

## John Louis Ory (1847-1920)

John L. Ory was born September 12, 1847, in Lions, St. John the Baptist Parish, son of Lezin Ory (1819-1897) and Melanie Cambre (1821-1904). John Louis Ory has devoted his abilities to the vocation of a planter from the time of his boyhood. He received his education at public schools... the Civil War, however, so interfered with his studies as to practically terminate them, and at the age of 14, associated with his brothers, he rented some land and began growing cotton under the tenant system. He did not depend solely upon his cotton crop, and was at all times on the lookout for any odd job that promised an increase of his income. During the years of the war he materially helped himself by hauling contraband material from place to place...

By the time he was 25, he and his brothers (Lezin, Emydge, Felicien, and Placide) purchased a small plantation and began planting sugar cane. In 1878, the brothers bought Ingleside plantation, on Bayou Lafourche, and some years later added Golden Gate plantation, in Iberville Parish. In 1897, they sold Golden Gate and bought Woodland Plantation, in St. John the Baptist Parish. In 1904, they sold Ingleside and added San Francisco and Union plantation in St. John. In 1911, they bought Sarpy plantation in St. Charles Parish, bringing their holdings to about 5,000 acres. Cane and corn were the principal crops. Holdings also included two sugar mills.

John scrupulously avoided political entanglements although he did serve as a member of the police jury in St. John Parish. The John L. Ory public school at Laplace is a graceful compliment to the personality and character of a modest citizen. Mr. Ory's home on Woodland plantation is one of the most commodious, attractive and inviting plantation in southwest LA.

John L. Ory & Victoria Chauff (1855-1926) were married on October, 23, 1873 in Assumption Parish, LA. Their marriage produced eight children: Leontine (1874-1937); Cecile (1877-1910) m. Dr. Wencelas L. Lions; Victorine (1879-1939) m. Sidney J. Levet; Ida (1882-1957); Juliette (1885-1964) m. Henry C. Maurin; Denise (1887-1950) m. Joseph F. St. Martin; John Daniel (1889-1918) m. Lillian Menuet & M. Alida Perilloux; and Cora Ann Ory (1893-1897). John L. Ory died March 21, 1920, while Victoria died on September 5, 1926. Both are buried in St. Peters Catholic Cemetery.



John L. Ory School

### Sources:

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. 715-716.

*The Ory Story – Allsace-Lorraine to America*, compilation by Margie R. Pearce, 2003, pp. 539-562.