

## Leon Graugnard

Leon Graugnard, a well-known merchant and a pioneer in the sugar industry, was born at Villard de Barcelonnette, France, 83 years ago. He came to America at 17 years of age and began to work as a dry-goods merchant. Later, he purchased Glencoe Plantation, on which the town of Garyville was built. After a sojourn in New Orleans, he came back to St. John, having bought the Terre Haute Plantation. His wife, Eve Bacas, died in 1930, leaving to him two living children. Emile Graugnard, the elder, was married to Azelie Breaux of Lutcher, and from that union seven children have been born – Fernand, Azelie, Marie Louis, Regina, Leon, Jeanne and Emilie. Eve Graugnard, the other child, was married to Edwin J. Guidry, and has twelve children – Celeste (a sister catechist), Inez, (Mrs. Elmore Montz), Edwin, Jr., Marion (Brother of the Christian Schools), Leon, James, Manuel, Leonel, Albert, Francis, John and Therese.

Miss Marie Graugnard, an adopted daughter, was the constant and faithful companion of Mr. Graugnard.

Leon Graugnard was deeply attached to his religion, was a firm believer in Catholic education, and was versed in all the problems of the day. He was a generous supporter of the Church and was one of the builders of the parochial school.

His children live on Terre Haute Plantation. His remains rest in beautiful St. Peter's cemetery, which he helped to bring to its present condition.

**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. 68.***