

The French and American History of Michael Antoine Garoutte



(Captain) Michel (Anglicized as: Michael) Antoine Garoutte (Pronounced: Guh-Roo) the Ghost of [Historic Pleasant Mills, New Jersey](#). His Ghost can sometimes be seen in twilight and night time on the Old Pleasant Mills Tract in Historic Pleasant Mills, New Jersey by the Old Paper Mill, ^[1] which is where his Tavern: The LaFayette, was once located.



Garoutte was a highly intelligent and highly educated French Noble. He was described as a 6 Foot Tall Frenchman of remarkable Strength and [Swordsmanship](#).

Born April the 12th year 1750 in Marseille, France ^[2] ^[3] Garoutte was a French Noble who fought in the [American Revolutionary War](#).

He and his 16 years Older Sister The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte ^[4] were the only surviving children of The Admiral (Sir) Antoine Garoutte and The (Lady) Anne d'Ascours.

He immigrated to the New Jersey Colony where he aided the cause for American Independence, his Sister's Family were among the first supporters of [Napoleon Bonaparte](#), the first Noble Family to reform the French Government and The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte's [Son](#) was a (General) in [The French Revolution](#) and he was twice elected a (Deputy) of the Department of Var in France and a (Representative) in the Lower House Legislature of the Republic of France.

Napoleon Bonaparte's Older Brother The [Corsican](#) (King) of Spain and Indies for a short time, [Joseph Bonaparte](#) built a large Mansion just less than 15 miles from Michael Antoine Garoutte's Estate in South New Jersey in about 1812. ^[5] The Bonaparte Mansion served as the central hub for French [Expatriates](#) in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The (Marquis) de La Fayette was Michael Garoutte's Childhood Friend and School Mate in France and he was his guest in 1824 in New Jersey.

Garoutte's Ancestry



Lavender at Banon - Provence, France

He belonged to an old [Provençal](#) family of the Nobility. His Father, Antoine Garoutte was an (Admiral) of the Royal French Navy, a wealthy Le (Capitaine) of Vessels, and later the ([Attorney General](#)) of the Southern Division of France for a short time (Called: [Provence](#), Pronounced: Pro-Vawn-S) and owner of a small Fleet of Merchant Ships.

Some of The Admiral (Sir) Antoine Garoutte's Merchant Shipping deals were a joint partnership of M.M. Rigaud, Vernet & Company Shipping out of Marseille, France and Geneva, Switzerland. This profitable Merchant Shipping Business dealt in Sugars and Tobaccos from Saint Dominique Colony. They also used their Merchant and Privateer vessels to ship Arms and Materials to French Colonies in Saint Dominique and Canada. The d'Espinassy de Venel Family also had a merchant branch to fund their estates in France. Both Garoutte and d'Espinassy Families were exempted from tax.

Antoine's Father, Henri Garoutte was also the (Attorney General) of the Southern Division of France before him. Michael Antoine Garoutte's Mother was The (Lady) Anne de La Scours (d'Lascours), her real name was The (Lady) Marie Anne d'Lascours of the Nobility.

The Garoutte's were also connected to the [Landed Gentry](#) of France, which is Nobility of the Land, and the Garoutte's were also Nobility of the Sword. Some of them (Brothers, Sisters, Nephews, etc. of Antoine Garoutte) were untitled Nobles. The [Noblesse Uterine](#) which is the Nobility of the Female Bloodline still exists and is recognized in the Female Bloodline from the Eldest Daughter of Michael Antoine Garoutte.

The (Admiral) Antoine Garoutte's War Ship: The Great Saint Simon



Carte de la Partie Francoise - Saint Domingue

Michael Garoutte's Father, Antoine Garoutte, sailed to Saint Dominique Colony during the [Seven Years War](#), also known as [San Domingue](#) and Saint Domingue, which was a French Colony on the [Caribbean](#) island of Hispaniola and was named after [Saint Dominic](#), now is [Haiti](#), on orders of The (King) [Louis XV of France](#) who was the Navy Minister, orders given on February, 17, 1753 by letter from the Royal Castle in Versailles, France ^{[6] [7]} when Michael was 2 years old. Antoine's Brother Jean Joseph Garoutte was appointed to Coast Guard by the Navy Minister The (King) Louis XV of France on the same day Antoine Garoutte was ordered to set sail for San Domingue. ^[8]



Antoine Garoutte commanded the Vessel The Great Saint Simon in this departure ^{[9] [10]} and Antoine Garoutte died about 1760.

The name of the ship Great Saint Simon is probably named after [Saint Simon the Zealot](#), who was one of the original [12 Apostles of Christ](#).

There is an Inlet and Town in Canada by Quebec now named [Saint Simon](#) and there are two books which describe how it came to be named Saint Simon, according to their history, a very fast 20 Gun Top Deck Sloop French [Corvette War Ship](#), by the name of Saint Simon came through the Inlet in an attempt to escape the pursuing British Fleet about 1759 - 1760 and a battle took place there on land and water, the town was later named after the French Corvette. ^{[11] [12]}

(Seigneurs) d'Lasours and (Seigneurs) de Boisson



(Lady) Anne's Father was The (Baron) of the La Scours, (Lord) [Henri d'Lasours](#), and his name is listed in the Dictionary of the Nobles of France. Through Michael's Mother The (Lady) Marie Anne

d'Lasours, there are Lords of Boisson, France which connects them to the [Ancient Regime](#) of France and earlier, 13th Century Nobility known simply as the Ancient Nobility, through this line, The (Lady) Anne's Great Grandmother on her Father's line was The (Lady) [Anne de Boisson](#) (born, 1599) and her Father was (Lord, SEIGNEUR) [Louis de Boisson](#) (born, 1570) the Chevalier (Knight, Lord) of Boisson, they lived in a Château (Castle) de Boisson. The Uncle of The (Baron) Henri d'Lasours name was Henry d'Lasours, he was a Catholic Priest and a [Conseiller du Roy](#), which is a member of the (Royal Council) to The (King) of France.



The Boisson counseled the (Counts) and were allied with Bionneau, to Castellane, to Piolenc. The (Lady) Anne's Grandfather on her Father's line was (Lord, SEIGNEUR)

[Louis d'Lasours](#) (born, 1617) and he was the Mayor of Marseille, France. ^[13]

Crusader Ancestry



The Crusades

Michael Antoine Garoutte's Paternal Grandfather's name was Henri Garoutte and his wife's name was The (Lady) Angelique de Pistre. Henri Garoutte's Father was Honore Garoutte and his wife's name was The (Lady) Anne Marguerite Guinoard. All Garoutte's in this line are direct lineal descendants of French Feudal Lords and Ladies with lines to the Ancient French Nobility and thus are descendants of [Charlemagne The \(Emperor\) of the Holy Roman Empire and The \(King\) of the Franks](#).

The d'Lasours line can be traced back to about 1292, to a (Knight) of the name of [Jacques d'Lasours](#), to what Order of Knights is not known yet.

The d'Lasours were quite possibly in the [Crusades](#), all of them, starting with The (Lady) Marie Anne d'Lasours and upward were French Nobility, which means this family was 16 [Quarterings](#) of [Nobility](#).

The French Nobility worked very differently than the Nobility of other countries.

Ancient Garoutte's and a History of Naval Service

The direct ancestor of Michael Antoine Garoutte, another Garoutte by the name of Antoine Garoutte is referred to as: "The Master Captain Garoutte" and "Le Capitaine" and "Le Garoutte" and "Maister d'Hostel" and "Seigneur de la Maison de Garoutte" by The [\(Baron\) of Salignac](#), which is a French Feudal Lord, a Master. Maistre d'Hostel means [Noble Breed](#). ^[14] The passage describes Antoine Garoutte as giving advice to The (Baron) of Salignac on how to sail back to [Constantinople](#) on a faster route. ^[15]

The Garoutte's had a long history of Navy Service, (Sir) Antoine was an (Admiral) of the Royal French Navy and Le (Capitaine) of Vessels, Jean Joseph Garoutte was (Captain) of the Royal French Coast Guard and became an (Admiral) of the Royal French Navy, Michael Garoutte was a (Lieutenant) in the American Continental Navy.

Garoutte Coat of Arms and Insignia



Aeneas in Virgil's Poem The Golden Bough



The Garoutte Coat of Arms features On Azure background Three Golden Military Stars with a Silver Dove and a Golden Bough in its Beak. [\[16\]](#) [\[17\]](#) [\[18\]](#) [\[19\]](#)

Description of the Garoutte Coat of Arms:

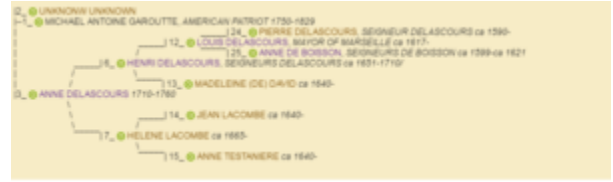
D'azur, a une colombe d'argent, becquee et membre de gueulese, portant en son bec un rameau d'or; au chef cousu de gueules charge de trois etoiles d'or.

The Three Golden Stars symbolize Military Authority and the Silver Dove with the Golden Bough in its Beak is an allusion to the events in [Virgil's Poem The Golden Bough](#), where Aeneas was assisted by two doves in finding a Golden Bough which was required in order for him to board a ship to the underworld and see his dead Father in Elysium. Upon Aeneas plucking the Golden Bough from the tree another one immediately sprung up in its place.

Note: Notice that the description says it is a Golden Bough and not an Olive Tree Branch.

Also important to note is the fact that only Nobility could hold rank in the Feudal Military of France. Many of Michael's ancestors were [Chevaliers](#) (Actual Knights of the Realm who were dubbed on the head and shoulders during ceremonial rites), Lords and Ladies. [\[20\]](#)

Blood Relation to The (King) Louis Line and The d'Espinassy de Venel Lines



Michael Garoutte Ancestral Chart



The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte (Michael's Older Sister) married Le Noble The (General) Cesar-Antoine de Espinassy (d'Espinassy) de Venel [\[21\]](#) [\[22\]](#) whose name and genealogy is listed in the Dictionary of the Nobles of France with Illustration. [\[23\]](#)

Cesar-Antoine d'Espinassy de Venel is a descendant of the super wealthy (Baron) of Provence, France Fortune d'Espinassy de Venel and earlier The (Senator) Honorat d'Espinassy de Venel whose Nobility was unquestionable as he and his Bloodline were exempted from any tax by [The \(King\) Henri II of France](#). [\[24\]](#)

Note: Our Modern Cousins are d'Espinassy's such as the descendants of The (Count) Auguste d'Espinassy de Fontanelle and The (Earls) of Essex who hold a Royal Peerage of England and France. [Click Here](#)

The d'Espinassy de Venel Family are also somehow related to [Charles d'Anjou](#) as he picked out the Stone for the d'Espinassy de Venel Arms design for Pierre d'Espinassy, [\[25\]](#) which is a Noble Gesture that indicates a close blood relation.

Noble Gestures were gestures used by [Gentry](#), a good example of a Noble Gesture is if a (Nobleman) were engaged to a Noble (Lady) and he decided not to marry the (Lady) then he was required to buy her a pair of white gloves every day for a calendar month.



Knights of the Order of Saint Louis

Cesar-Antoine d'Espinassy de Venel was a Chevalier (Knight) of the [Royal and Military Order of Saint Louis](#), (Captain) of a French War Vessel and was very wealthy, owning immense property in Marseille, France as were the Garoutte Family. ^[26]

This d'Espinassy de Venel Bloodline are direct lineal descendants of The (King) [Louis XIII of France](#). ^[27]

Marie Magdeleine and Cesar-Antoine stayed behind in France and ran their Estates living in Château Garoutte in Signes, France, Château de la Jacconnière in Signes, France and other French Castles. There is a Château Garoutte that is located in Lapalud, France which is 30 minutes away from Avignon, France and another Château Garoutte that is a Stone Mansion with acres of rolling land and is iron fenced and is located in Signes, France. ^[28] ^[29] The Château de la Jacconnière is located in Signes, France and is a Castle that was built on the ruins of an earlier Castle. ^[30] ^[31]



The (Lady) Claire Charlotte d'Espinassy

Apparently the descendants of Cesar-Antoine d'Espinassy de Venel Cousin bought the Château de la Jacconnière after Claire Charlotte d'Espinassy de Venel died. Claire Charlotte d'Espinassy de Venel was Marie Magdeleine Garoutte and Cesar-Antoine d'Espinassy de Venel's Daughter, she lived in the Château de la Jacconnière most of her adult life and she was highly respected in the Community, known as a great Lady, she

wrote numerous books there such as "Advice for Young Ladies" and others.

The Garoutte Family, D'Espinassy de Venel Family, Napoleon Bonaparte and The French Revolution



Trial of Louis Capet - The (King) Louis XVI of France

The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte's Son was [Antoine Joseph Marie d'Espinassy de Venel](#) (Antoine Joseph Marie d'Espinassy de Venel later married The (Lady) Marie Guillaume de Tholomé de Fontanelle, Daughter of The (Marquis) de Fontanelle) who later came into the Rank of Captain of the Corps of the Royal Artillery in the Colonies, he rapidly ascended Rank after showing great enthusiasm and coming up with brilliant ideas, and after the French Revolution broke out (in 1789 about 14 years after the American Revolution did in 1775) he was promoted to the Rank of [General de Brigade](#) in The French Military and was made a (Deputy) of the Department of Var, France. He sat among the most advanced in the [Council of Five Hundred](#), and in the trial of The (King) [Louis XVI of France](#) (16th) in January of 1793, on the Third Roll Call he voted to kill The (King) Louis XVI of France, dismissing the appeal to the people and the stay.

He was then sent on a mission to the [Army of the Alps](#), and again sent on a mission to [Toulon, France](#) and [Lyon, France](#) (24 Prairial) to appease the religious passions aroused in the [Gevaudan](#). He was reminded of this mission on 24 Vendémiaire Year IV, and resumed his place in the [Convention](#). The following 4 Brumaire, he entered the Council of Five Hundred as ex-Conventional, took out the 1st Prairial V, and went around Lyon, France.



Napoleon Bonaparte Exiled to the Island of Elba

When Napoleon Bonaparte was [Banished to the Island of Elba in 1814](#), and after the [Restoration of the House of Bourbon](#) under The (King) [Louis XVIII of France](#), The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte, her Son Joseph and his wife The (Lady) Marie de Fontanelle became [Enemies of the State](#) for their support of the French Revolution as they had been among the first to reform the French Government, and they fled to Switzerland and they took the name of Joseph's wife (de Fontanelle) while there to evade detection and capture.

Napoleon Bonaparte later escaped the Island of Elba with the assistance of some French Nobles and he [Returned to France and Marched on Paris](#), at this point the Supporters of Napoleon who remained hidden in their Noble Families emerged to assist Napoleon Bonaparte and he again rallied the Nation of France behind him, eventually fighting in the [Waterloo Campaign](#).

Napoleon Bonaparte and his Military Forces were finally defeated at the [Battle of Waterloo](#) and he was [Exiled Permanently to Saint Helena Island](#) where he died there May of 1821.

Napoleon Bonaparte wrote this in his [Last Will and Testament](#):

"I recommend to my son never to forget that he was born a French prince, and never to allow himself to become an instrument in the hands of the triumvirs who oppress the nations of Europe: he ought never to fight against France, or to injure her in any manner; he ought to adopt my motto: "Everything for the French people." I die prematurely, assassinated by the English oligarchy and its assassin. The English nation will not be slow in avenging me."

After his return to France as ex-Conventional, Antoine Joseph Marie d'Espinassy de Venel was forced into Exile from France years later on January, 12, 1816 due to the laws against [Regicide](#) and he died in Exile on May, 27,

1829 in [Lausanne, Switzerland](#), the same year his uncle Michael Antoine Garoutte died. ^[32]

Two Sons of The (General) Antoine Joseph Marie d'Espinassy de Venel married Daughters of Arthur Algernon Capel, The Sixth [\(Earl\) of Essex in England](#) after meeting them at a Masquerade Ball that took place the night before the Battle of Waterloo. ^{[33] [34]} His other Children married (Counts) of France and English Royalty.

Our Cousin [William Jennings Capell is the contender for the Earldom of Essex](#) as of 2016, and all of the descendants of Michael Antoine Garoutte are in line to numerous [Hereditary Titles of Nobility](#) in France by the rules of Absolute Legitimate Primogeniture.

The (General) Antoine Joseph Marie d'Espinassy de Venel wrote this letter in the Third Year of the Republic of France:

At Signs Brignolles district Var department, 29 Frimaire, Year III of the Republic.

Despinassy, representative of the people to his colleagues.

Fellow citizens, your virtues have never shone with more luster, that when you reminded you near your unfortunate colleagues. Our deep innocence demanded signal justice. I'll join me soon to your immortal work, spend my days with you all the happiness of my country, and die, if necessary, by filling this sacred duty.

Hi and brotherhood, Despinassy.

Some branches of this family were Reformists, others Royalists and some Conventionals. The (General) Cesar Antoine d'Espinassy de Venel was a Conventional and he was one of Napoleon's first supporters.

The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte was probably a Royalist as in 1787 she wrote letters to her younger Brother's wife Sophie Garoutte and sent her gifts from The (Queen) [Marie Antoinette of France](#).

The Execution of The (King) Louis Capet XVI of France



The Execution of Louis Capet - The (King) Louis XVI of France

A newspaper named *Thermomètre du jour* that was operating in that time had one of their agents present at the execution of The (King) Louis Capet XVI of France and he reported that the King's last words were: "HELP ME I AM LOST!". ^[35] Interestingly, Michael Garoutte made a trip back to France from New Jersey arriving in 1793. (See below)

Early Life of Michael Antoine Garoutte

According to Historical Passages and Documentation, ^{[36] [37] [38] [39] [40]} Michael Antoine Garoutte was born into French Nobility in the Château (Castle) Garoutte in Signes, France, Baptized in [La Major Parish](#) in Les Accoules, France ^[41] and was conferred [Confirmation](#) there also, which was once called [Chrismation](#) or [Christening](#). Part of the Parish was burned during the [French Revolution](#). ^[42]

Baptismal and Confirmation Records



Medieval Baptism

The birth of each child of Antoine Garoutte and Anne d'Lascours were recorded and these records are on file in the City Hall in Paris, France and Marseille, France. The names are: Marie Magdeleine, Rose, Mathein, Phillipe, Francois and Michael Antoine. ^{[43] [44]}

Michael's Baptismal Record:



Baptismal Record for Michael Antoine Garoutte

Extrait de Registres des Actes de l'Etat Civil

Extrait de Baptême

Paroisse des accoules de l'anne 1750 du 12 avril, folio 42 verse Michel Antoine Garoutte, fils d' Antoine, Le Capitaine de vaisseau, absent et de Demoiselle Anne Delascour, ne aujourd' hui dans notre paroisse et a ete baptise, le parrain a ete Michel Roussin, negociant, la marraine Demoiselle Marie Bense signe avec nous Chaonoine, soussigne. ^[45]

Marseille le 25 Mars 1927 G Le Maire de Marseille L Adjaint Delege

Note: "Demoiselle" and Abbreviation "Dmlle" in French (Noun) means: a Woman of Noble Birth. Damsel/Dame meant an unmarried Noble Lady. Demoiselle meant a married Lady. See the birth records of other Nobles in these decades to verify as authentic.

Inheritance of His Father's Estates

Born into [French Nobility](#) and by extension [French Royalty](#) and the youngest Son of The (Baron) and (Admiral) Antoine Garoutte and every child of Antoine and Anne died young except for Michael and his Older Sister Marie Magdeleine, her name was sometimes spelled Madeleine.

Michael and Marie Magdeleine inherited the Garoutte Estates and Offices, a [Baronial Fief](#) with a [Château](#) along with the Merchant Vessels and Merchant Business owned by his Father Antoine Garoutte as well as the other properties they owned, some of Magdeleine's Children took up the Offices, such as Francois d'Espinassy de Venel and his Brother.

Some of Michael Garoutte's Ancestors were like Officers to the Kings of France and in many ancient and historical passages, some of them are referred to as: "Le Garoutte" and "Le Officier Royal" where "Le" is the Nobility indicator, some of them were [Prosecutors](#), [Procurators](#), Procureurs.

Born the youngest Son, he began education for the [Catholic Priesthood](#) at a very young age, which is something a youngest Son would do in the Nobility if he had an older Brother that would inherit, but upon his older Brother's death, Michael inherited the Estates and Offices of his Father a (Baron) of Provence, France, due the rules of [Primogeniture](#), his older Brother had no heirs of his own, so Michael exited the Priesthood Seminary and began running his Father's Estates and Businesses. Michael's Father, Antoine Garoutte, died when Michael was 10 and Michael's older Brother died in battle when Michael was 15.

Military School

Michael later attended the same Military Schools as [Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier](#), The [\(Marquis\) de La Fayette](#) ^[461] ^[471] ^[481] and he was before childhood friends with him, Michael was 4 years older than The (Marquis) de La Fayette.

Caught Dueling



Detail from Grisier's Les Armes et Le Duel

Michael was later caught dueling, which was outlawed in France at the time, and was a crime with severe penalties, when he was brought before The (King) Louis Court, and the court seeing who it was, that it was Michael, they dropped the charges and they simply waived him away not to do it again. ^[491] ^[501]

Michael was described as a full blooded, high-nettled, but good-hearted Frenchman. ^[511]

The American Revolution



Benjamin Franklin Approaches The (King) Louis XVI of France Court

The American Continental Establishment had a desperate need of funding for their effort of Independence from British oppression. In 1776 [Benjamin Franklin](#) was sent on a [diplomatic mission](#) to The (King) Louis Court to ask for French assistance in the effort for American Independence. The French were looking to help the American Colonists for many reasons, one of them namely for the [war they had previously lost to the British](#).

The French were already allies of the American Rebels and The (King) Louis himself sent Money, Arms and Goods to his allies in the American Colonies to wage another proxy war with Britain and eventually sent his (General) The (Marquis) de La Fayette and thousands of French Soldiers to the American Colonies to assist the American Continental Establishment in the American Revolutionary War.

At the age of 25 in 1775, Michael Antoine Garoutte was inspired by the cause of the American Rebels seeking their Independence from France' greatest enemy: Great Britain, wanting revenge and seeking glory and high adventure he fastened 2 of his Father's ships at his own expense and set sail for the American Colonies.

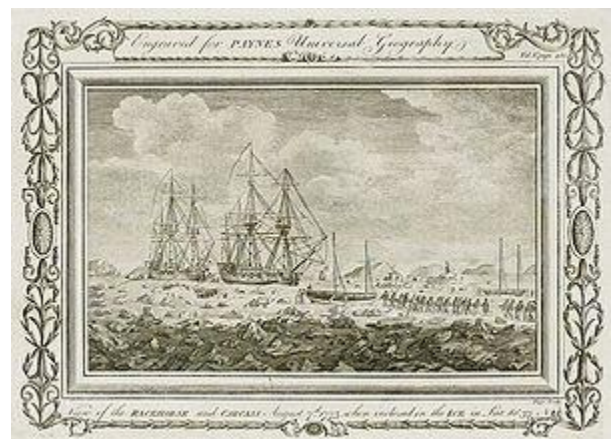
He secretly left his life of Noble Privilege and Fortune, bringing with him French Soldiers, Money, Guns and Goods, following Gilbert du Motier, The (Marquis) de La Fayette and landed in the New York Colony before making way to the New Jersey Colony.



Privateers in the American Revolution Were a Nightmare for the Royal British Navy

He loaned the Continental Establishment 60,000 Pounds Sterling which was a bond requirement of Servicemen on Private Vessels that were in Service to the Continental Establishment. ^[52] Shortly after he sold the Continental Establishment one of his Private Ships. ^[53] ^[54]

In the early years of the American War for Independence there was no official Continental Navy, their Navy was comprised almost entirely of Privateers in bond to the Continental Establishment.



HMS RaceHorse and HMS Carcass

He was later a Volunteer Naval Officer on board two different ships, ^[55] ^[56] one was named the [HMS RaceHorse](#) and was a [sloop-of-war](#) vessel, the other was named [Enterprise](#) a brig-of-war vessel, the Enterprise was a ship that was captured from the British by the [Continental Navy](#) under the Military Forces of The (Colonel) [Benedict Arnold](#), the Enterprise was originally named [HMS George](#) by the British. The HMS RaceHorse was originally a

fast 18 Gun French Privateer Fire Ship named The Marquis de Vadreuil that was captured by the Royal British Navy off the coast of San Domingue in 1757 during the 7 Years War, in August of 1778 this ship was captured back by the French under the Military Forces of The [\(Comte\) d'Estaing](#) in allegiance to the American Continental Establishment and was renamed to HMS Thunder.

Interestingly, Hector, The (Comte) d'Estaing came from the same [French Department](#) in Toulon, France as the Garoutte and d'Espinassy de Venel Family.

The Enterprise was later burned to prevent the British from capturing it again.

Oral Family History places another one of Garoutte's ships being sunk in Quebec.

The Battle of Chestnut Neck



Little Egg Harbor - New Jersey

Michael Garoutte was later in the [Battle of Chestnut Neck](#) about October, 5, 1778 where the British burned one of Michael's private ships in the [Mullica River](#) which was once called the [Little Egg Harbor River](#). Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey was a secret base used by Continental Privateers to anchor their Vessels and sell off the property they seized from the British.

The British Military Forces arrived at Chestnut Neck, New Jersey with a strength of 400 men looking to neutralize the menacing Continental Privateers and burned down half the settlement along with many of the Continental Privateer Vessels, murdered many men and women and looted the property. Garoutte was vastly outnumbered by the British and he and his men ran for cover into the [New Jersey Pine Barrens](#) cutting down the British Soldiers in their way.

When the British received word that The (Count) [Kazimierz Michał Władysław Wiktor Pułaski](#) was on his way to meet them with his Military Forces the British quickly left on their ships. The British suffered huge losses a week later when confronted by The (Count) Kazimierz Pułaski.

A historical passage mentions that Michael's ship that was sunk in the Mullica River could still be seen on a low tide, near Sand Point. ^[57]

Another wreck, which is named the [Bead Wreck Site](#) which had countless precious Native American beads on it is possibly connected to Garoutte's activities.

One of Michael's friends in the war, John, went missing after the Battle of Chestnut Neck, and when Michael went searching for him, he received word that John was in an Inn somewhere in [Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey](#), so he went to the Inn to see if he was there. Upon Michael's arrival, he was ambushed by 7 [Hessian Troopers](#), the Troopers beat Michael, stabbed him in the side with a [Bayonet](#) and injured his head and then dragged him down the road and left him for dead for all to see. ^[58]

Laying half dead on the side of the dirt road he was discovered to be alive by a Quakeress Girl and she went back to her Father, a [Quaker](#) and Inn Owner by the name of James Smith who took no part in the war, and they returned to Garoutte, saw signs of life, picked him up into his wagon and brought him home and nursed him back to health. ^{[59] [60] [61]}

Marriage

The Quakers Daughter, Sophia "Sophie" Smith, assisted her Father in healing Garoutte.

Michael later married the [Quakeress](#) on October, 25, 1778 ^{[62] [63] [64]} Garoutte and his Quakeress Bride later ran a Tavern and they built Houses in Little Egg Harbor and Pleasant Mills, New Jersey, and over the next few decades they had a total of 13 children. ^{[65] [66] [67] [68]}

Sophia Smith was born September, 8, 1759. Sophia Smith was said to be a very beautiful Quakeress. ^[69]

Michael Garoutte was 28 years old and Sophia Smith was 19 years old when they were married.

Pension Issue



Continental Dollars of New Jersey

Letters from the American Government to Michael Antoine Garoutte state a repayment to Michael from the American Government for his loan of 60,000 Pounds Sterling (a Bond Requirement of Servicemen on Private Vessels), the repayment was a chest full of [Continental Dollars](#), ^[70] which was worthless at the time and Michael's Children were allowed to play with it. ^[71]



Chest of Silver Cobs

It was standard for the newly established American Government to repay their investors with Continental Dollars and then years later with goods, services and a pension. The Continental Dollars were highly inflated and they were only worth a fraction of the value of the precious metals in other currencies of that time. This is where the phrase [“It wasn't worth a Continental”](#) comes from.

Essentially the Continental Establishment, before it became organized, unified and declared as the United Colonies, they would get people to invest in their war effort with actual money that had silver and gold in it and they would pay the men in service to them with that invested money, then they would turn around years later and repay the investors with worthless stamp money crafted by the individual Colony Government and later the Congress, called Continentals, many investors were

furious about this and the American Government continued doing this even after it was declared the U.S..

Without the assistance of the French the American effort for Independence would have been lost. The French Monarchy paid for almost everything and gave them almost all of the Guns, Goods, Uniforms and even thousands of French Soldiers; there is also strong evidence that the French Monarchy and French Nobles were shipping Guns and Giving Material aid to the American Rebels as early as 1774; then they were abandoned in their time of need when the French Revolution broke out and Napoleon Bonaparte came into power and was supported by many Noble French families, the U.S. at that point was heavily indebted to the French Monarchy.

Most Colonists hated Noblemen and they hated Catholics even more because most Colonists were uneducated and associated corruption with Nobility, especially the English Nobility. Their deeply rooted hate for Catholics goes back to the Protestant Reformation. Michael Garoutte was both Catholic and a French Nobleman. Privateers were also often cheated by the Continental Establishment, but the Privateers acquired vast wealth by hijacking British Navy Ships and British Merchant Vessels, usually taking the goods for themselves. It was more lucrative for men to be in service to the Continental Establishment through Privateering.

Michael applied for a Pension during the [Pension Act of 1818](#), and after they would not allow his Pension he requested another Officer by the name of [Ebenezer Tucker](#) of [Tuckerton](#), New Jersey to get his Pension for him.

Michael was 72 years old when the Government began Pensioning its servicemen with certain disabilities under this law. Ebenezer Tucker was an Officer that fought for The (General) [George Washington](#) in several military campaigns during the Revolutionary War and he was later in 1825 a Congressman and a representative in the U.S. House of Representatives from Burlington County, New Jersey.

Tucker wrote to the Government on behalf of Michael Antoine Garoutte in 1822, ^[72] and he represented him, but the pension request was still rejected because his service records were lost when the Records Department in the Court House burned during the Revolutionary War years earlier, so he was not able to prove the service.

Town Records in Pleasant Mills, New Jersey do reveal that Michael was indeed referred to as (Lieutenant) Garoutte. Tucker was able to get the Continental

Government to acknowledge Michael's services however, but he never received the pension.

Had Garoutte been Pensioned he would have received \$5 per month from the U.S. Government.

Statements sent back by the Commissioner of Pensions Department in Washington, D.C. reveals the Continental Establishment and the then later U.S. Government claimed the Enterprise and RaceHorse never belonged to the Continental Establishment ^[73] and yet today the U.S. Navy Historical Department and the U.S. Government have openly wrote about the first U.S.S. Enterprise and RaceHorse as belonging to the Continental Establishment, ^[74] the first being a vessel that was captured by the Continental Establishment from the British and later carried 50 or more Officers through Quebec and was ultimately burned to prevent it from falling into the hands of the British again.

After the American Revolution

James Smith' Inn



Tavern in Pleasant Mills, New Jersey

Michael and Sophie inherited Sophie's Father's Inn in [Pleasant Mills, New Jersey](#) and they renamed it to: The La Fayette, the Tavern and Inn was on the road from Pleasant Mills to Indian Cabin, and interestingly the location of this Tavern is listed on an earlier map as an Inn belonging to a J. Smith. They also ran a Stage Line that ran from English's Hotel to Joseph English's Ferry, Camden to Leads Point, opposite Bearmore's Beach which is the most convenient place at all times to pass to Long Beach, Tucker's Beach or Brigantine, making multiple stops and ending at The La Fayette Tavern and Inn in Pleasant Mills, New Jersey for overnight lodging. The Service ran at 7:00 A.M. every morning and the fare was \$2. ^[75] ^[76] ^[77]



Colonial Tavern Sketch by Edwin Tunis

Garoutte's clients would enter into his very fine Stage Coaches which were luxurious Carriages and be driven on a very scenic route all the way back to his Tavern in Pleasant Mills, New Jersey, and depending on where the client was picked up, the travel distance would be anywhere from 10 - 18 miles. The Coaches would stop at The La Fayette Tavern where the client would exit and make his way to the Tavern for overnight drinking, luxurious feasts and lodging, and, the client would be driven back to town by before noon the next day.

See this YouTube Video of Historic Pleasant Mills, New Jersey part of Batsto, New Jersey to get a good visualization of what it looked like in the 18th Century: [Historic Pleasant Mills, New Jersey](#) (Where Michael Garoutte lived and operated his Tavern: The La Fayette).

The Historic Pleasant Mills, New Jersey was a town that secretly manufactured and provided Guns and Materials for the American Revolutionary War.

Michael additionally owned 50 acres of land and a cow and he paid Taxes from 1796 to 1812 in [Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey](#). ^[78] ^[79] which was about 12 miles away from Pleasant Mills, New Jersey.

Michael made 2 trips back to France, arriving in 1787 and again in 1793, ^[80] and possibly made another trip later. ^[81]

The (Marquis) de La Fayette Returns to America



The (Marquis) de La Fayette Returns to America

Much later when Michael's children were grown, The (Marquis) de La Fayette returned to the Americas two times, in 1784 and again in 1824, and on each of his visits he visited with Michael and his Son, the last visit was after Michael's wife died and Michael was living in an Inn so he could be cared for. [\[82\]](#) [\[83\]](#) [\[84\]](#) [\[85\]](#)

Michael continued receiving money from his Sister and Family Estate in France up until 1820 [\[86\]](#) [\[87\]](#) [\[88\]](#) and he applied for a Pension in 1822 at the age of 72, under the Pensions Act of 1822 with the assistance of Ebenezer Tucker.

Letters From The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte and Gifts From Royalty

The (Lady) Marie Magdeleine Garoutte sent Michael's wife Sophie some gifts from The (Queen) [Marie Antoinette of France](#) with a separate letter addressed to Sophie in February of 1787.

The gifts were to be handed down to Michael's Eldest Daughter of the Eldest Daughter (Noblesse Uterine) to present day. The gifts were some French Silks and Velvets and a Scissors Pin with the inscription of "Her Royal Highness" which is still in the family today. [\[89\]](#) [\[90\]](#) [\[91\]](#)

One letter from Marie Magdeleine Garoutte addressed to Michael's wife Sophie dated February the 26th year 1787 from France at Signes, and reads:

Dear Sister-in-law:

I have seen with the greatest satisfaction my brother, your husband, after an absence of twelve years, without ever having heard from him. I assure you his arrival has given us the greatest pleasure, particularly so, as he informs me he has established himself and is so happy as to possess a respectable wife. I cannot think after all my brother has said, although he sets no bounds to the praises he gives you, yet I cannot help thinking he is inwardly chagrined, particularly when he speaks of his children. Can it be that my brother is not happy? Alas! He deserves to be for the natural goodness of his heart. Since he conceals his troubles from me, I address myself to you, madam, for to beg you to form me and shall be most happy if it is the means of removing them.

I will not conceal from you that your husband belongs to the first [Nobility of Provence in France](#) and, therefore, I beg you to be well persuaded of the sincere friendship with which I am for life, madam, dear Sister-in-law,

Your very humble servant,

Magdeleine Garoutte D'Espinassy

P.S. Have the goodness to embrace for me and my husband, your dear children, in waiting until I have the pleasure of taking in my arms little Nancy, whom my brother has promised me and I agree to educate, conformable to the education of her Father. My son, who is Captain of the Corps of Royal Artillery, now is Captain Francois, is ignorant that his uncle is with us but my daughter, who enjoys with me the pleasure of her uncle's company, embraces her little cousins, waiting with impatience to see little Nancy. [\[92\]](#) [\[93\]](#)

Michael had promised his Sister Magdeleine that he would send his Daughter Nancy to Magdeleine so she could be trained in the Royal [Catholic Arts](#). Michael did not send Nancy however, she stayed with her Family in New Jersey. ^[94] ^[95]

Another letter was sent from Charlotte d'Espinassy de Venel from France at Signes dated February the 26th, year 1787 and reads:

My dear Aunt:

I am going to assure you myself of the sincere friendship I have for you, after the praises given you by my uncle, your husband. We are enchanted with the connection which he has made. It is for this I beg you to be persuaded of the profound respect with which I am,

Your very humble servant,

Charlotte D'Espinassy

One good kiss for me to your little children and above all to the little Nancy, whom I wait for with open arms, my uncle has promised to me. ^[96] ^[97]

Charlotte d'Espinassy de Venel was Magdeleine's Daughter, and Michael's Niece.

Michael's Travels and His Descendants

Michael's Wife Sophie died on the 26th of December, 1817, ^[98] and after she died Michael traveled and stayed with each of his grown Children and their Families, and he wrote about these travels and visits in his Bible Notes.

Every child of Michael married into Notable Families. For instance, Sophia Garoutte, Michael's Daughter, married The (Major) John Sevier Junior, the Son of The (General) [John Sevier](#) Senior, who was the first (Governor) of the State of [Tennessee](#) and its Founding Father (3rd Marriage, 10 Children), ^[99] ^[100] Bethia Garoutte married a wealthy Blacksmith and Land Owner Archebel MacAfee and their Daughter Elizabeth married a wealthy Plantation Owner by the name of James Jennings.

The Jennings, MacAfees and Seviars were all related by marriage by each of their marriages to Daughters and Grand Daughters of Michael Garoutte, they all lived near each other, Jennings was granted 4,000 acres of land by The (Governor) John Sevier, the land bordered the present day Cherokee National Forest.

The MacAfees and Jennings later donated many acres of land to the Mount Tabor Methodist Church in Greene County, Tennessee, United States. The Church still stands and operates today, Archebel MacAfee and his wife Bethia Garoutte are buried there.

Michael had traveled to the Sevier and MacAfee Estates just before he traveled to the Earling Estate and the Seviars and MacAfees had apparently stole money from him.

Garoutte had written in his Bible Notes:

"I left the house of the blacksmith and the Seviars, after they had served me with the greatest villainy in the world, and I am determined after my death to make them know their evil conduct, and on October 23rd I arrived at the home of my daughter Mary Earling, after 4 days of walking, because I had left without having a penny in my pocket." ^[101]

A week later Garoutte mentions:

"I intend to gather my gold and return to France." ^[102]

Garoutte had written in his Journal that he felt like John Sevier stole his daughter Sophia Garoutte away from him and that he had lost hope of ever seeing her again.

Michael referred to Archebel MacAfee as "*The Blacksmith*" in the Garoutte Bible Notes and he mentions that he did not like the Seviars or the MacAfees after what they did to him. ^[103]

Garoutte and his Family all became [Methodists](#).

Death

Michael died on April the 29th year 1829 at the age of 79, on the road in Pemberton, Burlington County, New Jersey, after having left the Earling Estate, determined to make his way back to France,^[104] and he was buried in the Methodist Episcopal Cemetery in [Batsto-Pleasant Mills](#), New Jersey.^[105] No one has ever been able to conclude definitively how Garoutte died, but based on his Bible Notes it appears he died of a broken heart after being mistreated in his old age by his ungrateful children.

Burial

Nearly all of the headstones in the [Batsto-Pleasant Mills Cemetery](#) are worn down. We are working on locating the exact location and headstone by going through the burial records. According to the Abstract of Graves of Revolutionary Patriots he is in Plot Number: 25 in the Methodist Episcopal Cemetery in Pleasant Mills, New Jersey.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution



The [National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution](#) have registered Michael Antoine Garoutte as an American Patriot, with NSSAR Patriot #P-164321 which can be found on the SAR Patriot Index, Edition: III, CD: PP2210.

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution



The [National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution](#) have registered Michael Antoine Garoutte as an American Patriot with NSDAR Patriot #A-044121.

The Society of the Cincinnati



Michael and his Sons were eligible for membership in the [Society of the Cincinnati](#) which is a society that was co-founded by [George Washington](#). The Society of the Cincinnati Charter allows only one Direct Lineal descendant of Officers that were in the American Revolutionary War, at a time, to represent their ancestor in the Society, the Charter allows for both Commissioned and non-Commissioned Officers. Since Michael Antoine Garoutte was a (Lieutenant) in the Continental Navy, which is an Officer, he can absolutely be represented in this Society.

The Order of Founders and Patriots of America



Direct Lineal descendants are also eligible for membership in the [Order of the Founders and Patriots of America](#) due to Sophie's Father meeting the first requirement of the Order and Michael fulfilling the rest of the requirements.

The Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry



Direct Lineal descendants are eligible for Membership in [The Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry](#) since Michael Antoine Garoutte was a Member of the Nobility of Provence in France and his Family had a Coat of Arms registered in the Ville de Marseille, France, and, Michael Garoutte having settled in the New Jersey Colony prior to July, 4, 1776 and later aiding the cause for American Independence.

The Order of Washington



Direct Lineal descendants are eligible (by invitation only) for membership in [The Order of Washington](#) since Michael Antoine Garoutte served during the lifetime of the (General) and later (President) George Washington.

The Military Order of The Crusades



Since Michael Antoine Garoutte has Ancestors who fought in the Crusades it should be possible for each Direct Lineal descendant to gain membership in [The Military Order of the Crusades](#) once some more documentation and proofs-of-parentage can be verified.

The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne



Direct Lineal descendants are also eligible for membership in the [Order of the Crown of Charlemagne](#), since we know Michael Antoine Garoutte was born into French Nobility and it has always been a fact that all French Nobility with a direct Bloodline to the Ancient French Nobility can trace their Bloodline back to Charlemagne, who was The (King) of the Franks and was crowned (Emperor) of the [Holy Roman Empire](#), Coronated by [Pope Leo](#) The III of the Catholic Church.

The Order of Descendants of Pirates and Privateers



Direct Lineal descendants are eligible to join [The Order of Descendants of Pirates and Privateers](#) since Michael Antoine Garoutte was first a Privateer in service to the American Continental Establishment and was later a Volunteer Naval Officer.

The Flagon and Trencher: The Descendants of Colonial Tavern Keepers



All Direct Lineal descendants of Michael Antoine Garoutte are eligible to join [The Flagon and Trencher: The Descendants of Colonial Tavern Keepers](#) since Michael's Wife Sophie and her Father James owned and operated an Inn in New Jersey prior to July, 4, 1776, the Inn which was later inherited by Michael and his Wife Sophie and turned into an Inn and Tavern and renamed to La Fayette Tavern.

The Association of Noble French



Every Direct Lineal descendant of Michael Antoine Garoutte has a thimble full of Noble French blood and can be educated about our Noble French heritage and the French Nobility by the [Association of Noble French](#) (ANF).

This was Confirmed by Guy de Richemont The (Secretary) of the ANF on September, 28, 2016. The Garoutte Family were of Noble Breed declared by The (King) Henry III of France.

Further Information

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- [The Sevier Family History Book \(Library of Congress\)](#)
- [Virgil's Poem, The Golden Bough](#)
- [The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America](#)
- [The Society of the Cincinnati](#)
- [The Order of Washington](#)
- [The Order of Americans of Armorial Ancestry](#)
- [The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution](#)
- [The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution](#)
- [The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne](#), The (King) of the Franks.
- [The Military Order of the Crusades](#)
- [The Order of Descendants of Pirates and Privateers](#)
- [Flagon and Trencher: The Descendants of Colonial Tavern Keepers](#)
- [The Association of Noble French](#) (ANF)
- [The American Revolution](#)
- [The French Revolution](#)
- [Michael Antoine Garoutte on Wikipedia](#)
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