

Was John Olin
who migrated to Rhode Island *circa* 1678-1690
a Frenchman

?

100 East 39th Street, New York, 1st January, 1920.

Dear Mr. Olin:

As I wrote you, the belief that John Olin, your ancestor and mine, was a Welshman seems to me to be without substantial foundation. I think that he was a Frenchman, and as you express an interest in the reasons for my opinion, I will give them.

So far as I have heard, the American Olins (and they are numerous) claim descent or are supposed to be descended from John Olin, who lived in Greenwich, Rhode Island, married there on October 4th, 1708, and died in Newport, June 10th, 1725. I have not heard of any other immigrant bearing the name.

Concerning this large family there was published at Indianapolis, in 1893, a "Family Record * * * by C. C. Olin, Historian". The author had collected his material with zeal and diligence and made of his work a labor of love, but he had no special training for his task and his book is not without defects. It lacks order and arrangement. So called "traditions" are given without attempt to weigh them, to trace them back to their source or to explain their contradictions.

Some of the statements of the first few pages are as follows: (the italics mine).

"John Olin became a citizen of this country by compulsion. He was *arrested on the coast of Wales in 1678* and forced aboard a British man-of-war and was landed in Boston Harbor, where he deserted at the first opportunity and migrated to Rhode Island * * * when he was only fourteen years old" (page 5).

"The *Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, records the following: 'John Olin, the first of the name in America, settled in East Greenwich, Rhode Island in 1678'."

"From a work entitled "*The Genealogical Record of James Edmunds and his wife, Cordelia Spear*" * * * the following is taken:

"About the year 1690, John Olin, aged fourteen, *was pressed on board a man-of-war* on the coast of Wales. He deserted at Boston, married at Greenwich, Rhode Island, and had one daughter and three sons, John Henry and Joseph; * * * John Olin came over as a cabin boy in 1690 and deserted at Providence, Rhode Island, being fourteen years old" (p. 13).

"From one of the older members of the Gideon Olin family this traditional account was obtained: 'The first one of the family in this country *was a boy of Welsh birth* who filled the responsible position of "powder monkey" on board a man-of-war. He deserted at Providence, ran off into the woods and changed his name from Llewellyn to Olin' * * * From a member of Henry Olin's family, a brother to Ezra Olin, Sr., the following traditional account was received: 'John Olin, the first of the name to arrive in this country *was a Welsh boy* who had been pressed on board a British war vessel; on the arrival of the vessel in Boston Harbor, he was permitted to stroll upon the streets, where he observed a man driving a yoke of oxen hitched to a cart, and never having seen such a strange sight before, he begged permission, which was readily granted, to ride in this odd conveyance. For some

unexplained reason his ride into the country was so prolonged that when he did return his vessel had sailed away without him'." (page 6).

The author quotes from *Savage's Genealogical Dictionary of New England*:

"John (Olin) West Greenwich, said to have come, in 1678, in his youth from Wales, had" &c.

Without giving authority the author says "*Four Olins came over from Wales*". (page 16).

"John Olin, the first of his name and race in America, settled in the vicinity of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, about the year 1700. *He was a native of Wales and is said to have come to this country when but fourteen years of age.*" (page 16)

* * *

"John Olin, the first, died in Newport, Rhode Island, June 10, 1725, aged 61 years, which makes his birth occur in the year 1664." (page 17)

Since our Herodotus does not sift out fact from fable we must attempt the sifting for ourselves.

That John Olin, the first in America, married and died in Rhode Island is certain. There is no reason to doubt that he was pressed by a British man-of-war on the coast of Wales, and that he deserted at Boston at the age of fourteen and went to Rhode Island. This story could hardly have been invented and it seems to have been handed down in different branches of the family in forms which do not widely differ. We may well accept it.

But the statement that John Olin was Welsh by birth is published for the first time in Mr. C. C. Olin's book. It is given in neither of the three volumes from which he quotes. A tradition that makes its appearance two centuries after the fact which it describes may be received with caution. Mistake was easy. A man or woman who in childhood had been told of an ancestor who came from Wales might be pardoned for speaking in old age of a Welsh ancestor. The two statements are not equivalent but the difference between them might readily be unnoticed or forgotten.

That a boy, during the Seventeenth Century, was impressed by a man-of-war on the coast of Wales raises no presumption that he was of Welsh birth. The law of impressment gave a king's ship the right to recruit its crew from seafaring men between eighteen and fifty-five years of age. It was harshly enforced and a boy younger than eighteen might well be taken. By a statute of Elizabeth, concerning vagrancy, justices of the peace could also press and send on shipboard rogues and vagabonds, but naval officers for obvious reasons preferred to use the king's press in harbors, or, better still, to stop merchant ships at sea and take out the sailors whom they wanted.

In the Seventeenth Century Wales was a pastoral and agricultural country. It had little commerce. Fishermen there were, but they had extensive exemptions from impressment. Ships in Welsh harbors or sailing the Bristol Channel would, with their crews, ordinarily be English, and John Olin may have been taken from a passing vessel which had never touched the Welsh shore and had no Welshman in its company.

The ordinary test of nationality is name. If a ship brings from the coast of Italy a man called Atkins or Pedersen or Schwartzkopf or Chang we do not suppose him to be an Italian. John Olin is not a Welsh name. Olin is not found in *Bardsley's Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames*. It is improbable that John Olin, if a Welshman, would call his sons John, Henry, Justin and Joseph. Neither of these names is Kymric or Keltic. We should expect to see David, or Owen or William which is English for Gwillim. This difficulty must have occurred to the "member of the Gideon Olin family" who said that John Olin "ran off into the woods and changed his name from Llewellyn to Olin". No one else tells this story and it is on its face improbable. If a Welsh boy in the English Colony of Rhode Island laid aside Llewellyn, the noblest of Welsh names, he would choose in its place either a Welsh or an English name—one taken from his past or from his present surroundings—but Olin is neither Welsh nor English.

Some years ago I guessed that Olin was of French derivation and my opinion was afterwards supported by that learned woman of letters who writes in Paris under the *nom de plume* "Femina".

"Olin" she said "is French—Gothic French".

I also guessed that John Olin was a Huguenot, driven from home by the revocation of the Edict on Nantes in 1685; but this guess was wrong. Olin is not one of the family names in the Huguenot records kept in Paris.

It is worth noticing that John, Henry, Justin and Joseph are names which a Frenchman might give to his sons. All of them are and two centuries ago were on the calendar of saints from which godfathers might lawfully select.

I do not believe that there are any Olins nowadays in France. Indeed I have never noticed the name anywhere in Europe except in Brussels.

In 1877 I started to spend my holiday in Norway but I was tempted to go to the Danube for a glimpse of the Russian-Turkish war. The trip proved expensive, my letter of credit was exhausted. I cabled to have a remittance meet me at Brussels and I arrived there penniless. I found no letter at the poste restante and my situation seemed serious until on the third day my letter was handed to me. It had been opened and sealed again with the seal of "OLIN & CIE". In 1883 I was again in Brussels and a Belgian friend introduced me to Monsieur Xavier Olin, Senator and Minister of Public Works and partner in Olin & Co. He remembered opening my letter. He told me that his family had been long in Belgium and that he knew of no other Olins in Europe.

But if there are no Olins now in France, that was not the case in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.

On February 25th, 1576. Henry of Navarre, not yet Henry IV of France, wrote to his Secretary, Forget, speaking of the members of his Council and expressing his special reliance upon the Sieur d' Olinville and another.

* * * "ceulx de mon Conseil, et particulièrement vous en prierez de ma part les Srs de Saint Bonnet et d' Olinville, desquels je m'assure plus que d'autres pour me faire plaisir."

Recueil des Lettres de Henri IV. Vol. 1 p 86.

In the winter of 1914 I received (as very likely you did) an impressive communication from the International College of Heraldry, of which the office was at 12 Boulevard de Courcelles in Paris and the President was Comte de Morant. This nobleman offered me for a moderate fee a copy of the coat of arms of the Olin family as registered by Charles d' Hozier in the Armorial General of France in 1699 or thereabouts.

Being wary in such matters I postponed my answer and being in Paris in June, 1914, I tried to inform myself in a general way of the records to which reference was thus made. Charles d'Hozier, Counsellor of the King and Guard of the Armorial General of France, was charged by Louis XIV to examine the proofs of those, both nobles and commoners, who claimed the right of using coats of arms and to register those which he admitted. His nephew Pierre succeeded to his office and in the reign of Louis XV published a Register by which all claims of nobility in France have ever since been determined. Besides his ten folio volumes there remain in the National Library the original registers and some of the papers which were filed with the Judge of Arms. In the index of these unpublished records the name Olin appears. (The *Encyclopedia Britannica* gives an account of the Hoziers which would have saved me trouble if I had known of it in 1914). I applied to the International College of Heraldry and in due time received, beautifully illuminated upon vellum, the arms of Jeanne Olin, widow of Jean Chefdeville, Bourgeois of Paris. Courteous as was the Comte de Morant, I decided to choose for further inquiries an office less international. To make the search myself was difficult. The way of a foreigner in the Bibliotheque Nationale seems hard to one used to the free and easy methods of the New York Public Library and, besides, even if I had made my way to the records, the Seventeenth Century script would probably have puzzled me. So I secured the assistance of M. Lambert de Montoisson who styles himself "Continuer of d'Hozier Judge of Arms of the Nobility of France." There was nothing about his Bureau in the Rue St. Antoine, which seemed prepared for the American pedigree hunter. It was a bit of old Paris and one would hardly be surprised to meet some of Balzac's people, Lucien de Rubempre or Ferdinand du Tillet for example, coming out of the door.

From this office I obtained the papers of which I annex a somewhat careless translation. The first paper contains pedigrees of different branches of the Olin family and descriptions of some thirty-four legal documents in which the name Olin appears. These are dated from 1618 to 1738. The second paper is intended to put into narrative form the facts thus appearing, with others which from other records Monsieur de Montoisson felt warranted to state. There was a blazon of the arms of the widow Jeanne Olin and also of the quite different escutcheon of Anne Olin, widow of L. Hector de Marles, Sr. de Beaubourg.

These papers suggested several questions which I might have asked if I had stayed longer in Paris and if there had been no war. Should I again have the oppor-

tunity I shall inquire whether the historic Olinville was really in the Canton of Arpajon as is stated. That place is called Ollainville in *Joanne's Geographical Dictionary of France and the Colonies*. The change in sound is not great but there is room for explanation. I am haunted by the ghost of a recollection that I once saw Olinville given in parenthesis as the former name of a hamlet near Rouen. I have looked in gazetteers for it without success. Of course such records change from time to time. Once there was an Olinville in the City of New York. It was a little settlement around a Methodist church and was named for my father. The Borough of the Bronx has spread over it and nothing of it remains on the map but the name "Olinville Avenue" though a telephone central is called Olinville. Perhaps the Olinville which Henry IV knew has, during the centuries, faded away in like fashion.

I would enquire, too, whence comes the motto "Olin Sic Est." Count Morant, blazoning the same arms from the same record, gives no motto.

I should also like an exact copy of the document justly called "fort curieux" which describes the wrongs of Marie Olin and the punishment of Henry Baudin.

But most of all I should like to know whether Jean Olin is marked "Emigre" in the original pedigree. Genealogy is not an exact science. There may be archivistic license as well as poetic license and when a Franco-American immigrant is sought for there is a natural impulse to designate a French emigrant.

But, putting aside hesitation and skepticism, what an active, thriving, useful family is presented to us by these old writings! Antoine Olin the apothecary; Antoine, his son, Counsellor, elected Echevin in the election of Paris on seven different years; Pierre, Paymaster of the Body Guards of his Majesty, in which office he was succeeded by his son Nicholas, who was also Counsellor Secretary of the King, the House and the Crown of France; Louis Olin, Advocate in the Parliament of Paris and Audience Clerk in the Chancellery of the President of Meaux; Pierre Olin, Esquire, Seigneur of Boursampre, Ensign of the Mestre de Camp of the Regiment of Normandy; Antoine Olin, Esquire, Seigneur de Troisville, Counsellor of the King and Commissary and Secretary of wars; Nicholas Olin, who, in turn, held the same three offices; Pierre Olin, Lord of Bourg Champret; Jacques Olin, Canon of the Abbey of Saint Denis; Toussaint Olin, maitre bonnetier in Paris; Marthe Olin, Carmelite nun; and the "venerable, discrete and scientific person" Philip Claude Olin, Cure of the Parish of the Holy Innocents in Paris, who died on April 10, 1738, perhaps the last male Olin in France. Tradesman, magistrate, country squire, courtier, lawyer, soldier, priest—they pass as in a pageant.

The list is so suggestive of romance, so picturesque and so full of color, that one almost suspects our archivist of embellishing what he set out to copy.

The family had fallen from its prosperous condition when, at the end of the Seventeenth Century, there were no men but only women to register the family arms with d'Hozier, and the reason of the fall was the tragic duel and the prosecutions which followed it and drove out of France all the men of the family who were not in holy orders.

It is amusing to see how this story fits in with the facts that we know. Of the four names which John Olin, of Greenwich, gave to his sons, three, John, Henry and Joseph are found in the French pedigree.

Charles Nicolas Olin, who fled to the Low Countries and became a Spanish subject, may well have been the ancestor of Senator Xavier Olin whom I met at Brussels.

If we assume, with Monsieur de Montoisson, (an assumption which dates render difficult) that Jean, the son of Charles Nicolas, was the emigrant to America, he would have found it easy, being with his father in the Low Countries, to board an English ship and thus get to the Welsh coast. The English law allowed impressment of foreigners found in British vessels.

To some of the Olin exiles their nationality and their religion were helpful. Henry Simon found his way to Italy and died there among the priests of the Oratory. This order had its first establishment in Florence but after 1616 it also had a church within a bowshot of the Louvre. Charles Nicolas became domiciled in Belgium, went thence to Spain and, (perhaps after a Bourbon succeeded to the Spanish throne in 1700), rose to the dignity of Governor of Saragossa, while his son Pol was made an officer of the Walloon Guard at the Palace of Madrid.

But with Jean it was otherwise. At that time a Catholic Frenchman could look for no welcome in New England. The widest toleration which anywhere prevailed made exception of Roman Catholics. Frenchmen were the enemies against whom the Colonies were fighting in expeditions led by Sir William Phips to Port Royal and Quebec.

If John Olin was a Frenchman that fact explains our otherwise incomprehensible ignorance about his boyhood. A runaway Welsh boy, and still more a Welsh boy impressed by a king's ship would have had no reason to conceal his origin. Either from himself or from his family in Wales his children would have come to know his story; but for an enemy subject, who was what people insultingly called a papist, there was no safety except in silence and the boy coming out of the woods to East Greenwich, all unknown, was wise to carry his account of his life no further back than the deck of the man-of-war off the Welsh coast.

You may say that much of this is based upon speculation and mere guess work. I agree that it will never be possible to trace by convincing evidence all the ties with his birthplace which John Olin so resolutely severed two hundred and twenty years ago. We shall never know from what branch of the French family the American Olins are descended. None of us may bear the arms registered for the widow Jeanne Olin.

*"d'azur a un pelican sur sa piete d'or accompagne en chef d'une
etoile a dextre et d'un croissant a senestre de mesme".*

but the strength of the argument depends very little upon any matter which is inferential, traditional or in any way disputable or upon possible error in copying the archives. It rests upon the fact that there came to Rhode Island during or before

1700 a boy named John Olin and the further fact that at least for a century there had been in France a family of Olins and that so far as appears there were no other Olins anywhere in the world. The great discoveries of our time—the laws of continuity and evolution apply to names. There might easily be special creations of names for everyone might create his own. But in fact the creation of a name is rare. Names endure unchanged or they develop by small additions or translations or changes in sound or spelling. That this young stranger in Greenwich called himself John Olin was evidence that somewhere could be found a family of Olins to which he belonged. There was a family of Olins in France and we have no trace of any other. We must conclude that John was one of the French Olins.

You note that I make no exception of the Bryan O'Lynn and Bryan O'Lynn's mother, who both went over the bridge together in the old song. That name I take to be different if not apochryphal. We are not concerned with names like Olinsky or Olindo, unless, indeed, they relate back to some seventeenth century Olins of whom we have no knowledge.

The conclusion at which I have arrived pleases me. The Dutch, English, Scottish and Irish elements of the American that I am are the better for a share of the Gallic inheritance which John Olin left to his children with so little ostentation that they were ignorant of it. John's children could not have valued French descent as we may do. They had never heard of Lafayette or of Verdun or the Argonne.

I wish that you might be as much amused by reading this as has been in writing it

Yours sincerely,

STEPHEN HENRY OLIN.

To Hon. JOHN M. OLIN,
Madison, Wisconsin.



N° 1299



PAR ORDONNANCE RENDUE

le 20^e du mois de Mai de l'an 1697. par
M^{rs} les Commissaires Généraux du Conseil
députés sur le fait des Armoiries.

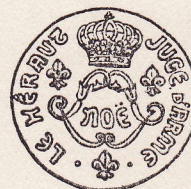
Celles de *Jeanne Clin*

v^{ve} de Jean Chesdeville, Bourgeois de Paris

Telles qu'elles sont ici peintes & figurées, après avoir été
reçues, ont été enrégistrées à l'Armorial Général, dans le Ré-
gistre cottié Paris I en conséquence du paiement des droits
régles par les Tarif & Arrest du Conseil, du 20^e de Novembre
de l'an 1696. en foi de quoi, le présent Brevet a été délivré
par Nous CHARLES D'HOZIER, Conseiller du ROI, &
Garde de l'Armorial Général de France, &c. A Paris le
25^e du mois de Sept^{bre} de l'an 1700. *Chozier*

POUR EXTRAIT CONFORME :

Lambert de Montbazon
herault juge d'armes.



APPENDIX I

Translation

Documents concerning the

OLIN FAMILY

Deposited in the Cabinet of Titles (Section of Manuscripts)

National Library

Fond Francais No. 28629

File 48684

- Item No. 2. Deed of purchase of a domain by the Sieur Antoine Olin, apothecary at Paris, from the widow Favier, July 5, 1655.
- Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, different receipts given by Antoine Olin, Counsellor and elected in the election of Paris in date of the years 1618, 1619, 1622, 1624, 1626, 1627 and 1628.
- No. 10 Deed dated in 1630 in which Phillippe Olin is spoken of as dead in an acquittance given by his widow Madame Marie Foule or Foulle.
- No. 11 Receipt of Pierre Ollin, Treasurer of the life guards under the commission (charge) of Monsieur de Villequier, dated in the month of March, 1638.
- Item No. 12. Discharge of 3 June, 1640, given by Louis Olin, Advocate of the Parliament of Paris, domiciled at Meaux in Brie.
- Item No. 13. Receipt given to Pierre Ollin, treasurer of the body guards.
- Item No. 14. Louis Olin, Clerk of Audience in the Chancery of the President of Meaux admits having received 56 livres 5 sols. September 9, 1644.
- No. 15. Deed passed before Antoine Olin, Esquire, Pierre Olin, also Esquire, Lord of Boursampre, Ensign of the Mestre de Camp of the Regiment of Normandy, as heirs of Antoine Olin, in his lifetime Counsellor of the King, elected in the Election of Paris.
- Items No. 16 and 17. Citations of Nicolas Olin, Counsellor Secretary of the King, House and Crown of France and paymaster, (tresorier) of the Life guards of his Majesty, December 9th, 1655.
- Item No. 18. Miss (Demoiselle) Elizabeth Olin, widow of Etienne Philippe gives a receipt in 1637.

- Items 19 and 20. Marguerite Flogny, wife and attorney in fact of Antoine Olin, Esquire, Lord of Troisville, Counsellor of the King and Commissary and Secretary of wars (des guerres) who gives a receipt of arrears of income (rentes sur les aydes,) 31 May, 1662, and 31 May 1663.
- Item No. 21. Nicolas Olin, Counsellor of the King, Commissioner, and Madame Anne Olin, widow of the late Louis Hector de Marles, Counsellor of the King, Esquire, Lord of Beaubourg, give a receipt 22 December 1668.
- Items No. 22 and 23. Receipts delivered by Dame Olin, widow of Hector de Marles, 12 December 1669 and 8 March 1678.
- Items Nos. 24, 25 and 26. Receipts delivered by Nicolas Olin, Counsellor of the King, ordinary Commissary of War (des guerres) delivered 8 March 1670, 15 February 1671 and 2 February 1672.
- Item No. 27. Acquittance of rentes of the Hotel de Ville given by Marguerite de Flogny, widow of Antoine Olin, Lord of Troisville, Counsellor of the King, Ordinary Commissary of War (des guerres) 9 April 1681.
- Item No. 28. Deed enumerating the lands and hereditaments dependent upon the less and the great canonry of France and belonging to Nicolas Olin 13 November 1683.
- Items 30, 31, 32 and 33. Acquittances of income (rentes) of the Hotel de Ville delivered by dame Marguerite de Flogny, widow of Antoine Olin the 25 May 1686, the 15 December 1694, 10 December 1695 and 7 June 1699.
- Item No. 34. Notice of death (lettre de deces) of the Venerable discrete and scientific person Phillipe Claude Olin, Cure of the Parish of the Holy Innocents of Paris, died the 10 April 1738.

Manuscript No. 30045---File 12972

Item No. 2. Genealogical Table

Jean Olin of Boissy,
husband of Michelle d'Hiducz.

Elizabeth married
(31 October 1647)
to Pierre Grimperel,
living at Aubervillers.

Jacques Olin

Item No. 3. Agreement of Promise of Marriage between Marie Olin, daughter of Antoine Olin and of Catherine de Montsabel, with Henry Baudin.

Item No. 4. Genealogical Table

Guillaume Olin

Guillaume Olin living at Boissy, married to Marie Poussenier

Jacques Olin de Gonesse	Antoine Married to Elizth Beroul				Pierre Olin Paymaster of the Life Guards, husband of Catherine Colbert, daughter of Gerard Colbert, Merchant at Paris		
Antoine Sr. of Trois- ville, Commis- sary of War 1669	Marc Antoine Lord of Gentilly	Pierre Lord of Bourg	Elizth M. Pierre Philippe Lord of Vencelles	Jeanne wife of Jean Chef de- ville			
	Jean	Henry	Pierre Lord of Torcy	Nicolas Paymas- ter of the Life Guards husband of Catherine Boursier	Antoine	Marthe Carmelite	Anne Married to Hector de Marle de Vessigny, Lord of Beau- bourg who had a son Jean born in 1701
Jacques	Charles Lord of Torcy, Gov. of Saragossa married to Marie Marchand			Marie Nicole Michele married in 1702			
Jean Emigrated	Paul Officer of Walloon Guards in Spain						

Item No. 5. Genealogical Table.

Antoine Olin

Apothecary, Temple Street,
husband of Marie Truchet

Pierre Olin,

Paymaster of the King's Guards, died 26 January 1650
Married to Catherine Colbert

Antoine 1633	Francois died in 1639	Catherine 1630-1633	Pierre 1629	Marie 1629	Therese 1629	Nicolas 1627	Genevieve 1624	Antoine 1623	Marguerite 1621	Jean ?	Pierre 1618	Pierre 1617	died young	Pierre 1615	died young	(Mort en bas age)
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Item No. 6. Genealogical Table.

Antoine Olin
Married to Elizth Beroul

Anne 1627	Pierre 1626	Jean 1627	Antoine 1623	Anne 1621	Elizabeth 1619
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APPENDIX II

Origins

The Olin family takes its name from the estate and manor of Olinville, hamlet of the parish of Bruyere le Chastel, in the Canton of Arpajon.

From the year 1200 an Olin is found lord of Olinvilla.

In 1214 Henry de Olinville, liege man of the King Phillippe Auguste, vassal of Mont l'Hery, made declaration that Arnould de Gascogne held under him at Lardy.

The estate of Olinville passed on the distaff side to Benoist Milon, President of the Chamber of Accounts, who sold it to King Henry III.

The chateau was square and surrounded by moats full of water with a round tower at each angle.

A younger son of this ancient house, William Olin, married a daughter of Francois de Monchy, lord of Montcavrel and of Jeanne de Vaux, who was lady of honor of Queen Catherine de Medici.

He was father of two children who formed each a branch.

Elder Branch

William resided at Boissy Saint Leger of which he was lord jointly with his brother Jean. Of his marriage with Marie Poussenier, he left

Antoine Olin, who came to Paris, in the street of the Temple where he set up as apothecary after he had married Marie Eruyet, daughter of an apothecary of that name.

He was father of:

Antoine Olin, elected Alderman (Echevin) of Paris, who married Elizabeth Beroul, who, becoming a widow, married a second time, Philippe Nicolas Augrenier, apothecary in Paris. From the marriage of Antoine Olin were born

1st. Antoine Olin, lord of Troisville, Army Commissary (Commissaire des guerres) who married Angele d'Aloigny.

2nd. Pierre Olin, Lord of Bourg Champret, born in 1626.

3rd. Jeanne, who married Jean de Chefdeville, lord of Chavenay. She was his widow in 1696, the time when she caused her Arms to be recorded in the Armorial General of France.

4th Antoine Marie, who follows.

Antoine Marie Olin, Seigneur of Gentilly, married Catherine de Montsabel, who gave him a daughter, Marie Olin, who was seduced by Sieur Henry Baudin.

According to a very curious document preserved in the National Library, this young girl was driven from home by her parents and she in vain implored pardon from her mother.

Her brothers and her cousins then came to her assistance and required Henry Baudin to marry their sister or to answer sword in hand to the challenge which they issued.

Henry Baudin fell in the duel and to escape from the charge of murder brought against the members of the Olin family, they fled from France as we will hereafter explain.

Younger Branch

Jean Olin, lord of Boissy Saint Leger, jointly with his brother Guillaume married a Miss Michelle d'Hiducz. From which marriage came

1st. Jacques Olin, who lived as a citizen (en bourgeois) at Gonesse.

2nd. Pierre, who follows.

3rd. Toussaint Olin, who came to Paris where he became a dealer in hosiery (Maitre bonnetier).

Pierre Olin was paymaster (tresorier payeur des guerres) and Lifeguardsman (Garde du Corps). He married Genevieve Catherine Colbert, daughter of Gerard Colbert, goldsmith (maitre orfèvre) in Paris, and of Marie Paingre.

He died about 1650, aged seventy, leaving

1st. Henry Simon Olin, who, to escape the prosecutions caused by the plot against Baudin, fled to Italy and died among the priests of the Oratory.

2nd. Nicolas, who follows.

3rd. Marie, died young.

Nicolas Olin, paymaster of the Life Guard, married Catherine Bouvier, daughter of Claude Bouvier, captain of cavalry, and of Jeanne Dourdasne, by whom he had:

1st Jacques Olin, regular Canon of the Abbey of Saint Denis.

2nd. Charles Nicolas Olin, who follows:

Charles Nicolas Olin, Seigneur of Torcy, who was compelled to fly at the same time as his cousin after the murder of Baudin. He went to the Low Countries where he entered the Spanish service.

Afterwards he lived in the Peninsula and later became Governor of Saragossa. Of his marriage with Marie Marchand, he had

1st. Pol Olin, who became officer of the Walloon Guards in Spain.

2nd. Jean Olin, whose posterity seems to have gone to America.

Arms

The arms of the Olin family are blazoned as follows:

Blue, a pelican with her brood gold, accompanied in the upper part of the shield right by a star and left a crescent of the same.

Devise "Olin sic est"

(Extract from the Armorial General of France, Register of Paris No. 1299 fo. 1892).

(Stamp).

The present notice has been drawn up by us Lambert de Montoison, Continuer of d'Hozier Judge of Arms of the Nobility of France from authentic and trustworthy titled deeds, proofs and documents extracted from the collections of the National Library and the Cabinet of Deeds.

At Paris, the 6th July 1914.

(Signed)

LAMBERT de MONTTOISON.

(Seal)