

THE FAMILY TREE OF THE CORDONIER FAMILY

~~Written By~~

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*Louise Cordonier
Nov. 13.*

* Xavier Cordonier took an 'N' out of Cordonier, therefore all his children and their children have one 'N' in their names. This was told to me by Joseph C Cordonier Sr. Xavier was his father. Louise (Kibler) Cordonier, Joseph Jr was my husband

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A tree and history of the Cordonier family as best as the writer can give it beginning with Grandfather. John Peter Cordonier was born somewhere in France; he was a soldier under Napoleon Bonapart and was one of the Imperial Guards under the Command of Marshall Ney. He was with the army at Waterloo where Napoleon was defeated and captured.

Sometime afterward in the city of Paris the army was disbanded and he was freed from further service to his country. There he became acquainted with a french lady and they were united in marriage. Her full name is not known by the writer, but her first name was Margaret. To this union were born three sons, and one daughter. The first son Xavier was born while they lived in Paris on March 19, 1831. After they had lived in Paris about two years they moved to a village called Bretz. Here he worked in the village mill. While working in the mill he carried nine bushels of wheat in three sacks of three bushels each, one sack on each shoulder and the other across these two, up two flights of stairs on a bet. While they lived in this village the second son Francis was born, October 18, 1833.

About two years after this they started to America on board a sail ship. They were on the ocean thirty-seven days, and while on board the ship, the daughter Teriece was born. They landed at New Orleans. From there they took passage on a boat up the Mississippi river to St. Louis. There they had to change to another boat up the Missouri river to some point and from there they settled in Osage County, Missouri. Here they lived by a small river called

Gasconade, and while living here their third son, Victor was born. While living here the two oldest sons Xavier and Francis plowed corn with a single ox, one would lead the ox while the other would hold the plow.

After the Platte purchase was made and open for settlement, John Peter Cordonier and his family moved again, settling on a 173 acre tract, on what was known as the Rochester road, east of St. Joseph, Missouri. The place was taken in the corporation of St. Joseph several years ago. While living here his wife Margaret passed out of this life, and was buried in a neighborhood Cemetery.

In the year 1849 John Peter Cordonier and his son Francis went to California during the big gold excitement, but they were like a good many others, never became rich. They started on the trip with a wagon and three yoke of oxen. While crossing the great American desert they met a "Confidence" man who traveled with them for several days. After driving with them for three days with no water for the oxen this man told them he knew where he could take the oxen for water. Francis and his father stayed with the wagon, and he took the oxen and started off. After a while he came back but he did not bring the oxen. He said they ran away from him. There they were, they could not find the oxen; two different times that night the old man picked up his gun to shoot the man, but his heart failed him both times. They took what they could carry and started out on foot. When they arrived they did not find what they expected. They had left all of their provisions in the wagon and had nothing to work with, but they stayed on for while anyway.

John Peter Cordonier and son, Francis stayed in the gold fields for about a year. Then they took passage on a ship for the

Isthmus of Panama. They crossed the isthmus overland and took passage on another vessel for New Orleans. They were shipwrecked on the Gulf of Mexico in a storm, picked up by another vessel and brought to New Orleans. Here they took passage on a steamboat for St. Joseph and to their old home.

While living in the neighborhood of St. Joseph, Xavier Cordonier was united in marriage to Mary Ann Windsor. She was born at Morrow, Ohio, June 20th, 1830. Their marriage was solemnized on March 16th, 1854 at the home of James Karns where she had made her home since she was 12 years old. They went to housekeeping on the 23rd of March 1854 on what was known as the Edwards' farm east of St. Joseph in the vicinity of Hospital No. 2. To this union were born eight sons, and three daughters. While living on the "Edwards farm," their first child, a son, Henry Alexander was born, April 29th, 1855. *married by the Rev. Roger Needham minister*

In the fall of 1854, after Kansas had been opened for settlement, Xavier Cordonier and his brother Francis came over and took claims in what became Marion Township, Doniphan County. The county was not surveyed for about a year later. Xavier settled on the southwest quarter of section 12, and Francis settled on the north west quarter of section 13. They both came over that winter and built a cabin on their claims, and moved over in the spring of 1855. A short time after this their father sold his 173 acre farm on the Rochester Road and he and his younger son Victor and daughter Terhnee and her husband, Henry Morris came to Kansas. Henry Morris settled and lived a few years on the quarter where Henry Greenke now lives. The old man settled where A. J. Evans now lives. While living there he passed away and was buried in what is now Rosedale Cemetery. Victor

settled on the place where Henry Christopher now lives. In 1861 Victor Cordonier enlisted in the Union Army and served some over a year. He died from bleeding of the lungs in a soldiers' hospital at Wyandotte, Kansas, and was buried there. One of his comrades wrote to Xavier, his oldest brother, telling of Victor's death. Xavier went down with a team and wagon and brought his brother's body home and buried it beside his father.

When Henry Moris left Kansas, they moved back to Missouri in the neighborhood of the old home. They stayed there for a few years then moved to Andrew County, Missouri, about four miles from Union Star. They lived there several years, and in that time their oldest child and only daughter died. Some years later the father Henry Moris died. After Oklahoma began to be settled, Terleese and her boys moved there and were still living there the last I knew anything of them.

The following of Xavier Cordonier's children were born: Henry Alexander in Buchanan County, Missouri, April 29th, 1855. On February 9th, 1881 he was united in marriage to Mary Etta Anderson who was born January 1st, 1864 at Marietta, Ohio. On February 10th they were given an infare dinner at the old Cordonier home. Quite a number of friends and relatives were present. On the night of February 11th a snow storm with a high wind came drifting the snow and blocking the roads so there was no travel for several days. After the roads were opened up, the newly wedded couple went to St. Joseph and bought their housekeeping outfit and went to housekeeping on the 3rd day of March on the north half of the northwest quarter of section 13, which the groom had bought on the 27th day of August 1877. To this union were born five sons and two daughters; the first

Christopher Elmer, was born December 25th, 1881. He is still at home. Franklin Sylvester was born May 26rd, 1883. He was united in marriage to Edna Frank on May 15th, 1918. Eugene Albert was born June 14th, 1886 and was united in marriage to Nellie Hays, November 12th, 1905. Avery Evelyn was born July 9th 1890. She was united in marriage to Irvin V. Gamblin on February 21st, 1914. Royal Sherman was born July 18th, 1893. He died January 18th, 1911. Viola Ruth was born March 25th, 1896. She is still living at home, keeping house for her father and oldest brother. Joseph Raymond was born September 18th, 1902. He was united in marriage to Barbaraine Heng September 9th, 1920. Mary Etta Cordonier died on the 5th day of April 1913 in the Ensworth Hospital in St. Joseph from an operation for gall stones, and was buried in Rosedale Cemetery by the side of son Royal.

The second son of Xavier Cordonier, John William was born June 5th, 1856 and dies November 23rd 1856.

James Albert was born May 31st, 1857 and was united in marriage to Mary Jane Cullum January 12, 1882. To this union were born the following children: Alfred Edward, December 28th, 1882; Eva May, August 11th, 1884; Daisy Ethel, November 14th, 1886; Irving Newman, December 29th, 1889; Thelma Edna, June 5th, 1899. James Albert died February 26th, 1913.

Johnny was born January 6th, 1859 and died March 9th, 1865.

Eva Jane was born November 11th, 1860 and was united in marriage to Henry Kentzler February 23rd, 1888 and died January 2nd, 1889.

William Samuel was born December 28th, 1862 and was united in marriage May 3rd, 1899 to Marie Anna Gerardy and lives on the north 80 acres of the old home place. To this union were born the following:

children: Ora Rachel, February 27th, 1900; Agnes Marie April 11th, 1901; William Sherman, September 19th, 1902; Guy Everet, June 16th, 1904. Myrtle Anna, December 11th, 1905; Lula Muriel, December 5th, 1914.

Armelda A. was born September 23rd, 1864, and died March 23rd, 1867.

George Washington was born May 6th, 1866 and was united in marriage to Kadie Center May 8th, 1891. To this union were born the following children: Ada Gertrude, November 30th, 1894; Grace, August 17th, 1897; Ernest G. September 26th, 1899; Floyd F. September 15th, 1901; Robert Allen, March 3rd, 1907.

Emma Alice was born April 17th, 1869 and was united in marriage to Harvey Rappelye May 6th, 1891. To this union were born the following children: Lenora May, February 26th, 1892; Elmer Artie October 21st, 1893. Emma Alice died October 26th, 1917.

Charles Ulysses was born June 23rd, 1870 and was united in marriage to Elizabeth Hooper November, 1906. To this union were born two children, William and Viola.

Joseph Christopher was born November 29th, 1872, and was united in marriage to Ella Hewins February 22nd, 1900. They made their home on the south 80 acres of the old home place. To this union were born two children, Letha Mae, April 1st, 1907, and Joseph, March 7th, 1914. 13

On November 14th, 1887 Xavier Cordonier died. After eating his supper, he moved back from the table and was struck with death while sitting on his chair. He was buried in Rosedale Cemetery. On October 27th, 1898, Mary Ann Cordonier died, and was buried by the side of her husband.

This narrative was written from the best information I had to go by.
HENRY CORDONIER - 1922