

Witch 213, Marie Oudinat 1

B 8691 no 2; witch 213, Marie veuve Martin Oudinat, de Raon

Already confronted with Jennon femme Claudon St Remy, who had maintained accusation.

18 November 1602; informations preparatoires

(1) Jean Menuisier, 70

Reputation 7 years.

(2) Jennon femme Humbert Vergier, 60

4 years earlier Catherine fille feu Humbert Vergier (first husband) had been in service of Claude Marchant, where Marie was doing day labour. Fell ill and had to come home; all who saw her thought it was witchcraft. Only cured after she had obtained bread, salt, and ashes from her house and made drink with them; then recovered rapidly, and thought she had caused this strange illness.

(3) Claudin Babel, 47

Reputation 9 or 10 years.

(4) Jean Ramberviller, 68

Reputation 6 years.

(5) Humbert Moictrier, 40

Reputation 4 or 5 years.

(6) Alizon femme Demenge Remy, 40

Sister-in-law Zabel had been ill for long time, having lost use of limbs; Marie had come to house on 3 successive days bringing her food and 'faisant semblant de pleurer'. Since then had always suspected that if she was witch as reputed she had caused the illness. Also knew story of Catherine as told by second witness; added that Marie had quarrelled with her and told her she was 'bien fiere'.

(7) Dedie femme Coals Faille, 40

Witness had heard her husband say she had given herself to the devil 20 years earlier.

(8) Demenge Barbonnille le vieux, 50

Reputation 18 to 20 years, and was reputed to have killed her late husband. Called witch in public by Demenge Saffrois without seeking reparation.

(9) Odille femme Demenge Barbonnille le jeune, 30

Reputation 10 years.

(10) Alizon femme Colas Liebault, 31

Reputation 7 years. Had hated witness for some time, and threatened her, but did not think she had come to any harm up to now.

(26 November 1602)

(11) Alizon femme Didier Bandeda, 36

Long reputation. A year earlier Bastienne fille jeune Lucas Mercier had been very ill, and since mother suspected Marie asked witness to obtain bread, salt, and ashes from her house. Recovered after eating these, which increased suspicions.

(12) Dion femme Demenge Charpentier, 54

18 years earlier had ben holding daughter aged 6 weeks outside house; Marie had passed, admired the child and kissed her, but baby died a week later. In view of reputation and accusation, thought that if she was witch she might have caused death.

(13) Catherine femme Lucas Mercier le jeune, 26

Illness of small daughter previous year; heard that Marie had uttered various threats against them, without knowing reason. Called her in as she passed, but as she entered she said 'ne pensez point que je vienne icy pour la guarir car vous avez suspicion sur moy, mais je ne luy ay donné', then turned and left. Gradual recovery after eating substances from house, and suspicion it had been her witchcraft.

(14) Nicolas Parmentier, 50

Reputation 6 years.

(27 November 1602)

(15) Didier Prevost, 46

Long reputation.

(16) Catherine veuve Henry Claudon

Reputation 7 years.

(17) Marguitte veuve Jacques le Charbonier, 50

Had long hated witness, because she had not married her late husband as she hoped; several great illnesses, and if she was witch as generally reputed suspected she had caused these.

(18) Jean Simon, 56

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Had refused to sell her a piglet 3 years earlier, which then became as if rabid; she said it would die, and had always suspected her witchcraft. Long reputation.

10 December 1602; interrogation

Said she was widow of Martin Oudinat, aged about 50. Native of Ecosse near Andelot in Allemaigne. Knew nothing of parents from whom she had been separated very young.

General denials of charges. Jennon and Nicolle femme Jean Gerardin, both just executed, had been 'aveuglées' when they accused her. Agreed she had taken a dozen pears to Zabel during illness, but had meant no harm.

11 December 1611; interrogation

Judges said it had been evident previous day that she was on point of confessing, and pressed her again to tell the truth. Started to cry and said she would confess. Seduced 20 years earlier in garden when very angry; first time made sign of cross and man in black vanished, but a week or two later he returned, promising to make her happy and ensure she did not lack money. Master Navel gave her money (leaves) and powder, black/kill and yellow/cure. Used powder to kill own cat and dog, but had not killed anything else.

Finally agreed she had killed goat of Didier Parmentier, who had spoken of her witchcraft. Had been to sabat 3 times a year; brief description in usual terms. Had seen the two women who accused her and Zabel femme Didier Pescheur (just convicted); other were masked. Carried by Navel on shoulders; for last 2 years had given him annual chicken to be exempted.

12 December 1602; interrogation

Asked to confirm confessions, she now withdrew them completely.

18 December 1602; Change de Nancy approves torture

20 December 1602; interrogation under torture

Started to confess when given thumbscrews, saying she had been witch for 24 years, but would confess no further maléfices than in original confession. Then racked, she promised to tell truth. Had killed daughter of Lucas Guerard, aged 5, when angry after quarrels, and first son of Lucas Mercier le jeune, for same reason - went to house on pretext of buying cheese and sprinkled powder on baby. 20 years earlier had killed small child of Demenge Parmentier, because his wife talked too much and had cursed her. Denied causing illness of Catherine fille Jean le Masson.

Repeated confessions about attending sabat 3 times a year. Usual statement about proceedings, but then added that at end they did reverence to the devil 'et tout a coup se jetoient les ung sur les autres, mais que de sa part elle ne faisoit comme leas autres a cause de son infirmité.'

Named as being present Melline veuve Colas Charrier, Barbeline veuve Colas Grand Claudon, dite la Bertrichaude, Didier Grand Claudon her son, François marion, Zabel femme Didier Pescheur, Nicolle femme Jean Gerardin, and Claudatte femme George Curien. All of Raon or suburbs.

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21 December 1602; confirmed earlier confessions. Added name of Alix femme Demenge Marond to list of accomplices.

31 December 1602; Change de Nancy approves death sentence

7 January 1603; sentence carried out