

## **Research Results Report from Tara A. Fantauzzi, Professional Genealogist**

**Date:** 28 December 2016  
**Addressed to:** Loretta Strachan  
**Subjects:** Direct Ancestors of Marcellin Bazile

### **Summary of Research Results:**

Fifteen minutes of correspondence time was applied submitting requests to National Archives and Records Administration to obtain copies of an original pension record and compiled military service record for Marcellin Bazile alias John Marsailles. The pension record contained information related to Marcellin Bazile, his wife Mary Lewis (or Marie Louise), his biological children Alcide Bazile and Rosa Bazile as well as his stepsons Joseph Reed and James Reed. The compiled service record provided information about his military service but no new biographical information.

The pension file contains a series of documentation submitted for Marcellin to obtain a pension due to a disability he sustained during his service in the Civil War. Files were also submitted to verify and prove the relationship between Marcellin and his biological children Alcide Bazile and Rosa Bazile. Supplementary information was provided and it revealed the relationship between Marcellin and his stepsons Joseph Reed and James Reed. After the death of Marcellin, Joseph Reed became legal guardian to Alcide Bazile and Rosa Bazile, which is why information was also submitted on his identity.

The pension file included copies of an original marriage and death certificate for Marcellin. It was not possible to determine the date that Marcellin Bazile was married, but a certified copy of a marriage certificate was found to verify and prove he married a woman named 'Marie Louise' in Orleans County, Louisiana (page 15). No further information was reported on the death certificate to establish and prove the identities of their parents. The death certificate submitted verifies and proves Marcellin died on 3 August 1897 at Camp Parapet in Metairie, Jefferson County, Louisiana around age sixty-five (page 8). His cause of death was attributed to 'remittent fever'.

Prior to his death, Marcellin Bazile served during the Civil War under the name John Marsailles. A copy of his original discharge paperwork was part of the pension file and on it his place of birth appears to have been reported as 'Gramercy' in St. James Parish, (due to the illegible script it is not possible to conclusively state his place of birth was that place). Additional research time is necessary to verify and prove the specific place

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of birth for him. Marcellin was said to have enrolled on 10 August 1863 at Camp Parapet in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana and was discharged on 23 September 1866 in Baton Rouge after his term of service expired. During his service, he was said to have sustained an injury described to have been a double inguinal hernia he suffered after a retreat from the enemy through swamps, etc. An inguinal hernia happens in the groin area when the intestines push through the inguinal canal. At the time of his discharge he was said to have been approximately thirty-years-old which means he was born circa 1836 (Pages 4 & 6).

Further into the pension file records were found to help verify and prove the relationships between Marcellin Bazile, his wife Mary (or Marie) and his biological and step children. After the death of Marcellin in 1897, Joseph Reed who was stepbrother to Alcide and Rosa Bazile became their guardian because their biological mother had been deceased for about five years. On page nine of the file it was said that Mary (or Marie) Lewis (or Louise) died on 6 November 1892 at Camp Parapet in Metairie, Jefferson County, Louisiana. At the time of her death she left behind two children under the age of five, and shortly after, Marcellin died in 1897, leaving the children orphaned. Mary had two children from a previous marriage, Joseph Reed and James Reed, and on page thirteen of the pension file a man named "Shadrack" Mason provided a notarized statement with information he knew about the life of Mary.

'Shadrack' Mason stated in 1915 that he previously resided at the home of Mary Lewis and he moved into her house on 15 April 1866. He stated he was unaware of the minor children, but was acquainted with their mother because he resided at her home after he was discharged from the Army. When he initially moved into her home she was said to have been 'living as a wife' to a white man with the surname 'Reed'. This man later died after 1866 after the birth of his sons Joseph and James who were born during the early to mid-1870s. 'Shadrack' testified Mary later married a 'Colored' man, but he was not acquainted or aware of the identifies of their children. 'Shadrack' emphasized at the end of his story that Mary was not married to the white man Reed. He made sure to say that if she was married to Mr. Reed he would have known about it because he resided at her home since 1866.

On page twelve of the pension a transcript of an 1890 census was provided, which is a rare find, because five years after the transcription was made the 1890 census was destroyed in a fire at the Capitol during 1921. The transcript in the pension was created in 1916 and it provided information on the household of Marcellin Bazile. On 14 June 1890 a fifty-six-year-old 'Marcelin' 'Basile' and his forty-one-year-old wife Mary resided in Jefferson County, Louisiana. At their household resided the following minors: eighteen-year-old Joseph Reed, fifteen-year-old James Reed, six-year-old Alcide 'Basile' and seven-month-old Rosa 'Basile'. Another individual resided at the Basile home and he was a fifty-year-old John George, who may have been a non-related lodger. The

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transcript stated a census entry was not found for Alcide and Rosa Bazile in 1900 (although a copy of that record was found during a previous phase of work). In 1900 Alcide and Rosa resided in Jefferson County, Louisiana with two individuals both said to have been their grandparents, Senge and Patsy James.

One-hour of research time was applied completing a digital collection survey to obtain copies of original documentation like census, probate, military and vital records as well as secondary documentation such as index entries and vital record transcriptions on Marcellin Bazile alias John Marsailles and John Marshall. Searches were also completed to find information on his family members known as Mary Lewis (or Marie Louise) and the Reed boys. The research survey and correspondence work yielded three positive results; specifically, a combination of a military record and index entries related to the family of Marcellin Bazile alias John Marsailles.

A 1918 WWI draft registration was found for Joseph Reed and during that year he resided in Jefferson County, Louisiana where his nearest relative Rose Basile resided. On the registration, she was noted to have been his sister and the date of birth for Joseph was reported to have been 9 November 1872. A marriage index entry helps to prove he got married shortly after on 3 December 1921 in Orleans County, Louisiana to Clara 'Reley'. Two years later he died on 12 May 1921 as proven by a death index entry found on him.

The marriage and death index entries on Joseph Reed state his father was names James Reed and his mother was Mary Reed and/or 'Bazito'. On all the information Joseph was reported to have been described as 'Colored', 'Negro' or 'Black' even though he was said to have been the son of a white man. It was not possible to find information on the life of James Reed after 1890. Additional research time may reveal more data on the Reed boys and their father known as James Reed.

No further information could found on Marcellin or any of his aliases nor was data found on his wife known as Mary within the research time allotted, and it was not possible to find more information on the 'Senge' family. A copy of each original record was uploaded into client Document Appendix accessible at [www.capitalgenealogy.com/loretta-strachan](http://www.capitalgenealogy.com/loretta-strachan). Please see updated pedigree chart in Document Appendix to visualize what has been verified and proven on the direct ancestors of Alcide Bazile.

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### **Itemized List of Research Results:**

- BAZILE - Compiled Military Service Record for Marcellin Bazile
- BAZILE - Pension Record for Marcellin Bazile
- BAZILE - 1921 Marriage Index Entry for Joseph Reed
- BAZILE - 1923 Death Index Entry for Joseph Reed

### **Summary of Research Recommendations**

Genealogist recommends applying up to one-and-a-half hours of research time completing a digital collections survey on Marcellin Bazile, his aliases, his wife known as Mary Lewis (or Marie Louise), the Reed boys Joseph and James Reed as well as the Senge family. Digitized original and secondary evidence will be searched and obtained to verify and prove the direct ancestors of client with an emphasis to establish and prove the identities of previously unknown direct ancestors. Copies of original documentation may include census, vital, military, migration and religious records and secondary documentation may include copies of record transcriptions, record index entries and published genealogies.

### **Itemized List of Research Results:**

#### **1. Digital Collections Survey, Up to 1.5-hours research time**

- Digitized original and secondary evidence will be searched for and obtained to use as proof to verify and prove the known direct ancestors with an emphasis to establish and prove the identities of previously unknown direct ancestors of Marcellin Bazile
  - Subjects of focus: Marcellin Bazile, his aliases, his wife known as Mary Lewis (or Marie Louise), the Reed boys Joseph and James Reed as well as the Senge family