

Witch 219, Margueritte Jacquat 1

B 8691 no 7; witch 219, Margueritte femme Mongeon Colas Jacquat, de la Neuveville-les-Raon

21 December 1602; interrogation

Already accused by Zabel femme Didier Pescheur, was now brought out for further confrontation with Claudatte femme George Mongeat. Offered to confess, so brought before court.

Said she was about 30, native of la Neuveville; late parents were George Ganat and his wife Catherine. One night 18 years earlier mother had touched her with hand, and they were carried through air into an upper chamber, where she saw the late Demenge Jean Mercier, who was greatly troubled in his mind. Were several there she could not recognize because they were masked, but did see Zabel, Nicolle femme Jean Gerardin, and one named la Faillée who was now dead. Ran around in chamber, then carried bed through the air to a place beyond the bridge and danced round it, before bringing it back to room.

Was not seduced or tempted on this occasion, and 6 months later went into service at St Marie, where she remained for 2 years, before going on to Kespey in Allemaigne. When she had been there 18 months was approached in vines by Mre Dominé, who reminded her of first incident, claiming to have been present, and offered her money if she would believe in him - she accepted this and was immediately carried to sabat on côte de Repy on his shoulders. Money turned out to be leaves; did not see master again until after first marriage.

This had been 11 years earlier, to Florent Padoulx, and master appeared when she went to garden in angry mood after quarrel with husband. Gave her powder - black/kill, yellow/languish, white/heal - and had intercourse with her. Tried out powder on cat which did damage in house, and it died. Was very angry with relatives of husband for not making marriage settlement they had promised, and quarrelled with him about this; put powder in his soup and he died after 3 weeks. Would have killed all his relatives if she had been close enough to them and had the power.

4 years earlier, after quarrels with her brother Didier Ganat, she used powder to kill one of his cows. Had committed no other maléfices. Had been to sabat 5 or 6 times, but gave annual hen not to go more often. Were many there, but only recognized some already convicted or dead - Zabel and Claudatte, who accused her, Marguitte femme Chrestofle Jean Piere (executed), and Hannix femme Jean Faillé (dead). Others were masked. Previous St Jean had seen stillborn children being cut into pieces and cooked; on this occasion they made hail, but God caused it to fall harmlessly.

Confessed that 4 years earlier witches had caused crops of Herbepaire to be spoiled, and previous year had tried to spoil crops by causing continuous rains.

23 December 1602; persisted in previous confessions

27 December 1602; repeated confessions, said she had also seen the late Jehenne veuve Colas Chretien at sabat.

31 December 1602; Change de Nancy asks for depositions to check her story

3 January 1603; informations

(1) Marguitte femme Didier Gerardin, 50

Witch 219, Margueritte Jacquat 2

Had attended Florent Padoulx during illness 6 years earlier; had died after being very ill for 3 weeks.

(2) Didier Ganat, frere à la prevenue, 34

Agreed he had quarrel with her 4 years earlier, when she said she prayed God he might be hung as high as any thief; he replied that he had not deserved this, but he did not know if she did not deserve to be burned. Shortly after this he lost a cow.

(3) Jeannette femme du precedent

Reported same quarrel; according to her she had called Margueritte 'fille de genaxe et qu'elle craindoit bien qu'elle leur feroit ung jour deshonneur' - she replied 'qu'elle feroit encore ung coup a sa teste, et en gaigneroit qui en pourroit gaigner'. Cow died soon after.

4 January 1603; interrogation

Confirmed confessions again. Added that she had killed a cow belonging to Chretien (Lucas) Brandec because he had charged her too much tax. He was called in, and agreed he had lost a cow.

6 January 1603; death sentence from Change de Nancy

8 January 1603; sentence carried out