

Vosges 3 C 239; Witch 340, Pierrotte Roy femme Nicolas Martin, de Badonviller.

Depositions, confrontations, and draft for interrogation only.

13 October 1645; copy of deposition by Mongeon Bernard femme Isaye Guerdon of Nancy, 45.

6 years earlier had been at Badonviller, and worried that some harm might come when they did not ask accused to baptism of child, sent last-minute message to fetch her. Next day visited and brought 2 pears; after eating one she became very ill same evening. Could not be sure this was her witchcraft, but suspected it because of reputation. 8 or 10 days later visited her, and used a grease where pain was greatest, which brought her relief, so that she recovered in 3 weeks.

Depositions have missing page at start; first witness was to reputation only.

(2) Barbe Jean Pierçon, jeune fille de Nonhegny, 20

Asked whether she had heard anything extraordinary said by Pierrotte's son Dominicque, replied that when he came to live with them at Nonhegny she made him say his prayers before going to sleep. He then said his brother had been to hell, and when she told him off said this was in masquerades at their house involving soldiers. Also asked whether her daughter had not told her about grease her mother had with which they could kill themselves, said she had only heard about this from Marguerite Desmoulins.

(19 August 1645)

(3) Dominique Martin fils de la prevenue, 6 or 7

Asked about masquerades and story about hell, denied both, also said that he could not open a chest.

(4) Barbe Petit, jeune fille de Badonviller, 21

Asked about remarks made by daughter of accused about how in church 'elle abhorroit grandement lors de l'elevation', said that 10 years earlier the girl had told her that she trembled and shivered when in church.

(5) Marguerite du Moulin, jeune fille de Badonviller, 20

Asked about the grease talked about by daughter of accused, said she had overheard mother talking to her about it about 9 years earlier.

(30 September 1645)

(6) Jacques Colin, portier a Badonviller, 46

Asked if the late Jean Richard Cordier, also portier, had accused her of giving him fatal illness, said he had not, but had said that he had never been well since quarrelling with her. Witness had heard that her mother and father had been chased away (damage here).

(7) Anne Marie femme Dieudonné Louys, 24

About 5 years earlier her husband had contracted to cart wood for them, and had dispute because he did not do this soon enough for them. After this she miscarried, and thought this might have been her doing, in view of long reputation. After another dispute when husband refused to do some carting had 13 horses dead; thought this was her doing, because of quarrels, threats, and reputation.

(8) Elizabeth Choppat, veuve Didier Vaillant, 30

Rather meaningless story about remark about having a lot of people on morrow - virtually illegible.

(9) François Vallet, 36

Asked whether during winter quarter a maréchal des logis named Verenne had said his hostess was a witch, and he knew magical means for testing this, agreed he had heard accusation, and claim that he had made her dance by means of a note he put at end of a broom by the fire. (Signed)

(10) Catherine femme Claudon Bieque, 33

Had lost horses, and had another one sick; accused advised putting sack which had held flour across its back, after which it recovered. Had no suspicion against her, but had been told they would have done well to invite her to their marriage feast.

(11) Claudon Bieque, 26

Similar story to wife.

(12) Le sieur Claude Bricotte, Tabellion General du Comté de Salm, 53

Coming back from siege of St Jean Laulne had told her he had seen her first husband alive - she had made second marriage with André Gerardin, but soon after he died within 24 hours, and she was suspected over this. Also story of suspicions by capitaine la Vervenne and wife, who thought she had caused death of their child. (Signed)

(2 October 1645)

(13) Colotte femme Claudin Cugnin, 37

Had obtained some olive oil from her for horse of Dieudonné Louys, and she refused payment saying it was a small thing. No suspicions.

(3 October 1645)

(14) Jean Martin, de Pexonne, 45

Story about how 2 women who had taken refuge in house were called to see her by husband, and found her stretched out motionless. Witness had heard of reputation as witch, but did not know if it was true.

(15) Claudin le Clerc, de Pexonne, 35

Said that 2 years earlier he had told her she should fetch her son, because other children were beating him, calling him 'noir boucq le diable, barron de belle querelle'. Only other thing he knew was that she had recently been called witch by Jacob le Hou.

(16) Le sieur Gilles Ferry, chirurgien, 34

Asked about stories concerning la Varenne and magical ways of showing she was witch and making her dance, he said he had heard something of the sort, but could not remember exactly. Knew she had been ill, and that la Varenne had suspected her over death of child. Asked about death of second husband, said he had been newly arrived and was not consulted, but story round town was that 'cela alloit bien pour elle, et que la mort de l'un, feroit place a l'autre'.

(17) Anne veuve Nicolas de Lorette, sage femme, 60

Had been called to her previous winter, when she found her in bed bleeding heavily, and knew it was miscarriage. Accused told her that previous evening la Varenne had been bothering her daughter and servant; when she went to intervene he gripped her so tightly that she thought he was cause of what had happened. Asked about this, he said he did not remember doing any such thing. Asked if she knew anything else against her, said she had several times beaten her son, and since then he had often had 'foiblesse' in church, but she did not know if she was cause. Had heard rumours that her parents had been chased away because they were suspected as witches.

(18) Le sieur Bellard, 66

Story of occasion when Jean Jacob le Heu and accused had quarrelled; he said to her 'puis que je ne puis rien tirer de toy, je te feray perdre le corps et les biens', she replied 'j'en feray bien perdre d'autres'. When he had been maire her father Jean Roy had been called witch by Demenge Durand, and took him to court; Durand asked to see complaint and said in public that he would make himself partie formelle against Jean. Latter came to see witness, telling him that he did not have

the means to undertake costs of an action, and then went to live in village of Fenneviller. (Signed)

(19) Marguerite Martin femme Demenge Cuning, 23

Had heard stories about daughter Claudatte talking of grease, and son Dominic saying 'que sa mere le prenoit sur le grenier sur un noir bouck'. Had seen no harm in accused, but was rumour she was a witch.

(20) Elisabeth Colatte, veuve Jacques Jean Demenge, 45

Said that two sons of accused had told other children, when playing at 'chiques', that if they gave them a 'chique' they would charm it so that they would win. Some other rumours about reputation and death of second husband, but did not think she had done her any harm. Also rumour that elder son had said that his sister had lovers who were all shining, and told him not to look at them.

(6 October 1645)

(21) Jean Choppat, 80

Had heard of death of second husband, and of bad reputation of parents

(22) Jeannon Gatties, veuve Jean Jacquemin, 60

Witness to stories told by Elisabeth Choppat.

(23) Catherine Mathieu, femme Jean de Fribourg, maire de St Maurice, 40

Suspected that accused had been cause of death of her son after 6 month illness, during which he had difficulty breathing. Her husband had had 'une forte mauvaise frequentation' with Pierrotte over several years, to great prejudice of witness; he had even drawn his knife on her sometimes. She had always refused to send her son to the war as he wanted, while he said he would never leave Pierrotte 'et qu'il aymeroit mieux que le diable l'emporte'. Husband was so 'amouraché' of her that he commonly lived, ate, and slept in her house; over last 6 weeks, when he had ceased to do this so much, had told witness he thought he had been bewitched.

(24) Maistre Guillaume Parmentier de Neufviller, 45

When André Gerardin told her he wanted to cease being portier she told him he would not be by the end of the week, and he died within 2 or 3 days. Generally reputed witch, and parents already suspected. (Signed)

(25) Guillaume Parmentier fils du precedent, 16

Story of son Nicolas saying he could make flies, some 2 years earlier.

(26) Elizabeth femme Claude Gueury, 36

Had eaten supper with accused and Gerardin on night before latter's death, and he had been very joyful; called to see him next morning at 9 and astonished to find him dying (died around 3 in afternoon). Story around town that he had been given something. Suspected she had caused death of a horse after they had quarrelled; parents suspected as witches.

(27) Margueritte femme Hango Simonin, 36

After quarrel with previous witness had said in Margueritte's shop that Elizabeth was blind in one eye, and should watch out she did not become so in the other. Immediately repented and said something else she did not now remember 'pour oster la mauvaise opinion qu'on eusse peu avoir sur ce discours'.

(10 October 1645)

(28) Barbe femme Demenge le Clerc, de Nonguey, 25

Story about how her son Dominique said he did not know which of himself and his brother had been in Hell. Then said that they had been to a feast in lower faubourg where his mother had taken 'millett' and there were musicians; he had gone on a dog called Fadel, and it had been in a meadow. Story was so variable she could not be sure of it all.

(29) Dieudonné Louys, 26

Believed she had caused death of 2 horses on separate occasions after he refused to cart cider and straw from Brémesnil for her. General reputation. (Signed)

(30) Chrestienne femme Demenge Bregeat, de Neuviller, 50

3 years earlier her husband had sold some nuts to accused against her will, and she had called her 'sorciere de race des sorciers', but she took no action - not sure she had heard. General reputation, and suspicions of parents.

(31) Demenge Melline, bourgeois de Parux, 40

Had gambled in her house with maire Anthoine of Brémesnil for a 'pasté' worth a quarter of an écu and lost, at which she said 'que s'il se vouloit donner au diable qu'elle le croiroit'. He was very angry and she had to pacify him. General reputation.

(32) Marie Gerardin, jeune fille, 16

Said she had been very small at time of father's death, but remembered him coming back from guard duty at night saying he was very cold and was tired of being portier - this was when accused said he would not be more than 3 weeks. It

ws after 3 weeks that he died, becoming ill on Monday and dying on Wednesday - this was about 10 years earlier. Did not suspect accused.

(33) Anthoine Jean Roy, maire de Brémesnil, 41

Said he and his wife had been in her tavern at time when people were eating human flesh, and she gave them meat which was very white and had funny smell, so they would not eat it although they were very hungry. She had reputation as a whore, and her parents had been reputed witches. (Marked)

(34) Hanzo Simonin, 50

Same story as wife about remarks in shop; some said she was good woman, others that she was bad. Suspicions of parents.

(35) Mongeotte femme Anthoine Jean Roy, de Brémesnil, 36

Same story as husband about 'fricassé' they had refused to eat, although they did not know what was in it, 6 or 7 years earlier. Differing opinions about her reputation.

(36) Demenge Bregeot, maire de Neuville, 40

Had heard story about meat from Anthoine Roy a few weeks earlier. Reputation as witch, like parents. 8 years earlier had become ill after drinking to sale of a horse at her house, and suspected her over this, although it was no more than 'fantasie' because of reputation.

(11 October 1645)

(37) Suzanne Raguin veuve Jean Volf, 41

Asked if she suspected her over death of husband, said that although some had warned him about taking over as portier from husband of accused she had no suspicions; had been ill for a long time, and it became worse when the cold weather came. Opinion divided about accused; some said they did her wrong, others suspected her. Parents had been told to leave town because of suspicions against them.

(38) Jeannon du Rupt, femme Philippe Renault, 43

Repeated story of occasion when husband called them to see her and they found her stretched out unconscious; unable to wake her even with use of holy water, and had bad opinion of this.

(39) Annon Pacatte, veuve Denys de la Cour, 50

Eating in her house after a day's work outside town she had said to them 'je scais a peu pres ce que vous avez faictes'. Had heard that parents were feared.

(40) Le sieur Anthoine Valet, Mre Echevin, 60

In 1636 or 1637 Gerardin's brother had come to seek some of his property for his daughter, and accused had spoken angrily, saying she had very little from him. Witness, who was with him, was annoyed and said in public that she could go to the devil and was nothing but a witch; she took no action although there were several witnesses. She had paid a large sum - perhaps 600 francs - for her house in coin, which astonished everyone because she had previously been very poor. Asked if this was after death of Adrian Barbier, tainturier, said it was about 2 years after. She and her parents reputed witches, but her late sister Marie had good reputation.
(Signed)

(41) Anne Marie dite Lallemagne, 30

Had been asked for 8 gros by Pierrotte as fermiere of mort bois of le Chanot, and when it was suggested she was poor accused said she had 2 pistoles hidden - this was true, and she had them sewn into her clothing.

(42) Catherine Durand, femme Pierre Picard soldat absent, 27

Asked about presents given her by accused, said she had given her some linen and cloth; did not know why, except that she was recently married (since Easter). Some said she was a witch, others that she was a good woman. Her mother had come asking father of witness for milk, which was refused, and she said he would repent. Cow sickened and died in 2 or 3 days, and as parents of accused kept the herd they were asked to come and look at it. Father came after several refusals, only to say he knew no remedy; after this her father called mother of accused a witch, and they were called to the audience. Father of the accused then 'cria mercy', and this led to their being told to leave the town the same day. Pierrotte had made reference to this when she gave her the linen, asking if she had been called to depose yet.

(43) Claude de Lorette, jeune fils, 14

Story about her son Nicolas talking about flies, and finding lost 'chique' for him. She had beaten him 3 times, pulling hair and punching and kicking him' after second time had 'foiblesses' in church. Beat him for stealing gooseberries from her garden, throwing egg at her son, and driving him out of their company. (Signed)

(44) Claude de Serre, 36

Occasion 4 years earlier when he refused to cart hay for her because he had already agreed to do so for Mre Echevin; horses refused to pull loaded cart, and he had to leave it until next day, when they made no difficulty. On another occasion contracted to cart wood, but after bringing first load told her the place was too

difficult and the logs too large, so he would make the first load free (to cover vins), but bring no more. She threatened to take him to court; did not do so, but a horse died a week later, and he suspected she might have been cause in view of reputation. (Signed)

(45) Toussainte femme George Galtier, 33

One or two vague stories as told by previous witnesses, also her husband had a borrowed horse dead - no connection with accused. General reputation.

(46) Magdelaine Mathis, femme Demenge Guerre, 44

Had bought silver belt buckle and gold and silver rings from accused; asked how she could have had such things, said it was after deaths of Adrian Barbier and André Gerardin.

(47) Jehanne Ferry, veuve Nicolas Jacquemin, 55

Had seen no harm in her, but father was reputed a witch. Asked if she had made her any present since evidence began to be taken, said no, but she had given her a meal 2 or 3 times because she was doing something for her daughter. (Signed)

(48) Jehennon Gerardin, veuve Thouvenin Recepveur, 54

Had heard from valet of M. Descouture that when he was exercising master's horse it fell as soon as it saw the accused, and he feared he would break his neck. Opinions on accused varied.

(49) Marguerite femme Estienne Noiselle, 60

3 weeks earlier had been talking with Catherine femme Claudon Biecq and Alison femme Valentin Hanrequel, about news that she might be imprisoned, and witness said she would be surprised if they took her daughter too. Although others claimed to have said nothing, accused apparently knew about conversation and tried to strike her.

(50) Elizabeth Choppat, veuve, 40

Story about daughter talking of grease. Had heard Jacob le Heu advise her to send son away 'ou bien qu'il feroit perir la maison'. As for story about 'bouck noire', it had been Nicolas, not Dominicque, who spoke of this.

(51) Barbe veuve Nicolas Selamont, de la Neufville, 35

Story of seeing her unconscious on her bed as if dead.

(52) Jacquë femme Jean Choppot, 54

Her daughter had suspicions of her after serving in house, and wanted to leave. Various stories, including occasion when she was called witch by Catherine Durand; did not take her to court, but chased her back to her house throwing stones at her.

(12 October 1645)

(53) Jeannon du Rupt, femme Philipe Renault

Came back to add story about father of accused telling cobbler called Jolicoeur that he would make his window fall; later it fell out on calm day.

(54) Catherine Durand, femme Pierre Picard

Also returned to add to deposition. 9 years earlier had gone out with 2 soldiers to gather apples, and saw Pierrotte coming out of a garden shed with Me Demenge Vuant, then marguillier. Soldiers told their comrades, but a few days later accused charged witness with having done this, which she denied; was then chased by her, throwing stones. Called her witch and daughter of a witch, and Pierrotte threatened to kill her, but did her no harm that she knew. Also suspected she had given her sister a bad leg because she stopped teaching her daughter.

(55) Isaacq Forest dit Jolicoeur, 40

Reputation 7 years; suspicions of parents. Story about his window, which she had said as if joking she could make fall, and did so before he got home - thought this had been her witchcraft.

(56) Paul Bailly, de Vexaincourt, 40

Occasion 4 or 5 years earlier when he had bought horse, and there was dispute over payment for vins; she tried to keep the horse in her stable, and told him he would repent when he took it away. It then sickened and died after 18 weeks - suspected this was her doing.

(57) Philipe Renauld, 66

Her husband had said to him one day 'que s'il scavoit que sa femme fut sorciere aussy bien comme elle estoit putain (a cause de la mauvaise vie qu'elle menoit avec Me Demenge Marguillier) qu'il la laisseroit'.

(13 October 1645)

(58) Elizabeth femme Claude Guerry

Added to earlier deposition tha the late Jean Wolff said that Pierrotte had sat talking with him as she brought washing back after drying; he had felt something prick his thigh, after which fatal illness began.

(59) Jacques femme Jean Chopot

Also added to previous deposition more details about what Dominique had said, including that there was a little toad which made them dance.

(60) Jacotte Rembour, fileule et niece de Nicolle femme Jean Durand, 13

Had heard story of what Dominique had said from a boy called le petit Jean who was in service of a soldier.

(16 October 1645)

(61) Margueritte fille feu Jean Mulnier de Vexaincourt, servante à Nicolas Martin, 22

Had heard about stories told by Dominique, but only at second hand through his sister Claudatte, who had said they should not tell her mother for fear of making her ill. Asked about illnesses, said she had twice seen her become ill when angry, throwing herself about and then becoming weak; they used vinegar to bring her round. Agreed to essentials of Pierrotte's own account of how she had been embraced by la Varenne night before miscarriage. Asked about demeanour recently, said she was sometimes sad, other times not, and that she said 'qu'elle remettoit le tout a la volonté de dieu qu'il mette le droict ou il debvoit estre.' Did not think she had been selling property. Rumour that she had a box which enabled her to do what she wished.

(62) Alison Drouyn, femme Simon Cunin, 25

Story about Claudatte and grease.

(21 October 1645)

(63) Jacob, jeune fils à Tante Sarra, 14

After soldiers had left town Dominique had talked about a dog bringing him tart to eat. Asked if he had persuaded Dominique to say that his mother took him on 'un boucque', denied this. (Signed)

(64) Le maire Nicolas Alix, de Neufviller, 36

Asked about horse he had sold to Paul Bailly, agreed he had done this, and thought horse was in good condition; asked for delay to remember better.

(65) Marie femme Noel Marchal, 37

Had spoken to her about misfortunes of Claudon Bieque and his wife, and she had advised use of sack on horse. Once when she asked her daughter Claudatte where she was she replied with the devil - did not know if she was just angry.

(26 October 1645)

(66) Thierry Louis, sergent en la justice, 66

General reputation. One day when he demanded payment from her, saying he had an ordonnance from her Excellency, she replied 'que sy elle avoit ladite ordonnance elle en torcheroit son cul'. Had not reported this because he feared disputes and the chatelain Mr Dufresne was not in town. (Marked T.L.)

(27 October 1645)

(67) Le sieur Belard

Asked whether Catherine Durant femme Pierre Picard had taken money from a girl who had taken refuge with him. Said he believed that a gold piece had been returned to her, and an accord made. (Signed)

(68) Jacob le Heu dit Duchamois, denonciateur, 63

Agreed that when on good terms with her he had told her she should send her son Nicolas away or he would ruin the household. This was because he was telling other boys he would show them the devil; Claudin le Clerc of Pexonne, who was also there, gave him a kick and threatened to tell his father. Had been told he had spoken about ram, but had not heard this personally. Also told of occasion when she had passed out for about an hour.

She was then sent back to prison.

Confrontations - first page missing

In reply to Anne Marie femme Dieudonné Louis, claimed she had been 'subornée' by Jacob le Heu, and had said in public that she had previously not suspected her over deaths of horses. Witness said it was true he had reminded her of her suspicions, but she had said 'qu'il ne la mette point dans telles affaires que cela'. Insisted that threats had been made.

Accused Catherine femme Claudon Bregeat of having been a whore before marriage. Claimed that Marie femme Noel Marsal had made false statement under oath previous winter about amount of grain she had. Said that Anne femme Nicolas de Court bore her a grudge for beating her son, and had refused to pardon her when she asked for this.

Over death of second husband, she claimed she had told him he need only remain portier until she had arranged with maire for appointment of a new one, and that he had been in bed ill from Friday to Tuesday of death.

Said that Elizabeth femme Claude Gueury had left town previous winter because of sexual relations with soldiers, and had lied like a whore; the other denied this.

(24 October 1645) Claimed that Paul Bailly had made his servant pregnant and denied it under oath; he replied that this was since the death of his wife, and that he had married the servant concerned. If they questioned her they would find from the date of the delivery that it had all happened since wife's death.

Long argument with Dieudonné Louis, whom she accused of killing horses by overloading them. Claimed that Jeannon de Rupt, femme Philippe Renauld, had stolen purse from Philipe Baye, and had him killed; husband had chased her out of house calling her whore after she had been with soldiers. Jeannon denied story of theft; agreed that husband had driven her out of house 7 times, but denied she had been with soldiers, and said she had always returned before night.

Claimed that Anthoine Vallet had been accused of taking his name off rolls; he said that he done this because his position gave him exemption (doubly), and name was there by error. Was then long argument about lawsuit she had brought against him for calling her witch, and sergeant who had acted for her (Daniel Messire) was called in to testify. Appears that Vallet claimed he was not subject to the court, and would only be judged by duke; relevant papers from 1637 were produced. She said that she had obtained the money 'estante vivandiere a la fleau du temps'.

In response to Catherine Mathieu femme Jean de Fribourg, said she had heard from Valtrin Fenestre of St Maurice that she had put something in a cake to kill him; told Jean of this, but could not affirm that it was true. Others of St Maurice had said the same, while she believed she had caused death of her first husband Jean Houillon 'qui est mort de dueil pour ne pouvoir jouir d'elle'. Catherine said these were all lies; Pierrotte then claimed that her son had strained himself lifting a heavy sack of peas in Allemaigne, as he had told her.

Said of Catherine Durand femme Pierre Picard that she had stolen money from a refugee girl and bought a skirt, then had to return it and have money restored. Also claimed that she had slept more than 50 times with a certain Magnier. Had given her some linen, but sold her the cloth. Denied having been seen with the marguillier, to which Catherine said that the wife of Nicolas Pierotte could confirm her testimony. Jeanne femme Nicolas Pierotte was then questioned, and repeated what Catherine had said. Also said that 3 weeks earlier, passing house of Sr Belard, heard accused talking to some Capucins and saying more than half the inhabitants of Badonviller were 'faussaires'. On confrontation accused said she had been a whore before her marriage, and denied remark about inhabitants.

(25 October 1645) Claimed that Elizabeth Chouppot veuve Didier Vaillant had slept with Simon Cunin while they were 'en promesses', which the other denied. Said that her illness was 'mal caducque'.

(26 October 1645) Started by saying she had been wrong to deny story told by Annon Paccotte veuve Denis de la Cour. She had been in garden with her husband nearby, and had therefore known what she was doing, which was why she had made remark.

Said that she was often afflicted by 'mal caducque'. In reply to Demenge Meline, said he dealt in stolen goods. He explained that he had bought 30 pounds of butter from soldiers, in presence of inhabitants of Petitmont, to prevent soldiers

taking it with them - paid six and a half gros the pound. Since then had given 18 pounds of salt to those from whom it was taken.

Had argument with Guillaume Parmentier about a bond for 50 francs which he had taken from her on behalf of Marie Gerardin; she claimed it had rightly belonged to her, he denied this. Said that Gerardin had died from 'la contagion' before she heard anything about return of first husband.

Objected to Claude de Lorette that he was too young to depose in such a case, and in addition that he had 'tiré le membre viril' of her son. He said this had been in playing with other children.

Agreed that she had advised Claudon Bieque to put empty flour sack on his horse; she had learned this from masters and mistresses with whom she had been in service.

(27 October 1645) Said that Marie l'Allemande had been whore during wars, and that soldier who kept her had driven her away because she killed his horses. The other denied these claims.

In reply to sergeant Thiery Comis, said she did not know if she had used the words he reported, but if she had she begged pardon. In case of Chrestienne femme Dememge Bregeot, claimed that Margueritte femme Demenge Martin had called her 'putain et double sorciere'. The other agreed these words had been said, but it was after Margueritte's house was burned down, and later she had not blamed her.

Said of Anthoine Jean Roy that he had boasted of having four children by Marie femme Noel Marchal, and that his house had been the centre for the thieving soldiers, who had killed one man and wounded another. He denied first charge and said that it was totally against his will that the soldiers used his house. She denied that she was a whore, saying he had several times offered her money for sex, and she always refused - he claimed this was only to test her, and he would not have wanted to carry it through.

Said of Claude de Serre that he had been suspected over death of one Gaultier, whom he had persuaded to return from Allemaigne with him, and who had died on the way. Serre effectively admitted abandoning him when he became ill, although he claimed someone else found him and helped him.

Jacob le Heu, dit du Chamois, was then produced, and she said he was 'un voleur un laron et faux accusateur'. He had said 'qu'il estoit le prince des diables et le roy des genots et un nigromancien'. He replied that if he said he was 'le prince des diables et le roy des genots que c'estoit pour faire brusler les sorciers et que ladite Pierote l'avoit ensorcelé et que depuis qu'elle lau avoit donné d'un chadel dit gasteau il l'a tousjours hanté et depuis la hay sa femme et quicté sa maison'. She then said that he had one named Cornette of Hablainville arrested at Badonviller for calling him 'homme de bien', saying 'qu'il vouloit estre appellé sorcier et qu'il estoit sorcier'. Also that he 'a mis la corde au col d'un nommé le bon Chrestien de Levigny pour luy faire trouver argent, et le trayna comme d'icy a la porte d'embas, et qu'il en tira seize frans de luy et qu'il a faict plusieurs autres maux, voulant faire prendre les uns et les autres entre autres le gruyer.' One day when she was going to mass he said 'qu'il falloit aultant de torchons de neige pour chauffer un four qu'il failloit de messe pour sauver une ame'. He denied all this. She added that he 'a mengé plus de cinquante fois de son chadel et gasteau mais qu'il y avoit aucun mal ny malengin'.

Phelipe Renauld added statement that previous week at la petite Raon he had heard Jean Beniste claim that after carting some wine for her his horse had died, as did many others. She claimed that Jacob le Heu had told him he had beaten his wife so badly that she died, and that he had sought no reparation; he insisted that he had taken him to court and matter had been settled. She denied any dispute with husband over the late marguillier.

6 September 1645; confrontations (first set)

Mengeon Bernard, who had to be brought on a cart from Nancy because she could not walk, recounted how she had been told that when not asked to childbed Pierrotte had said 'la grosse vache elle ne m'a pas appellée a son accouchement, et qu'elle en perdroit'. Had to be asked twice before she came to baptism, and then ate and drank nothing. 2 days later witness had two more children, and then accused came uninvited and gave her dried pears. Ate them because she was afraid Pierrotte would think she had 'quelque soubcon ou mespris d'elle', but as soon as she took first morsel she wished she had not touched them. Next day fell ill with swollen stomach, then thigh all blue and swollen. Suspected her in view of threats and pears she had given her, so asked her to visit, telling her she could not feed children because milk had dried up since illness. Pierrotte asked for money to make her some grease, and took 5 gros; came back an hour later with grease, saying she had used it successfully on some women towards Salbourg. Felt immediate relief when she was rubbed with it, and soon recovered.

Said her first husband Jean Richard had taken 'ferme des hostes' from Pierrotte, and she had threatened him that he would not do this again. Immediately became ill, as if out of his mind, saying he was burning and they wanted to kill him. Made slight recovery, but 3 weeks later fell ill again and died after languishing for 28 weeks with unknown illness, saying throughout that Pierrotte had given him the sickness.

On confrontation Pierrotte said she had been 'putain des soldats de Saint Amour', and that Jacob de Chamois had kept her before her marriage; these claims were indignantly denied. Also accused her of stealing goods of gruyer of Merviller, which was similarly denied. Said she had sold the death of one of her children; witness explained that first husband had taken money from person who killed the child, after an accord made before justice. Said she had taught her how to make the grease, with olive oil, lard from a stag, and brandy; did agree she had applied it once or twice.

Sent back to prison after this.

11 September 1646

2 more witnesses had been heard, and were now confronted with accused.

Sarra Grazy, femme Demenge Pierre, added that Pierrotte had said to her 'ma fille a des sy bonnes hardes je crains que l'on ne les vende a vil prix pour paier les frais'; asked her to take some cloth to her house, which she did, then returned it later after release from prison. Had been afraid that since Jacob le Heu had no means the costs would fall on her. Pierrotte accepted the deposition, adding that she had asked witness to sell the cloth to the soldiers.

Was then asked when she had given birth; said it had been last St George. Asked if she had said she was pregnant again, said that 3 weeks earlier she had said to midwife 'qu'elle ne scavoit sy un an se passeroit sans qu'elle eut affaire d'elle chez eulx'. Asked about other goods, said she had lent the curé of Badonviller some linen at his request; also mentioned some plates, without saying where they had gone.

Catherine Pelletier was then produced. Pierrotte said her mother had been accused and imprisoned as a witch; Catherine said she had been accused by Jean Charrier of Baccarat, but he had been condemned to make reparation with torch in hand, and to banishment for 25 years. Pierrotte also alleged that Catherine herself had been called witch by Mathieu Doyen and Nicolas Pierrotte; she called on court to witness that this was false. Mathieu had used other 'vilains propos', but did not call her witch, while Nicolas had said he knew her father well but did not know her mother, and she had taken him to justice for this.

Pierrotte then said she had worn boy's clothes and carried a musket, and wanted to kill the maire. Witness replied it was true that when the town was besieged by Dequenfeld and the bourgeois were defending it 'il y eut plusieurs filles et femmes qui sabilleront en garcon pour faire paroistre le nombre des bourgeois plus grand et paroistre sur les murailles l'arquebuze a la main, ce qui a esté tesmoigné par lesdits sieurs de justice qu'il y en avoit encor d'autres femmes et filles qui estoient ainsy habillés, et que lors que ledit Duquenfeld entra en ceste ville, elle s'enfuyt en ceste equipage avec plusieurs autres qui s'enfuirent aux montagnes, et que les gens de ville croians fermement que c'estoit ledit sieur maire qui avoit trahy la ville et baillé entrée audit Dequenfeld pour avoir esté plusieurs fois parler a luy hors de la ville, il se trouva en la Compagnie d'elle deposante vingt cinq ou trente bourgeois tous armés qui cherchoient ledit sieur Maire, et ne scait ce qu'ils en auroient faict s'ils l'eussent trouvé sinon qu'ils l'auroient tué ainsy qu'ils disoient'.

Also accused witness of having been suborned, having been before house of her accuser and talked with him. She agreed to latter part of statement, but denied being suborned. Deposition then read, and Pierrotte denied threats; said load of hay had fallen once, and this was because valet had not secured it properly. Rest of deposition was true, but she was not cause of Catherine's illness, which followed a fall as she was trying to get into the nuns' convent by climbing the tower. Witness admitted the fall, but said she had only hurt her head, and was already ill 2 or 3 days earlier.

Sent to Procureur Fiscal for what action he thought fit.

Also undated 3 page set of questions, apparently to be used at torture. A list of the main charges made by the witnesses, with nothing of particular interest.