, Oregon
October 3, 1842

Baptismal Record From The St. Paul Catholic Church
Henerietta Longtain, 16 years of age, baptised on October 4, 1840 Daughter of Andrea Longtain and Nancy Okanogan. Sponsors John Baptise Dubray and Ursule Grosious.

F.N. Blanchet, Priest.

BORN TO THE UNION OF THOMAS AND HENREITTA MOISAN

Son Francis Xavier Moisan, born December 16, 1845, Passed away December 28, 1928
A family of 12 children, 7 living January 1954
Daughter Philomina Moisan Bolter, born 1847, Passed away 1922
A family of 9 children, 3 living January 1954
Son Alexander Moisan, born October 15, 1849, Passed away September 2, 1937
A family of 7 children, 6 living January 1954

(NOTE)

Oxen was first used for drawing power to cultivate the land. Oxen Yokes and equipment was still there to see when the oldest grandchildren grew up, Flint lock and musle loading of all kinds, powder horns, wodds for loading and ramrods.

FIRST RECEIPT GIVEN THOMAS MOISAN SR. FOR SETTLEMENT ON THE DONATION LAND CLAIM

This is to certify that Thomas Moisan has recorded at page 30, Book No 2 at the Recorders office in Oregon City, the following Land Claim in Champoig County, situate in Grand Prarie, as follows, to wit;

Commencing at the S.E. Corner, a Red fir marked in the timber, thence running W. along B. Gardepies, and L. Vandal's line 34 acres to a stake marked in the prairie, thence, N. 22 acres to a stake marked in the prairie, thence E. along Alexis LaPratte's line to a red fir marked in the timber, thence 22 acres to the place of beginning, which he holds by personal occupancy, Located in june 1841.

Attest; I. E. Long, Recorder
Fred Prigg, Deputy

Dated at Oregon City,
May 22, 1846

A PATENT FOR THE LAND 4th. day of February 1888

A Patent from the United States of America, was given Thomas Moisan and his wife Henrietta Longtain Moisan, For the section of land, 640 acres designated as claim No. 68 being part of section 16, 17, 20 and 21, in Township 6, South of Range 2, West, under the signature of Andrew Jackson, President of the United States, and was recorded in Marion County Records, Book of deeds, Vol. 35 on page 587 on the 4th. Day of February 1888.

(NOTE)

Guss J. Moisan of Gervais, Oregon who passed away at the age of 71, November 1948 At my request, send me Mart T. Moisan the record he had from the St. Paul Catholic Church the year of 1947, With the following note;

Dear M.T. This is about all that I can make up for you, from the papers I have, If you wish to take these papers and go over them and then return them to me, I will pladly let you have them, I want to keep them as souvineers and at any time you may want to look them over or show them, I will gladly let you have them, I have a good safe and they will be protected from fire and will be here at any time you may want to see them

Signed Sincerely
Guss.

Wrote up January 28, 1954 at Salem, Oregon From Records, information of the family and to the best of my knowledge. As Grandmother Moisan lived untill 1913 She told her oldest grandchildren of thier early day happenings, Also other old settlers.

By Mart T. Moisan

Margaret Reiman
5411 Dupont Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

*Hebert -
Massan*

Harriet D. Munnick
420 South Wilda Road
West Linn, OR 97068



October 5, 1988

Margaret Reiman
5411 Dupont Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Harriet D. Munnick
420 South Wilda Road
West Linn, OR 97068

Dear Mrs. Munnick:

Thank you for your September 6th letter and your offer to check the St. Paul Mission Historical Society's files for the Thomas Herbert photograph.

Do you know if one of the Joseph Howards listed in your Grand Ronde registers was the son of John Howard (Hord) and Catherine Longtain?

On pages 67-8 and Story #25 of Martinus Cawley's Father Crockett of Grand Ronde, "Joseph Howard, a quarter-breed baptised at St. Paul in 1836", is mentioned as the "forerunner of Catholicism at Siletz." Later expelled for drinking (1882), "Howard still witnessed Baptisms at Yaquina Bay."

Possible references to the other Joseph Howard listed in your Grand Ronde registers include:

1870 Yamhill County Census

Newburgh	827	Hubbard, Thomas	39	m	Ind	farmer	-
		Jeune	36	f	Ore	kps hse	1870
		Cunningham, John	50	m	Canada	laborer	39
		Howard, Joseph	24	m	Ore	laborer	1831

(Living with Thomas Herbert and Genevieve Longtain?)

1880 Marion County Census East Salem Precinct

286	290	Howard, Joseph	35	laborer	Ore	Ore	Ore
		Mary	35	wash woman	"	"	"
		Eustace	7	son	"	"	"

1870
39
1831
- 1870
- 24
1846

Enclosed are a few xeroxed items on Andre Longtain that might be of interest.

Sincerely,

Margaret Reiman

LONCTAIN, ANDRÉ

Misc. L' People
(Lonctain, André)

An André Lonctin is listed in the ledger of the North West Company for the years 1817 and 1818. (HBC Archives F.4/32 p. 616) It is probable that he joined the service of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1819, for in June 1825 he is listed as having six years service as a middleman in the Columbia District. His age is given as thirty years and his native parish as St. Pierre, in what is now the Province of Quebec. (HBC Archives B.239/g/65 fo. 38) He was a member of the Snake Country Expedition in 1827. (HBC Archives B.239/g/67 fo. 35) In 1836 he retired from the service (HBC Archives B.239/g/76 fo. 48) and settled in the Willamette River area as a farmer. (HBC Archives B.239/g/77 fo. 47) In 1839 he is described as a freeman in the Columbia District (HBC Archives B.239/g/79 fo. 88); a freeman was a former servant of the Company who remained in the area as a free hunter or trader.

Published Sources

Peter Skene Ogden's Snake Country Journal, 1826-1827 (ed. K.G. Davies), The Hudson's Bay Record Society, Vol. XXIII, London, 1961. André Lonctain is mentioned on page 2 as a member of Ogden's party.

Fur Brigade to Bonaventura (ed. Alice Bay Maloney), California Historical Society, San Francisco, 1945. This contains John Work's journal of his California expedition. André Lonctain and his wife, whose name is not given, are mentioned several times. The journal was also published in the California Historical Society Quarterly, Vol. XXII, Nos. 2, 3, and 4, and Vol. XXIII, Nos. 1 and 2.

received

Nov. 26, 1983

Judith Beattie
Head
Research & Reference Section
Hudson's Bay Company Archives

EXTRAIT du registre des baptêmes, mariages et sépultures de la Paroisse
de SAINT-CONSTANT (Comté Laprairie) pour l'année 1794

Le trente novembre mil sept cent quatre-vingt quatorze
, par nous prêtre soussigné, curé de St-Constant a été
Baptisé andré né de ce jour fils légitime de joseph
marie longtin et de susane robert les pere et mere de
cette paroisse, le parain a été jacques robert et la
maraine marguerite robert qui a signé avec nous, le
parain et le pere présent ont déclaré ne scavoir écrire
ni signer.
marguerite robert N. Begin ptre

Jules Pommerehne

*Paroisse St-Constant
242 St-Pierre
St-Constant Que
JOL 1X0*

received
12-27-85

Lequel extrait, nous, soussigné, _____ de la Paroisse
de Saint-Constant, certifions être conforme au registre original déposé dans les
archives de la dite paroisse.

Saint-Constant, ce _____ mil neuf cent _____

May 25, 1988

Margaret Reiman
5411 Dupont Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Harriet D. Munnick
420 S. Wilda Lane
West Linn, OR 97068

Dear Mrs. Munnick:

During September 1983, my grandmother, Mary Moisan, and I spent a most informative afternoon with you discussing the Longtain, Moisan and Manning families. At that time, you told me that I could write to you if I had questions about these families.

Do you know if Susan Nonta, "sometimes called Longtain", (mentioned and pictured in your Roseburg annotations) was related to the Andre Longtain family of Champoeg?

Thank you, Mrs. Munnick, for giving my address to Sharon Ryan Osborn, of Tigard. It's so interesting to correspond with others who are researching the Longtain family.

Sincerely,

Margaret Reiman

P.S. Do you have any suggestions as to where I might write for information on Okanogan Indians (both Washington and British Columbia)? Thank you -

Margaret Reiman
5411 Dupont Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95409



Mrs. Munnick
420 S. Wilda Lane
West Linn, OR 97068

