HENRY BOUQUET

The first color reproduction from the original painting, attributed to John Wollaston, and owned by Mrs. George A. Robbins. Frontispiece of The Papers of Henry Bouquet, Volume II.

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HENRY BOUQUET IN SWITZERLAND

By Paul-Emile Schazmann

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Schazmann's article on the family of Henry Bouquet and the beginnings of his military career is based upon unpublished documents in his native country, and upon genealogical works which would be equally inaccessible here. This article, and the following article by Dr. Donald Cornu on "Captain Lewis Ourry," grew out of the work on The Papers of Henry Bouquet, the source publication project of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. No sooner had Volume II issued from the press with its explanation that Volume I had been postponed in the hope that more material might be found for the early period of Bouquet's life, than Dr. S. K. Stevens, State Historian, finally established contact with a learned and able Swiss research historian, Librarian of the Swiss National Library, who was willing to devote time and energy to the search for Bouquet materials in his native land.

As a result, we now have this article, which provides for the first time documented information on Bouquet's family connections and his Swiss military record. This tallies in major details with the old biographical sketch by C. G. F. Dumas, in the French edition (1769) of William Smith's Historical Account of the Expedition against the Ohio Indians, which has hitherto been the sole authority for his European years. But it is now possible to say definitely that Bouquet came of a respected and long-established family of Rolle, linked by marriage with the leading families of the region, and to give precise dates and names of regiments for his early military service. It is also certain that he was related to Albert Gallatin, another Swiss who became famous in the New World, and who made his home in Western Pennsylvania, the very region which Bouquet had opened for settlement by his victory at Bushy Run and the expedition to the Muskingum.

The translation of Dr. Schazmann's French original has inten-
tionally been made as literal as possible without detracting from its readability. The apparatus of quotations and notes has, of course, been adapted to American practice. About the only other variation from strict literalness is in rendering "La Tête Noire" as "The Negro Head."

Dr. Schazmann fails to mention that he is himself related through his mother to the Roguin family, and thus to the Augustin-Gabriel Roguin who married Henry Bouquet's sister.

Donald H. Kent

Authors speaking of Henry Bouquet, Colonel of the Royal American Regiment, have generally stated that he was born at Rolle in 1715. Others have affirmed that he was 17 years old when he was received as a cadet in the Regiment of Constant in Holland in 1736, which would date his birth in 1719. Since the record of his baptism remains undiscoverable at Rolle as well as at Lausanne, where all the registers of baptisms not only for Rolle but for all the neighboring parishes were consulted in a visit to the cathedral, there was undoubtedly an oversight by the clergyman, and only hypotheses are left as to the year of his birth. It seems more likely, however, that he was born in 1719 than in 1715, for proof has been found that he became a cadet in 1736 and not in 1732, as is claimed erroneously by May de Romainmotier, and—following him—by Auguste Burnand. It is scarcely possible that he was born as early as 1715, and became a cadet only in 1736, that is at the age of 21; For the rest, the first original official record concerning Henry Bouquet which could be found states that he was born at Rolle. It is therefore certain that he was born at Rolle, and it seems likely that this was in 1719.

From several sources published in the eighteenth century it is known that Colonel Henry Bouquet was the nephew of Louis Bouquet, Lieutenant General in the service of Holland. The works of the Abbé François Girard and of May de Romainmotier which

2 Holländisch Cie Rödel, manuscript roll in the State Archives of Berne, Volume 5, no. 155.
4 Holländisch Cie Rödel, ibid.
5 May de Romainmotier, op. cit., p. 520; Girard, Francois, Histoire abrégée des officiers suisses qui se sont distingués aux services étrangers, Fribourg, Switzerland, 1781, p. 84.
Plan of Rolle in 1693, folio 29, in the Archives of Rolle. Here Dr. Schazmann found the property of Pierre Bouquet, grandfather of Henry Bouquet, with the "logis de la Tete noire." Note the small sketch of a house with a sign, a little above the center of the plan.
give this fact appeared during Louis Bouquet's lifetime, and therefore it could not have been imaginary. The Abbé François Girard, professor at Fribourg in Switzerland, says, moreover, in reference to Henry Bouquet, nephew of Louis:

... A nephew of his, probably the son of the eldest in the family, made himself a brilliant reputation in the service of England, with the result that he was entrusted with a very important command in America. ... 

This Louis Bouquet, Henry's uncle, was himself one of seven children of Pierre Bouquet, Councillor of the town of Rolle, since he was the brother of Jeanne-Danielle Bouquet who married Daniel de Ribaupierre. This conclusion may be reached from the genealogy and papers of the Ribaupierre family, edited by P.-L. Bader with the aid of M. Raoul Campiche, archivist at Nyon. Now, this Jeanne-Danielle Bouquet appears in several documents which have been found, as the daughter of Pierre Bouquet or Boquet, Councillor of the town of Rolle, particularly in the record of her first communion, March 22, 1709.

Here we have then our Henry Bouquet, grandson of the Councillor Pierre Bouquet, belonging to a family established at Rolle for a long time, a townsman of this pretty little town of the country of Vaud, on the highway which extends along the Lake of Geneva, from Lausanne to Geneva.

This Pierre Bouquet was the proprietor of a beautiful house called "The Negro Head," to the north of the highway which was also the principal artery of Rolle. The house was surrounded by a garden which descended also to the south of the highway, as far as the shore of the lake. The "plans of the town and territory of Rolle made in the year 1693" have at folio 29 a plan of this part of the town, on which the house of "The Negro Head" and the garden are perfectly sketched, with the name of Pierre Bouquet as proprietor. At this period the name was written indifferently Boquet or Bouquet, sometimes on the same line of a

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7 P.-L. Bader, François de Ribaupierre, 1754-1790, Lausanne, 1932.
8 "dite de la Tête Noire."
9 "Plans de la ville et territoire de Rolle pris en l'année 1693," in the Archives of the town of Rolle, in the Chateau of Rolle.
The Hotel de la Tete Noire as it is today, with the old sign bearing the date 1628. Dr. Schazmann states that it is the original building, enlarged and modernized.

Council Register. "The Negro Head" was a hotel from the year 1628. The house still exists, with an ancient signboard which bears that date and the head of a negro. It belonged to the family for a long time, for a document of 1671 speaks of "Sieur Bouquet, hoste de la Teste Noire." Pierre Bouquet was not only for a long

19 Record of baptism, in the Cantonal Archives, Lausanne.
time a member of the Council of the town; he presided over it from August 8, 1711, to August 10, 1712.¹¹ He was, therefore, an important figure in the region. He died in 1717, and his widow, born Duval, attended a session of the Council on May 1, 1717, with her oldest son, Isaac-Barthélemy Bouquet, in order to audit the accounts of the late Councillor according to custom.¹²

According to the Abbé François Girard, be it remembered, Henry Bouquet was probably the son of the eldest in the family, and therefore of this Isaac-Barthélemy. There are still more reasons to suppose that Henry was his son. Almost all the sons of Pierre Bouquet died childless.¹³ Isaac-Barthélemy and Louis, the uncle of Henry, were the only sons of Pierre who are known to have had children. Louis married a woman named Bergier from Lausanne, and they had two children who died young.¹⁴ Isaac-Barthélemy married Madeleine Rolaz, and they had among other children, a daughter, “Madeleine-Elisabeth Bouquet, born August 10, 1723, between 10 and 11 o’clock in the evening (who), has been presented (for baptism) at Rolle by her father, August 17, 1723.”¹⁵ Finally, she married, on February 19, 1762, at Gilly, parish of Bursins (in the country of Vaud), Augustin-Gabriel Roguin, son of J.-B. Roguin-Goudet. The following year, 1763, when the Roguin-Bouquets had a daughter, they took as godfathers Louis-Guillaume Roguin, the father’s brother, and “Henri Bouquet, colonel au service d’Angleterre.”¹⁶ The godfather Henry Bouquet was very probably, according to the usual custom of the time, the mother’s brother, and consequently the son of Isaac-Barthélemy Bouquet.

It can then be stated that Colonel Henry Bouquet was the grandson of Pierre Bouquet, and very probably the son of his oldest son, Isaac-Barthélemy Bouquet-Rolaz. The Rolaz family possessed several chateaux in the region of Rolle, as well as titles of nobility; and one of them, Imbert Rolaz, had been Major-General in the service of Prussia at the end of the seventeenth century.¹⁷

¹¹ Registers of the Town Council, in the Archives of Rolle.
¹² Ibid.
¹³ See note 6.
¹⁴ F. Girard, op. cit., p. 84.
¹⁵ “Madeleine-Elisabeth Bouquet, née le 10 aoust 1723 entre 10 et 11 Heures du soir, (qui) a été présentée à Rolle par Monsieur son père le 17e aoust 1723.” Baptismal record, in the Cantonal Archives, Lausanne.
¹⁶ Baptismal record, in the Cantonal Archives, Lausanne.
¹⁷ Delédevant, Henri, and Henrioud, Marc, Le livre d’or des familles vaudoises, Lausanne, 1923, p. 349; and numerous other references.
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Henry Bouquet’s relationship, through his mother, with the Rolaz family of Rolle confirms the very interesting point of his relationship with Albert Gallatin, which Donald H. Kent, Associate State Historian, had already deduced from an allusion in an unsigned letter to Bouquet from Rolle, February 10, 1763. In fact, Albert Gallatin’s mother was also born a Rolaz of Rolle. Henry Rolaz, Henry Bouquet’s uncle, was Seigneur de Maisery; another of his Rolaz uncles had the same Christian name as Albert Gallatin. The mother of Albert Gallatin was Sophie-Albertine, née Rolaz. In the Diary of James Gallatin, this son of Albert Gallatin speaks of a visit to the Chateau du Rozay near Rolle, the home of his du Rozay cousins. “My grandmother,” he wrote, “was a Mlle. Rolaz du Rozay.” This same Rolaz family held the Seigneurie du Rozay, in the district of Rolle, and that of Ménzery or Maisery near Yverdon, in the canton of Vaud.

The aunt of Henry Bouquet, Jeanne-Danielle Bouquet, called “Toton,” of whom we have already spoken, had married at Crassier, again in the country of Vaud, on April 28, 1717, Daniel de Ribaupierre, a townsman of Grandson and of Rolle, lord of the manor of Allaman, and administrator of the barony of Prangins. Barthélemy and Pierre-Isaac Bouquet, “brothers of the mother,” were the godfathers at the time of the birth of a daughter of Daniel and Jeanne de Ribaupierre-Bouquet.

The father of Daniel de Ribaupierre-Bouquet had been a notary at Rolle from 1689 to 1722. We have looked in his records which are kept in the Cantonal Archives at Lausanne, and have found some documents made in 1721 in the name of “Marie Duval, widow of Pierre Bouquet, (during his) lifetime Councillor of Rolle, acting in the name and as guardian of her children by authorization of Sieur Barthélemy Bouquet, one of her sons, and of the noble and worthy Henry G. Rolaz, his brother-in-law, Captain and Councillor of Rolle, Seigneur de Maisery. . . .”

18 B. M., Add. MSS. 21649, f. 55. (This was suggested, too, by Col. Henry W. Shoemaker, who has long been interested in Bouquet’s family background, and once visited Rolle in an effort to trace it. D. H. K.)
21 Répertoire des familles vaudoises qualifiées de l’an 1000 à l’an 1800 (Lausanne, 1883), p. 186.
22 Baptismal record, in the Cantonal Archives at Lausanne.
23 “. . . Marie Duval, veuve de Pierre Bouquet, (de son) vivant Conseiller de Rolle, agissant au nom et comme tutrice de ses enfants par l’autorisation
Since Henry Bouquet was the son of Isaac-Barthélemy Bouquet or of one of his brothers, we have hence established that this nephew of Louis Bouquet who was consequently the grandson of Pierre Bouquet, proprietor of "The Negro Head," and of several estates in the vicinity, belonged to a family allied to the three most important lines of Rolle and its environs: The Rolaz family, the De Ribaupierre family, and the Roguin family, for Major Augustin-Gabriel Roguin had likewise been received as a townsman of Rolle.

After he had left his native town and this family which we have re-constituted in a sketch as precise as was possible, in spite of the lack of some important documents, we again find Henry Bouquet in 1736 in a Swiss regiment in Holland. The information available up to the present as to the beginning of his military career outside of his country was very inexact, and research undertaken in the Canton of Vaud was unfruitful. Taking note of the fact that the pretty town of Rolle, on the slope of a hill which descends to one of the most marvelous of Swiss lakes, at the foot of the Jura Mountains, then belonged like all the country of Vaud to the Canton of Berne, and that Vaud did not become an independent Swiss canton until 1803, we directed our research toward the State Archives of Berne.

The manuscript rolls of the Swiss regiments in the service of Holland, kept in the State Archives of the Canton of Berne, at Berne, have several references to Henry Bouquet. The first is found in Volume 5 of the "Holländisch Cie Rödel." It is recorded in the "List of the Company of Captain Crousaz in the Swiss Regiment of Constant from October 1, 1735, to October 1, 1736." Henry Bouquet appears on the roll of this company as "No. 155."


The Captain-lieutenant of this company, who appears as No. 2, immediately after Captain Crousaz, is "Louïs Bouquet." This is Henry's uncle of whom we have already spoken.

de Sr. Barthelemy Bouquet l'un de ses fils, de noble et vertueux Henry G. Rolaz son beau frère, capitaine et Conse de Rolle, Seigneur de Maisery..."

24 "Liste de la Cie du Capitaine Crousaz au Régiment suisse Constant depuis le 1er octobre 1735 jusques au 1er octobre 1736."

The List of the Company of Captain Crousaz. From the State Archives of the Canton of Berne.
In the list of the same company, from October 1, 1736, to October 1, 1737, Bouquet appears as No. 130, still as cadet, with the same description (place of birth, etc.). In the list of the Company Crousaz from October 1, 1737, to October 1, 1738, Henry Bouquet is still cadet. He is No. 108. In Volume 6 of these rolls of the "Holländisch Cie Rödel," which contains the lists for the following year, Henry Bouquet no longer appears among the men on the roll but under the heading: "Enumeration of those who left the Company of Captain Crousaz from October 1, 1738, to October 1, 1739."26

... Henry Bouquet, Rolle, entered the Company, April 24, 1736, cadet. How and when they left it... discharged, April 4, [1739].27

If it is probable that Henry Bouquet entered this company in the service of Holland on his uncle's recommendation, he owed nothing to his sponsorship since he obtained no promotion. The fact that he was an ensign, which is found in biographies,28 is not confirmed by official documents, and this is not an officer's rank, anyway.

Continuing my investigations, which were very complicated as no register of these manuscripts exists, I next searched in the rolls of the Swiss regiments in the service of Sardinia. Here is what was found:

Sardinian Company of Rödel, Volume I.
  Company Rödel of Herr Roguin, Lieutenant Colonel in the Swiss Regiment of Colonel von Diesbach in the service of His Royal Majesty of Sardinia. From December 24, 1738, to November 18, 1739.
  1. Augustin Roguin, Lieutenant Colonel
  2. Henry Bouquet, Second Lieutenant. Rolle. Entered the Company, September 1, 1739.29

The following list of the same company of Roguin indicates:
"4. Henry Bouquet (sic), S. L., Rolle, Morges." That of No-

26 "Specification de ceux qui sont partis de la Compagnie du Capitaine Crousaz depuis le ler octobre 1738 jusques au ler octobre 1739."
27 "... Henry Bouquet, Rolle, Entré dans la Cie le 24 avril 1736, cadet. Comment et quand ils en sont sortis... congé, 4 avril (1739)."
28 [Smith, William], Historical Account of Bouquet's Expedition against the Ohio Indians in 1764, reprinted, Cincinnati, 1868, p. xviii.
November 11, 1741: "... 4. Heinrich Bouquet, Unter Lieutenant."
That of November 11, 1742: "Heinrich Bouquet, unter lieutenant. Rolle, Vogtei oder Herrschaft Bern." That of November 11, 1743, has the same information.

Augustin Roguin became colonel on February 7, 1743. He was killed on July 19, 1744, at Chateau-Dauphin, while defending the entrenchments of Pietralonga. It was not until much later that his nephew who was then also an officer in the service of Sardinia and bore the same given name, married Madeleine-Elisabeth Bouquet, the daughter of Isaac-Barthélemy Bouquet.

The following volume of the rolls, "Sardinian Company of Rödel, Volume II," reveals that, after the death of his colonel, Henry Bouquet went into the "Company of Colonel Roy, in the Swiss regiment bearing his name, in the service of His Majesty the King of Sardinia, from November 1, 1743, to November 1, 1744."\(^{30}\) He is No. 3, "Henry Bouquet, Lieutenant, Rolle, Cantons on jurisdiction, Berne."

The following roll, of November 1, 1747, lists "Henry Bouquet, Lieutenant." The last mention is as follows:

Return of those who have left the Company [of Colonel Roy] since November 1, 1747 . . . Bouquet, Henry, Rolle, Berne, April 17, 1748.\(^{32}\)

The rolls of the Swiss regiments give no more information about Henry Bouquet. The biographies speak at this point of his enlistment by the Prince of Orange, and then of his appointment in this prince's regiment of Swiss Guards.\(^{33}\) Bouquet was then directly in the service of Holland, and no longer connected with the regiments of the Swiss colonels. According to information kindly supplied by the Royal Archives of the Hague, Henry Bouquet was

\(^{30}\) "Sardiniischo Comp. Rödel, T. I.
1. Augustin Roguin, Obrist L.t

Sardiniischo Comp. Rödel, T. II."

\(^{31}\) "... Cie de M. le Colonel Roy, au Rég. suisse de son nom. au service de S. M. le Roy de Sardaigne, depuis le 1er 9 bre 1743 jusqu'au 1er 9 bre 1744."

\(^{32}\) "Etat de ceux qui depuis le 1er novembre 1747 ont quitté la Compagnie [du Colonel Roy] . . . Bouquet, Henry, Rolle, Berne, 17 avril 1748."

\(^{33}\) [Smith, William], *op cit.*, p. xix.
captain commanding with the rank of lieutenant colonel in the company of Swiss Guards of Colonel Weys de Molens. The record of appointment dates only from May 1, 1755, and also contains the appointment of Frédéric Haldimand.  

We are not concerned with going further, to the study of the brilliant career which Henry Bouquet achieved on the soil of glorious America, where magnificent volumes are being devoted to him by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Our purpose has been solely to seek to find the few traces of his origin which have continued to exist in his native land, and to try to coordinate them.

34 No. 1542, State Register of Titular Nominations, 1749-1791, fol. 49. Communicated by M. H. Hardenberg, keeper of the first section of the Algemeen Rijksarchief at the Hague.