

# MARRIAGE CONTRACT OF NICOLAS MARECHAL AND JEANNE ILLERET

The marriage contract of Nicolas Marechal and Marie-Jeanne Illeret

Today, the 25th of August, one thousand seven hundred and thirty-five, before us, Royal Notary, in Illinois, and the undersigned witnesses, were present, on one side, Nicolas Marechal, son of Jean Marechal and Jane Meunier, the father and mother, born in Arcicourt, bishopric of Verdun, and, on the other side, Marie-Jeanne Illeret, daughter of the late Claude Illeret and of the late Marie-Simone Martin, the father and mother, born in Fort de Chartres in Illinois, bishopric of Quebec; both of these parties of their own willing consent and the counsel of their friends assembled here, the gentlemen Jean Lafleur[?] and Jean Jauriou[?], both residing in Fort de Chartres, who have been named witnesses by Nicolas Marechal, and the gentlemen Jean Lacon-Conte-Fonte[?] and Charles-Guillaume Rolland, both residing in Fort de Chartres, witnesses of Marie-Jeanne Illeret, have recognized and acknowledged having entered into the following marriage contract. The following will make known that the above mentioned Nicolas Marechal and Marie-Jeanne Illeret have promised and do promise, according to their faith and in the name of the King, the legitimacy of this marriage, in order to celebrate it and to unite as soon as can be done, in front of Our Mother The Holy Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church after consent and deliberation between them and their friends.

The following will be the joint property of the bride and groom: their personal property and real estate which will be governed according to the law and the customs of the province to which they belong and to which they submit, renouncing other disposition even in the event that they move their household to another province having contrary customs.

They accept according to their present and future rights the personal property and real estate, the fruits and revenues of their labor [...] they may be situated.

Neither will be held liable of a debt incurred or created by the other before the said future marriage and to this end the property of either will be unencumbered by that which the other will have done.

The gentleman Jean Hubert and his wife Jeanne de Baillis, residing in Fort de Chartres, who brought up the said future bride in place of her deceased parents, have declared that she would bring a pregnant cow as dowry. The said future husband has brought and brings as a present to the future wife the amount of 400 pounds of [...].

This right to benefit from the money will be reciprocal [...] the amount of one hundred thirty-three pounds which will be taken in clothes, linen and other items after inventory [...] to the choice of the survivor.

[...]

And for the friendship the said future couple brings to each other a donation inter vivos\* [between the livings] is made so that each may profit jointly and severally by personal property and real estate [...] conditional on their being no issue; in the event of progeny the said donation will be annulled [...] at the registrar, at the time indicated above, by law, this contract is made and entered at Fort de Chartres in the presence of Jean Hubert and Jeanne de Baillis, who have declared their inability to write and who have made their mark according to common law.

The original of this document is found in the Kaskaskia Manuscripts and I have seen it. (2bgames)

(I am assuming that the marriage contract was made and that she was too young to marry because the marriage didn't actually take place until 1744 and they started having children in 1745. They had nine children and our Antoine was the seventh of those nine children. (2bgames)

The children born to this marriage were:

Marie-Joseph b 28 Sep 1745 m Joseph Calve

Marie-Catherine b 19 Oct 1747 m 6 Sep 1767 Francois Moreau

Jean Baptiste b 29 Aug 1749

Francois b 31 Mar 1751 m 1775 Marie-Therese Riviere

Marie-Suzanne b 23 July 1753 d 20 Aug 1754


Jacques b---m 1784 Genevieve Cardinal

\*\*Antoine b 1754 m 7 Jan 1777 Catherine Tabeau

Joseph b 13 Oct 1755

Marie-Elisabeth b 1 Nov 1757 1m 19 Jan 1774 Antoine Martin, 2m 20 Feb 1791 Jean-Bpt Primeau

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 **Description:** Research by 2bgames The original of this document is found in the Kaskaskia Manuscripts