## **Sheriff Willie Duhe**

The grandfather of Willie J. Duhe was Onezime Duhe, who was for years a policeman in New Orleans and then moved to St. John, where he engaged in the general merchandise business. His father, Amedee Duhe, was a planter who was married to Flavie Dufresne.

Gustave Duhe, his uncle, was judge from 1887 to January 26, 1903. Guillaume Duhe, another uncle, was in the general merchandise business and was active in politics. Ernest Duhe, a third uncle, was a planter. The aunts of Sheriff Duhe were Adelaide, Irma and Ernestine Duhe.

Willie Joseph Duhe was born in St. John parish September 16, 1887. At the age of 14, he started work at Idaho Plantation, where he remained from 1901 to 1907. From 1907 to 1924, he was a contractor associated with the Lyon Lumber Company. From 1924 to 1927, he was deputy sheriff, and he was elected sheriff of St. John Parish in 1928, which position he still holds.

From his marriage to Leonie Millet, thirteen children have been born. Willie Duhe, Jr., was married to Jennie Lovetro, who has a child, Willie III. The other children are Henry, Genevieve, Harry, Peter, Paul, Harold, Leo, Oswald, Margie, Raymond, Dorothy and Sidney. The three last have died.

Eyraud, Msgr. Jean M. & Donald J. Millet, A History of St. John the Baptist Parish with Biographical Sketches – St. Peter's Diamond Jubilee, Marrero, LA: Hope Haven Press, 1939, p. 67.