9th house  Right Leg

Overview of the Ninth Meridian House

Current Binder Lord:  Garberlin  Terratark   (Gar·Berlin Terra·Tark)

Founding Binder Lord: Xantha Eldurach   (Zan·tha Elder·rock)

9th House Sergeant-at-Arms: Korth Argelian (Korth Ar·gel·ee·ann)

Sources of Power and income: material from ligaments and tendons, for alchemical contraptions.  muscle and Bone made into poultices

Word of Binding:  Desolation

Activation word for the Dwuergo- Malleable

Sorceress Xantha Eldurach was the leader of a Sorcerer Mercenary Troupe charged in keeping the other soldiers and ballistae (sp?) safe and make sure they can get into position to incapacitate the Tarrasque .

When battle was met on the field most of the fighting was more concentrated away from Xantha’s group.  They were able to get their ballista into position and immovable bolt loaded and ready to fire. As the other groups loosed their bolts the beast grew much more violent as its body started to be restricted.  In an effort to keep the trashing Turrasque at bay Xantha ordered to draw the fury of the creature away from the ballista.  Her and her company loosed spells at the tarrasque when something went wrong.  Either a spell failed, or ricocheted she couldn't tell which, but the ground under them and all around them heaved, lobbing huge chucks of rock and earth into the air.  With the earth spinning and shaking and the taste of blood in her month Xantha woke to absolute disarray.  She surveyed the scene before her and saw spellcaster and soldier alike swallowed up by earth and or strewn around the field. When she finally gained her footing, Xantha Spied the Ballista and bolt teetering on the edge of a large crater.

Shouting for help to right the launcher she rushed over to the machine and with some help propped the Ballista and bolt back up into operating position.

On the day of Binding; Lord General Alastair Ghent was struck down as he readied his immovable harpoon.  At his failing, all but DuFaine were routed and fled for their lives.  Roman realizing this was his moment for greatness stepped up to the ballista where the harpoon still lay and spoke the first word that came to mind “Marisol”, the serving girl from so many years before.  And whether by intent or instinct sunk his harpoon into the area where the choicest meats and organs lay.  Later it would be discovered that while the Tarraseque produces all manner of tissues and organs throughout its body, the “Prime Organs” (those which reside in the correct anatomical position inside the body) are particularly prized magically, alchemically, and culinarily. Their purity makes them particularly potent and easy to fabricate and process into reagent form

Despite his meager background, he was now officially a Binder Lord and while begrudgingly by some of the other Lords, was accepted at equal stature.  Roman was a practical man and while he was not skilled with sword, magic, or alchemy, had a shrewd mind for business and tactics.  He was one of the first to realize that as the city that grew up around the Tarrasque, it would require adequate food and water, but most importantly water.  And as water started to become scarce due to taint he was the majority backer behind the construction of the aqueduct   He also began to monopolize the import of fresh foodstuffs which were difficult or impossible to grow in the immediate vicinity.  He also was one of the first to begin marketing the wares of the Tarrasque to distant cities and states.  To further his agenda, he publicized and then capitalized on the tainted Tarrasque meat being served by skeevy street cart vendors that would pop up and then disappear overnight, by backing and instating licensing and inspections, and enforcement of standards for anyone serving food to the public

Roman ensured that his children and their children would be the best educated and best counseled house in Saltinwounds.  He knew they were not the best with a sword, nor talented with magic and would need their wits about them in order to remain in power.  And this tradition has carried on until present day.  Currently Gerard DuFaine heads the Third house and carrying on his great grandfather’s tradition owns two of the finest restaurants in the entire city.  Gerard has also surrounded himself with the best counsel money can buy and relies heavily on Drummon Carter, his Man at Arms when it comes to defending his interest where force is necessary.  Gerard has also proved to be a shrewd tactician and has made several moves though both Business and marriage to for powerful alliances to further cement his place in Saltinwounds.