

The World That Robert de la Berge Lived In

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| April | 13 | 1598 | Henry IV of France issues Edict of Nantes granting Calvinist Protestants of France (Huguenots) substantial rights in a nation considered essentially Catholic. Henry IV converted from Calvinism to Catholicism prior to ascending to the throne in 1589. | |
| | | 1608 | Samuel de Champlain settles in Quebec with 32 colonists to establish a fur trading center. Only 9 colonists survived the first bitter winter. The name Quebec comes from the Algonquin word meaning narrow passage or strait. It originally referred to the area of Quebec City and the narrowing of the river at Cape Diamond. | |
| | | 1610 | Étienne Brûlé stays with the Algonquin Indians for 4 years in a swap. He learns their language & ways. He convinces them to bring beavers to Quebec. The next spring they bring 15,000 skins. He is the first European to explore the St. Lawrence. | |
| | | 1615 | Champlain goes to Huronia with Brûlé, fight Iroquois, and become allies. | |
| | | 1616 | Roman Inquisition. Galileo Galilei admonished and put under house arrest by the church for supporting the Copernican heliocentric concept that sun is fixed and the earth moves around it. | |
| | | 1622 | Thomas Touchet, step-brother of Robert de la Berge is born in Thaon, France which is next to Colomby-sur-Thaon. | |
| Sept | 27 | 1629 | Edict of Alès confirmed the Edict of Nantes and ended the religious warring between the Huguenots & Catholics signed by Louis XIII. Louis XIV resume persecution of Protestants culminating in the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. | |
| | | 1635 | Samuel de Champlain dies at the age of 63 with no descendants. | |
| | | 1636 | Marguarite Basly, first wife of Jacques de la Berge dies in an epidemic in Colomby-sur-Thaon. Most likely Thomas Touchet's father Jacques dies in epidemic, too. | |
| May | 8 | 1636 | Jacques de la Berge re-married to Marie Poitevin in Colomby-sur-Thaon. | |
| May | 24 | 1638 | Robert de la Berge born in Colomby-sur-Thaon, France. | |
| | | 1639 | Sainte-Marie-au-pays-des-Hurons French Jesuit settlement established at present day Midland, Ontario. Small pox, measles & influenza brought with them virtually wipes out the Huron Indians from 1639 to 1649. | |
| | | 1643 | Louis XIV, known as the Sun King, takes throne until death in 1715. Louis marries Philip IV of Spain's oldest daughter, Maria Theresa in 1659. Louis XIV held power for 72 years until his death which was the longest held monarchy in Europe. His emblem was the sun. The sun was associated with Apollo, god of peace and arts, and was also the heavenly body which gave life to all things, regulating everything as it rose and set. It is ironic that at that time it was widely believed that the planets (and universe) revolved around the earth and not the sun. | |
| | | 1647 | Jacques de la Berge, wife Marie Poitevin, and children Robert, Abraham & Guillaume move to Saint-Julien-de-Caen parish. | |
| | | 1649 | After being weakened by disease, only 1,000 of the Huron Indians survive and are then attacked by the Iroquois. | |
| | | 1649 | Start of 15 year siege of Quebec by the Iroquois | |
| | | 1650 | Thomas Touchet leaves from La Rochelle in 1649. | |

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| | | 1653 | Thomas Touchet returns to France. |
| | | 1654 | Thomas Touchet marries Suzanne Ferrier. |
| | | 1655 | Simon Touchet born to Thomas Touchet & Suzanne Ferrier. |
| May | 30 | 1658 | Olivier Letardif sells the 3 arpent estate of his deceased son Pierre to Nicolas Durand. The land had been under daily attack by the Iroquois. |
| | | 1658 | Thomas Touchet returns to France with his wife and his step-brother, Robert de la Berge. |
| Sept | 12 | 1661 | Nicolas Durand and Francoise Gausse married. |
| June | 6 | 1662 | Marie-Ursule Durand baptized. |
| March | end | 1663 | According to "Les terres de L'Ange-Gardien", Nicolas Durand dies accidentally "dans son desert" The cause of his death is not know for sure. The term desert was commonly used to refer to the woods which were thought to be a desert or wasteland. He could have died cutting trees on his property or farming, but in late March the area would have still been covered in snow. It was also postulated that he might have committed suicide because he was lost in the desert of his soul. A much more likely probability was that he was killed by the Iroquois. We may never know. |
| May | 28 | 1663 | Francoise Gausse marries Robert de la Berge. They live in the small house that Nicolas Durand had built. The foundations of that house can still be seen on the southeast corner of the Maison Laberge property. |
| | | 1663 | Between 1663 & 1673, approximately 700 to 900 French women were brought to Quebec to marry and start families. Through the early 1670s however, men of marriageable age far outnumbered the women of marriageable age. Prior to this, , a great number of male immigrants were unable to find a wife in Quebec and returned to France after their three-year term of service expired. That was surely the case of Robert's step-brother Thomas Touchet who returned in 1655 to marry Suzanne Ferrier. |
| April | 22 | 1664 | Genevieve Laberge born - 1st of 6 children |
| June | 17 & 19 | 1665 | Arrival of 12,000 French soldiers to defend Quebec against indian attack. |
| April | 30 | 1674 | Guillieume Laberge born - 6th of 6 children |
| | | 1674 | Maison Laberge built. |
| | | 1682 | Louis XIV & French Court move to Versailles. |
| Oct | 15 | 1685 | Louis XIV issues the Edict of Fontainbleau and renounces the Edict of Nantes. 200,000 Huguenots flee France. |
| | | 1687 | Isaac Newton publishes laws that describe universal gravitation and 3 laws of motion which prove heliocentrism and the motion of the plantes around the sun. |
| April | 12 | 1712 | Robert de la Berge dies at the age of 73. |
| | | 1715 | Louis XIV of France dies. |

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