

B 8275 no 3; witch 130, Bonne, femme Mengeot Bricholet, de Prey

Was arrested on 13 May 1597.

30 May 1597; interrogation

Said she was about 35, had served in various places until marriage, since when she had been at Prey. Agreed that she had been accused by Chrestaille. Asked about case of Parrotte femme Conictin le Treixe, her mother, who had been arrested for stealing linen from church and as a witch, then suffocated herself in prison, said she had been wronged.

Said she had never been at sabat with Chrestaille, but she had been abused. 3 years earlier they had sold a cow to Martin Mathiot on condition they should have its first calf, but it was lost in woods, and husband and others had been searching for it in bad weather. She was in bed crying, and heard a voice telling her she would have another, but she made sign of cross and it stopped. A year later her husband had been to sell bread to pay taxes, and others returned without him, saying he had fallen in millstream and nearly been drowned. She was ill in bed, and a big man in black appeared and said same thing, then disappeared. Asked if she had intercourse with him, said she had not. Was then sent back to prison.

31 May 1597; interrogation

Now said that 4 months after second visit she had described the evil spirit had visited her, had intercourse with her, and given her money which proved to be horse-dung. A year later gave her grease - black to make ill, white to heal - and yellow powder to heal. Had given Collignon Chaudelot a bad leg when he came to take a surety from them, and cured him on second visit much later. Said her master was Mre Robert.

After quarrel over a small house just before previous Christmas had used grease on dried pears to make Jean Huielle ill; then he asked to buy a dog for some wine, and she cured him.

Had been to sabat 5 times. One was on côte d'Arry (on E bank of Moselle) where they made hail, and the rich caused it to fall around Arnaville and Woysaige, where it did much damage. Asked how they passed the river, said it was easy with the help of their master, and they did not even get wet. Were 7 or 8 of them, and 100 others present. On another occasion intention was to damage grain which was in flower, but poor resisted this strongly, and snow fell mainly on woods. Asked how she went to assemblies, said her master fetched her and took her up chimney.

Was finally suggested to her that as she had killed no-one she might receive a sentence less than death; she said she would rather die repentant than live longer.

4 June 1597; Rémy asks for witnesses to be heard, to discover if she might have committed additional maléfices. Change de Nancy approves.

10 June 1597; interrogation

Confirmed earlier confessions, but insisted she had done nothing more. Collignon Chadelot then gave evidence about his leg trouble, after he had gone to collect taille from her. Said that 3 or 4 months later he did go to see if she could heal him, but found house empty. She said that she had greased basin he took as surety on first occasion, with intention of making him ill; second time he took a frying pan,

and she put grease on handle intending to cure him. No other witnesses could be produced.

26 June 1597; substitut for PG asks for death sentence

27 June 1597; Change de Nancy approves

3 July 1597; formal death sentence. Includes rather careless claim that she had brought about deaths and illnesses of several people.