

Robidoux, Magloire and Madeline Family
Submitted by Gordon Robideaux, 2nd Great-grandson.

(Editor's Note: Corrections and additions from the book *What Happened to the Settlers in Renville County* and other sources are in parentheses.)

The family consisted of Magloire and Madeline Demers (DeMarce) Robideau (Robidoux) Oliver, 6, Noah, 5, Isabella, 3, (Nelson, 2,) And Two (One) Unnamed Children (Child). Magloire married Madeline Demers (DeMarce) about 1855 (July 16, 1857) and filed a claim in Hawk Creek Township in 1859. He joined the Renville Rangers (in August 1862) and participated in the defense of Fort Ridgley and the battle of Wood Lake. His wife had five (four) children (and was pregnant with the fifth child) and was rescued by (the Dakota Indian) Lorenzo Lawrence (at the Robidoux farm after the family's home was burned to the ground) and taken to Fort Ridgley (by way of the Minnesota River).

The family was living in West Union in 1865 and returned to Hawk Creek in 1867. In 1870, he filed claims for land in Section 28 and 28. At the Hawk Creek Township formation meeting in 1869 Robideau (Robidoux) was elected assistant clerk, in 1874. Robideau (Robidoux) was among the first to have personal property assessed in Ericson Township, 116-37. Magdeleine (Madeline) died December 27 (26), 1871 at (Rosalie Coutourier, her sister's, home near Sleepy Eye) and he married Nancy Lenz (Lanz) in 1873 in Sleepy Eye, MN. Magloire died March 24, 1914 in Sleepy Eye (the Old Solders Home, Minneapolis, MN).

Also, it should be noted that Brown County records show that Madeline's death certificate is listed under the name of Demars. This probably was due to the fact that the French-Canadian way was to bury a married woman using her maiden name. Yet, the spelling was different as it was a French speaking person talking to a German speaking person. Many of the newspapers, magazines or books written during this period of time had a variety of spellings for names. Thus, it is always important to check the primary source for the correct information. I have found that the histories of counties that were written in early 1900's are very inaccurate with specific facts but are excellent to use as a starting point. By using only these books without double checking the facts given, there will be a lot of misinformation spread through the internet world.

Also, any mention of Madeline Robidoux being taken by the Dakota warriors and put in a camp is absolutely false. Madeline was never at Camp Rescue. She joined up with the group that was led by Lorenzo Lawrence at the mouth of Hawk Creek and the Minnesota River. That group went down the river to Fort Ridgley.