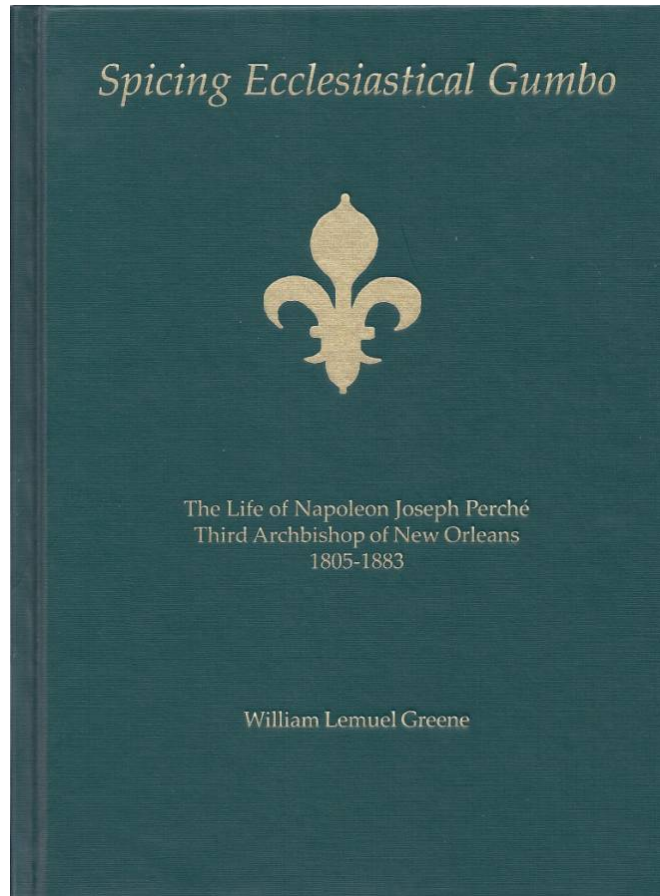


CAJUNS, CREOLES, PIRATES AND PLANTERS

Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format

Volume 3, Number 50

EXCELLENT BOOK: *Spicing Ecclesiastical Gumbo, The Life of Napoleon Joseph Perché, Third Archbishop of New Orleans, 1805-1883* by William Lemuel Greene is a wonderful addition to any research library. There is so much Louisiana history and genealogy that can be gleaned from this work.



Greene follows Perché from the time of his birth in Angers, France, in the department of Maine-et-Loire on January 10, 1805 to his death in 1883. He was a son of Florent Perché and Marie Berthelemy. His two siblings were old enough at the time to be his godparents. He became the third archbishop of New Orleans in 1870.

In an 1888 biography by Richard Henry Clarke, it was said that Perché exhibited strength, vigor and precocity at an early age. At the age of five, he could read and write prolifically in his native French language. He received the sacred rite of tonsure as a 16-year-old on June 16, 1821 and began the study of philosophy. At 18, he was teaching under the tutorship of the renowned philosopher l'Abbe Rene-Francois Regnier, who later became a Cardinal.

Perché was ordained to the priesthood on September 19, 1829 at the age of 24. From teaching, he went into parochial ministry, and his first assignment was at St. Therese Parish in Angers. By 1832, he was named parish priest at Turquant. With continued enthusiasm, he constantly amazed all who knew him. It was because of this that at the age of 32 and in the eighth year of his priesthood, Napoleon Joseph Perché crossed the Atlantic Ocean and began his life as a missionary in the United States.

With complete documentation and lots of illustrations and pictures, this book stands out as a well crafted look at a remarkable human being. It is the latest publication from Claitor's Publishing, and it is one of those biographies that is easy to read because of the interesting subject and the period of time in which he lived.

You can order this book directly from Claitor's for \$35.00 [ORDER NOW!](#)

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MISSISSIPPI PUBLICATION: *Mississippi River Routes* is now in its 19th year of publication, and the current Spring 2012 issue coming out next month is filled with lots of interesting data of value to researchers. In addition to the miscellaneous material included, there is some excellent information included within its pages. The contents come from researchers in several states.

Some of the articles gleaned from the advanced copy are: yellow fever at Natchez in 1823; Homburger-Stern 1917 New York nuptials; death of Marx Wolfe, 1918; John Lewis Price and a 1904 Sunday School lesson; Mississippi Territory population, 1816; condition of the Port Gibson Bank, 1841; Catholic Church – related documents filed in Claiborne County, 1861-1881; arrival of Nicolas Longworth, 1869; Bobb family marriages recorded in Warren County Courthouse, 1830-1897; General Forrest at Columbus, 1869; and many, many more items relating to the early history of this area.

Mississippi River Routes is the official publication of the Vicksburg Genealogical Society and was formed in 1982, incorporated in 1986. Their interests and items for publication cover the Louisiana parishes and Mississippi counties along and near the Mississippi River from the northern boundary of Louisiana's Florida Parishes (Louisiana-Mississippi line) to the Louisiana-Arkansas line and beyond. Monthly meetings are held, and their membership fee is \$25 annually. Membership runs from June 1 – May 31. Featured in the publication are original documented materials such as family histories, record inventories, church data, records from organizations, Bible records, cemetery inventories, letters, diaries, ledgers, and queries.

For more information about this group, write to them at P.O. Box 1161, Vicksburg, MS 39181-1161. Tony Dardeau is editor of *Mississippi River Routes*, and you can reach him at DardeauEA@bellsouth.net.

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PROGRAM SCHEDULED: The Louisiana Créole Research Association (LA Créole) and the Program in African American Studies at Xavier University will present “Framing New Orleans: The Portraits of Florestine Perrault Collins,” a lecture by Occidental College Professor of American Studies Arthé A. Anthony, Ph.D. The event is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at Xavier University Center, Ballroom A, 1 Drexel Drive.

Dr. Anthony comes to New Orleans from her teaching duties in Los Angeles where she has been working on her book focused on the contributions of Collins in documenting lifestyle in New Orleans communities. A woman of color who owned a photography studio in New Orleans from 1925 to 1965, Collins has documented a legacy largely through portraiture. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to www.lacreole.org, or you can contact Ronald Dorris (rodorris@xula.edu). Elizabeth Moore Rhodes, Ed.D, is president of LA Créole.

Dedicated to preserving Créole culture through historical and genealogical research, LA Créole holds annual conferences, as well as free public programs, and publishes an annual journal in support of the vitality of Créole contributions to our community.

Xavier University of Louisiana, founded by Saint Katharine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, is a Catholic and historically Black institution of higher education. The Program in African American Studies introduces students to interdisciplinary exchange among people of African descent, particularly examination of their contribution to development of United States cultural and intellectual history.

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CLASS SCHEDULED: Have you ever wanted to produce your family story? At the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library, 9200 Bluebonnet Blvd., genealogy librarian Cassie Fedrick will facilitate a series of once-a-month evening classes focused on writing your family history. There will be discussions on writing responsibilities, exploring copyrights, and have practice exercises. The class objective is to produce a family heirloom work by December.

The first meeting of the series will be held on Thursday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m. Class participants are responsible to bring writing notebooks or a laptop if preferred. This class is not limited to those with genealogy experience or to experienced writers. It is a chance to explore the art of blending family stories and family

history with topics of discussion like: “Why and What I Should Write,” “Organization,” “Memory Vs. Truth,” “Fact Checking” and “Production.”

Registration is required. For more information or to register, call (225) 763-2283.

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FREE SERVICE: Correspondence to this column should be directed to Damon Veach, Cajuns, Creoles, Pirates and Planters, 709 Bungalow Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5337. The e-mail address is ancestorslaveach@cox.net. Queries and book reviews are printed as space permits, and you are encouraged to take advantage of this free service. Claitor’s Publishing can serve as a distributor for self-published genealogy titles. Go to their homepage for details on how you can obtain this excellent service.