Charles St. Martin

St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana

St. Martin, Charles, of Laplace, was born in St. John the Baptist parish, Nov. 2, 1853, and is a son of F. B. and Calista (Montegut) St. Martin, both of whom also were natives of that parish.  The paternal grandfather, Pierre Bouchet St. Martin, was born in Canada, and came from that country to Louisiana, locating in St. John parish, where he was later married to the widow of Antoine Chouriac, a lady whose maiden name was Genevieve de Callogne, and who, by her first marriage, was the mother of 2 daughters, who became, respectively, Mrs. Colson and Mrs. Norbert.  Pierre Bonchet St. Martin, by his marriage with Mrs. Chouriac, became the father of 2 children, Pierre Bouchet, Jr., and Aimee, the latter of whom married Dr. Yves Le Monnier, grandfather of the popular physician, Dr. Yves Rene Le Monnier, who built for his residence, early in the 18th century, the substantial brick house at the corner of St. Peter and Royal streets, New Orleans, in the iron railing of the balconies of which may be seen the initials of his name.  The second marriage of Pierre Bouchet St. Martin was with Marianne Perret, widow of Louis Pain, who had 1 child, a daughter by her former marriage.  This daughter married Zenon Ranson, and became the mother of Norbert and Zenon Ranson, the only two of the name who left descendants, several of whom now reside in New Orleans.  Mr. St. Martin left no children by this second marriage.  The maternal grandfather came from France and located in Louisiana at a very early time.  F. B. St. Martin also was twice married.  Some time after the death of his first wife, Cecile Perret, who left no children, he was married to Calista Montegut, only sister of Hon. Lucien Montegut, a prominent and highly-esteemed planter of St. John parish.  To this union 9 children were born, as follow:  Charles, subject of this sketch;  Paul, who married Clementine Lorio, of Algiers, and now lives in the parish of his nativity;  Francois, who died about the age of 40 years; George, who married Louise Montegut, and now lives in St. John, of which his wife is a native;  Alfred, who married Marie Chenet, of the same parish, now resides in New Orleans;  Delphine,  Blanche and  Celestine are now at the parental home;  Caroline, who became the wife of Alexander Chenet, is now deceased.

Charles St. Martin received his education at private schools in the vicinity of his birthplace.  At the age of 22 years he became assistant to his father in the management of the family plantation.  Some time later he accepted the management of the Welhen plantation, in St. James parish for 1 year, and thereafter became manager of the Aurora plantation in Orleans parish, where he remained 14 years.  He then returned to St. John parish and purchased Caro plantation, which has since been the family home.  This plantation embraces about 2,000 acres, upon which cane and corn are grown as principal crops.  Mr. Martin affiliates with the democratic party, and while he has avoided taking any active part in politics, he has served the people 14 years as president of the parish school board, and only recently resigned. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus.

April 26, 1879, Charles St. Martin was married to Miss Delphine Montegut, daughter of Lucien and Amelina (Haydel) Montegut of St. John parish.  Eleven children have been born to their union, as follow:  The first-born died before its christening; Amelie, a graduate of St. Phenomene convent, Labadieville; P. B., Jr., died at the age of 18 months; Lise, also a graduate of St. Phenomene convent; Charles, Jr., a graduate of the pharmacy department of Tulane university, class of 1912; P. B., Jr., (II) attended Jefferson college and later Spencer's business college, New Orleans; Stanislaus, attended Jefferson college; Robert, graduate of the commercial department of Jefferson college; Lionel, graduate of Jefferson college, classical course, class of 1914; Caroline, educated at Sacred Heart convent, St. James parish; Edgar, died in April, 1904, at the age of 2 years.

**Fortier, Alcee, *Louisiana: Comprising Sketches of Parishes, Towns, Events, Institutions, and Persons, Arranged in Cyclopedic Form*, volume 3, Madison, Wis.: Century Historical Association, 1914, pp. 697-699.**

**Transcribed by Mark Miller**