

B 3363; witch 052, Rose femme Louis Vincent, d'Autrepierre

18 March 1623; informations préparatoires

(1) Margueritte femme Courard Bergier, de Repas, 40

Reputation 9 years. Had heard from her sister Chrestienne that another sister, Mathellon, became ill after drinking some piquatte given her by Rose, with a headache which turned into frenzy, so that she died in a week.

(2) Chrestienne François femme Jean Dieudonon, 30

More detailed version of same story. When sister became ill she took her home to look after her, and she asked her to get more of the piquatte from Rose. Did so, but she said it was not the same as she had before; it was white, whereas other was more red and tasted better. Told witness that Rose had given her the sickness. Reputation 13 years.

(3) Marie femme Jean François, de Repas, 36

Reputation 9 years. Short version of same story.

(4) Alison femme Demenge Vincent, d'Igney, 37

Reputation 7 years.

(5) Margueritte femme Demenge Boigot, 40

Suspected since execution of her mother as a witch. 2 years before had some very good 'cabus' in her garden, and could not stop Rose's cock from eating it; she often said she would like to eat it, so suspected her of turning herself into cock to do so.

(6) Annon femme Remy Masson, 50

Reputation 4 years.

(7) Catherine femme Bastien Baillet, d'Amenoncourt, 32

Had not heard her suspected until her brother Jean Didier had been pursued as a witch, and had never seen any harm in her.

(8) Demenge Mercier, 50

Reputation 15 years. A few days after his wife was executed as a witch she came to house and asked to borrow a 'serier', which he refused; 2 days later a calf died suddenly, and he suspected this had been her doing.

(9) Remy Masson, 80

Reputation 10 years, no personal suspicion.

(10) Jean André, 60

Reputation 20 years. Some years earlier had dispute with her husband over agreement to cut hay, and 3 weeks later a horse died - suspected this was her doing.

(11) Bastien Jean Bastien, 50

Reputation 10 years. Believed she had caused his wife an illness 8 years earlier, after being refused some milk. This lasted 14 weeks, and after 8 weeks (at suggestion of another, in absence of her husband) went to visit her with an axe under his arm, threatening to have her burned unless she took off the illness she had given his wife. She told him he did ill, but 2 or 3 days later told him to give his wife some 'compôte'; after taking this she began to recover, and when he met Rose again she told him to give her some more, and he was welcome to what she had.

30 March 1623; interrogation and confrontations

Said she was about 40, wife of Louys Vincent, daughter of late Didier Aulbry of Autrepierre and his wife Didie, from Migneville. Knew she had been arrested as a suspected witch. Said that her mother, 3 aunts, and an uncle had been executed as witches; knew she was reputed a witch herself, but she was a good woman.

Knew she was suspected of making Maguilon sick with piquatte, but denied this. Rejected other accusations, and denied being threatened by Bastien Jean Bastien or giving him anything for his wife.

Claimed that Margueritte femme Demenge Baigot had stolen some wheat. Otherwise no reproaches, and continued to deny all charges.

Procureur fiscal then asked for question ordinaire et extraordinaire

1 April 1623; Change de Nancy approves request for torture

4 April 1623; interrogation under torture

Was given rack, tortillons, and strappado, but would confess nothing. At one point said to one of the echevins that he would give her pleasure if he killed her with a knife.

On same day procureur fiscal asked for more torture, and for banishment even if she did not confess, alleging that she came from suspect family, had not reproached witnesses, nor wept tears, and had been slow to renounce the devil.

6 April 1623; Change de Nancy recommends that she be renvoyée.

8 April 1623; court at Blamont orders her release. Same day procureur fiscal asked that she be kept in prison so that he could secure more evidence. also alleging that she had not been shaved properly before torture.

From accounts it appears that she was finally released on 10 April