
CHAPTER SEVEN

IGNACE BÉLANGER

1723 - 1797

By the time Ignace was born, the war with England had been over for 10 years and life in the Quebec region had obtained some sense of normalcy. A fort, to guard the St. Lawrence, had been built at Cape Breton. The fort, called Louisbourg, cost over four million livres which caused the King of France to ask if the streets had been paved with gold. But Louisbourg was more than a fortress and by the middle of the century it had over four thousand inhabitants.

13 British colonies stretched from Georgia to New Hampshire along the Atlantic. New England's population was now over one and a half million as compared to some fifty thousand in New France. There were actually 14 original colonies in New England with Canada being the 14th. Canada, when it was the 14th colony, had Benjamin Franklin as its Postmaster General. Soldiers, traders, farmers and missionaries were responsible for the rapid growth during this time of opportunity for anyone that was ambitious. This growth produced conflicts of interest and set the stage for more unrest between the two new countries.

CHILDHOOD

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Ignace lived and raised his family in a Quebec lined with white farm houses and little villages with prominent church spires that could be seen from a great distance. Quebec was frequented by many visitors as it was picturesque with stone walls protecting it from the interior and a towering rock cliff providing it with security from the sea. Inside the stone wall was a governor's palace, some public buildings and a military encampment. The merchants, shopkeepers and residents lived outside the stone walls at the edge of the river. This is the atmosphere which greeted Ignace on his trips to Quebec.

Quebec was changing from the wooded settlements into a city with much official ceremony, bright uniforms, clothing, furniture, books and the other luxuries which were imported from France. The rough settlements were beginning to flourish into communities which emulated their homeland. The people were more informed, better educated and the women were said to be too fond of their dress. A French observer of the day wrote about the women of Quebec,¹ "They have wit, delicacy, good voices and a great fondness for dancing. They are discreet and not much given to flirting; but when they undertake to catch a lover, it is not easy for him to escape".

A different picture was painted not far West of Quebec, however. Things were changing here too but they still had the crudeness of the wilderness. An iron industry had been started at Three Rivers (Trois Rivieres) and the St Maurice forges² made cannon and mortars as well as kettles, utensils and stoves which were used by many colonists. All along the St Lawrence, in the area where Ignace lived, the villages were all served by the river. All travel was still along the waterway by canoes and batteaux³ in the summer and by sleigh in the winter. The winter path, on the ice, was marked by pine trees set in the ice. There were no roads until after the 1730s.

Although the residents of Ignace's day had few luxuries, they did not live in poverty. They had a few acres on which to plant grain, raise cows, sheep and chickens. They fished, made maple syrup and hunted game which provided well for the family. The women became skilled in making clothes from cheap furs and wool from the sheep. The houses had thick walls and high pitched roofs to shed the snow. Homes included a ladder attached to the roof so that one might be able to climb the steep roof to extinguish the many chimney fires that were a natural result of burning wood.

Farms were often inherited by many children. It was the custom of the day to divide them into narrow strips with each strip fronting on the river. This caused the houses to become close together as the strips continued to get narrower. This newfound closeness brought about much visiting, dancing, games, story telling and general family enjoyment of life. A French Canadian of those days had his life revolve around family and church and he worried about little else.

1723

Ignace was born, the son⁴ of Nicolas and Marie Magnan, on 8 February 1723 at Charlesbourg, Quebec. He was christened at St Charles de Charlesbourg on 9 February 1723. On the baptismal documents, his mother is listed as Marie Meignen and his father as Nicolas Bellanger. On these documents, his name is also spelled Bellanger. Witnesses to the ceremony performed by Father Le-boullenger of St Charles were, Ignace Leroux, Germain Meignent and his wife Marie Dhery. These

¹From "Building the Canadian Nation" by George W. Brown

²Begun in 1737

³A barge like vessel

⁴Eighth son and 16th child of Nicolas and Marie Magnan

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were actually Germain Magnan and Marie Dery. Germain was the brother of Marie Magnan and Marie Dery was his wife.

1740 - 1765

In 1744, France and Britain once more were embroiled in war. This time the conflict touched four continents and lasted almost twenty years. France lost her American empire for the last time. By 1763, New France was in the hands of the English. New Englanders had hated the fort built at Louisbourg because it encouraged the Indians, friendly to the French, to attack the New England settlements along the Maine border and allowed the French privateers to continually harass the New England fishermen. Just after the start of the 1744 conflict, about four thousand colonists were amassed in Boston. This group was joined by a fleet of about one hundred vessels and they sailed to Cape Breton. Needless to say, Louisbourg fell to the English. The English established a stronghold in Acadia by founding Halifax.

By 1745 a law, in Quebec, was passed which required each farm to have one and a half arpents frontage on the river and thirty to forty arpents in depth. This fact should impress upon us the strict control the government had over everyone's lives during that period. Might this have been our very first zoning ordinance?

IGNACE BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Nicolas Belanger and Marie Magnan were a couple who took their marriage seriously but who appeared to plan the growth of their family well. With only two exceptions, Genevieve and Pierre, their 14 children are spaced 2 years apart. This was certainly odd for this time period but showed some social changes which were to come. Amateur genealogists have a saying, "If there is a year without a child born in the family, you missed one." Our ancestor grandparents certainly shot holes in this saying. They planned their family and spaced their children.

1. Marie was born on 1 August 1700 and was baptized the next day in Beauport. This was 9 months after the wedding and Nicolas was 28 while his wife was 19 and the family was living in Beauport. Marie grew up to marry Jean Falardeau on 23 November 1722 in Charlesbourg. Their marriage contract is recorded by the Notary Dubreuil on 8 November 1722.

Jean Falardeau was the son of Guillaume and Marie Ambroise Bergevin. Jean was born and baptized on 7 November 1694 at Beauport. He was the first of 9 children. Jean's father, Guillaume, had come from France some time before 1694 when he shows up in New France at the age of 25. Guillaume was a soldier in the militia of Saint Jean.

Marie and Jean Falardeau had eleven children.

- 1➤ Jean was born in 1724 and married Angelique Bergeron in 1752.
- 2➤ Pierre was born in 1726 and married Marie Agnes Fluet in 1751.
- 3➤ Marie, a twin, was born in 1728, married Jean Baptiste Roy in 1750 and died in 1756.

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- 4➤ Marie Catherine, a twin, was born in 1728.
 - 5➤ Marie Louise was born in 1730, married Charles Lereau before 1763 and married Joseph Savard in 1763.
 - 6➤ Francoise was born in 1731 and died in 1731.
 - 7➤ Genevieve was born in 1734 and married Joseph Lereau in 1753.
 - 8➤ Helene was born in 1736 and died in 1736.
 - 9➤ Joseph was born in 1738 and married Marie Charlotte deRainville in 1765.
 - 10➤ Marguerite was born in 1740 and married Pierre Martel in 1760.
 - 11➤ Francoise was born in 1744 and died in 1756.

All were born in L'Ancienne-Lorette.

2. Jean Belanger. We know very little of Jean except that he was born 16 February 1702 and died 30 October 1757 at age 55 years.
3. Nicolas Belanger III was born on 4 May 1704 at Bourg Royal and was baptized at Charlesbourg the very same day. He was two years younger than Jean and four years younger than Marie. Nicolas grew up in Charlesbourg in much the same environment as did Jean and Marie.

When Nicolas, named after his father and grandfather, reached the age of 30, he married 29 year old Agnes Cartier on 12 June 1734 in St Joachim in the county of Montmorency in the province of Quebec. Agnes was born around the year 1714 and her parents were Paul Cartier and Agnes Cloutier. Agnes' parents would have been 63 and 65, respectively, when Agnes married Nicolas. Agnes' father, Paul Cartier, died before 1729, however, and was no longer living at Agnes' wedding. Agnes came from a family of four children who were all born and raised at St Joachim.

Nicolas and Agnes Cartier had five children.

Charles was born and christened on 13 April 1735 in Quebec. He died and was buried on 5 May 1735 in Quebec.

Rene was born and christened on 7 November 1737 in Quebec. He died and was buried on 3 November 1738 in Quebec.

Nicolas the 4th was born and christened on 30 January 1739 in Quebec. He died about 1804. He was married to Marguerite Lejeune in January 1768.

Pierre was born and christened on 27 June 1740 in Quebec. He died and was buried on 19 July 1740 in Quebec.

Joseph Marie was born and christened on 5 April 1742 in Quebec. He died and was buried on 11 June 1762 in St Joachim. He was married to Marie Angelique Parent on 13 September 1745 in Beauport. Marie Angelique Parent was born and christened on 4 July 1725 in St Laurent, Montreal. She was actually born in Cote Vertu.

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4. Marie Anne was referred to as Jeanne in the house. Her full name was Marie Anne Jeanne Belanger but, since she had an older sister named Marie, the family called her Jeanne. She was born when Nicolas was two years old, another perfect spacing job by her parents. Jeanne was married at age 27 on 15 April 1733 in Beauport.

Jeanne married 27 year old Pierre Alexis Parant from Beauport. His parents, Charles Parant and Marie Anne Duprac were married in 1699 at age 22 and 20, respectively. Pierre Parant was the third of seven children who were all born and raised at Beauport.

Jeanne and Pierre Alexis Parant had 9 children.

- 1➤ Anonyme, died at childbirth on 6 November 1734 and whose sex was never recorded.
- 2➤ Marie Anne was born 1735 and married Jean Francois Rainville in 1762.
- 3➤ Nicolas was born 1736 and married Marie Louise Marcoux in 1762 and again to Marie Louise Baugis in 1768.
- 4➤ Pierre was born 3 January 1738 and no more information has surfaced.
- 5➤ Genevieve was born 1739 and married Jean Baptiste Proteau in 1762 at Beauport.
- 6➤ Jean was born 12 October 1742 with no other information.
- 7➤ Marguerite was born 1744 and married Louis Joseph Giroux in 1771.
- 8➤ Michel was born 1745 and married Genevieve Gravel (date unknown).
- 9➤ Paul Vincent was born 21 April 1748 in Beauport. No other information available.

5. Louise Ambroise was born 30 January 1708 in Charlesbourg, another two year space. She was baptized on the same day in Charlesbourg. Louise was 43 when she married Florent Paradis, 8 years her junior. There must have been some interesting conversation about a 43 year old woman marrying a 35 year old man. The difference in ages usually worked the other way around.

It is not known why Louise waited so long to be married. Florent Paradis was the son of Andre Jean and Marguerite Menard who were born in 1676 and 1681 respectively. Florent's father died in 1745, before Florent's marriage to Louise. It is not known if his mother was still living but, it is possible as she would only have been 70 years old at the time. Florent was the fourth of five children all born and raised in Beauport.

6. Genevieve was born on 16 May 1709 in Charlesbourg, breaking that perfect two year gap plan in the family growth. She was baptized, in Charlesbourg, on the same day. Genevieve married at 27 years of age on 5 November 1736 to the then 34 year old Charles Menard in Beauport.

It must be noted here that, the children of Nicolas and Marie Magnan seem to all have

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married in their later years, as compared to other families of the day. Marriages generally happened when the daughter was between 17 and 20 years of age and the son 19 to 22. Although not unheard of, marriages for the first time at ages of 25 to 35 were not common.

Charles Menard was the fourth of four children. His brothers and sisters were all born and raised in Beauport, where the family lived. Jacques Menard dit Deslaurieres, the father of Charles Menard, was from the Nantes region of France, came to Beauport where he died on 27 November 1716 at 78 years of age. Charles' mother has more of a story behind her, however. She was Marie Madeleine Baugis, the illegitimate child of Madeleine Dubois. Madeleine Dubois married Michel Baugis on 19 October 1661 in Beauport while she was with child for Marie Madeleine. Marie Madeleine's natural father was Jean Royer and she was born on 7 February 1662 in Quebec, three and a half months after the wedding. Jean Royer was single at the time as he did not marry until his wedding to Marie Targer on 22 November 1663 at Chateau Richer.

Genevieve and Charles Menard had six children.

- 1➤ Marie Genevieve was born in 1737 and married Jean Marie Dumas in 1762.
 - 2➤ Charles was born 26 October 1739 with no other information available.
 - 3➤ Pierre was born 15 April 1741 and died 21 December 1742 at Quebec.
 - 4➤ Anonyme was born and died at birth on 8 December 1742 without having name or sex recorded.
 - 5➤ Joseph was born 31 March 1745 and died 25 July 1753 at Quebec.
 - 6➤ Marie Joseph was born 16 June 1747 at Quebec and married Elias Pleich in 1784.
7. Pierre was born 29 December 1710 in Charlesbourg and died there on 29 April 1711 at four months of age.
8. Helene was born on 26 April 1712 in Charlesbourg and baptized two days later at the same place. At age 30 she married the 26 year old Vincent Giroux at St Valier, on the south side of the river. Although both Helene and Vincent had been born at Charlesbourg and Beauport, on the north side of the river, they married on the south side. It may seem that this is making a big deal out of a small geographic difference but it was a big deal. The river presented a giant gap in daily travel and settling on one side or another was a big move for a family. The Belanger family being traced here made that move to the south side in the earlier generations and continued to travel eastward and southward to New Brunswick and then to the United States in Maine.

Vincent Giroux was the fifth of thirteen children of Noel Giroux and Francoise Marguerite Gallien. Vincent's older brother Pierre married Helene's first cousin Marie Therese, daughter of Paul Belanger and Jeanne Maheu. Marie Therese and Helene had Nicolas Belanger as their grandfather.

Helene and Vincent Giroux had two children.

- 1➤ Pierre was born 1747 and died 3 December 1748 in Beauport, Quebec.

- 2➤ Madeleine was born 1751 and died 28 September 1752 in Beauport, Quebec.
9. Germain was born on 12 May 1714 in Bourg-Royal, Quebec and baptized on 13 May in Charlesbourg. At 30 years of age he married a local girl by the name of Suzanne Proteau who was 27 years old. Suzanne was the daughter of Michel Proteau and Marie Suzanne Bedard of Charlesbourg. Germain's brother, Jacques, married Marie Suzanne's sister, Marie Jeanne Proteau. Two brothers married two sisters, which was not uncommon.

Marie Suzanne was the fifth child of thirteen in her family which lived in Bourg-Royal, Quebec. Her sister Jeanne was three years younger.

Germain and Suzanne Proteau had three children.

- 1➤ Germain was born and christened on 22 May 1748 in Beauport. He died and was buried on 9 June 1748 in Beauport.
- 2➤ Germain was born on 16 Feb 1750 in Beauport, Quebec. He married Marie Raymond on 24 July 1775 in Beauport. Germain Belanger and Marie Raymond had no known children. Germain later married Rose Cyr on 16 February 1778 in Beauport. Germain Belanger and Rose Cyr had no known children. Germain married a third time to Josephte Lippeau on 1 July 1788 in Beauport. Germain Belanger and Josephte Lippeau had no known children.
- 3➤ Jean Baptiste was born and christened on 27 July 1753 in Beauport. He married Judith Chalifour on 27 January 1777 in Charlesbourg.

10. Jean Marie was born 7 December 1716 in Bourg-Royal and was baptized on the same day in Charlesbourg. Jean Marie married twice and had children with both wives.

At age 33 (9 February 1750) he married 27 year old Marie Genevieve Toupin of Beauport in Beauport. She was the eighth of eleven children and her family was from Beauport. Marie Genevieve's parents were Ignace Toupin and Marie Elisabeth Duprac. Jean Marie and Marie Genevieve had five children. It is not known where Francois fits in because we don't have a date of birth. He might have been born first, last or anywhere in between.

Jean Marie and Marie Genevieve Toupin had five children.

- 1➤ Francois married Angelique Proteau in 1778 in Beauport.
- 2➤ Marie Genevieve was born and christened on 12 January 1751 in Beauport, Quebec. She died and was buried on 27 July 1769 in Beauport.
- 3➤ Marie Louise was born and christened on 13 June 1753 in Beauport.
- 4➤ Jean Marie was born and christened on 18 April 1755 in Beauport. He married Angelique Proteau on 9 February 1778 in Charlesbourg.

11. Pierre Vincent was born and christened on 26 June 1759 in Charlesbourg. He died and was buried on 8 October 1759 in Beauport.

Jean Marie married, for the second time, Marie Louise Trudelle on 5 Aug 1763 in Beauport. Marie Louise Trudelle was born and christened in 1732.

Jean Marie and Marie Louise Trudelle had 1 child.

- 1➤ Pierre was born on 4 December 1765 in Beauport. He married Louise Bourret on 24 January 1791 in Charlesbourg, Quebec.

As you can see, above, we have Francois and Jean Marie both married to Angelique Proteau in 1778 in Beauport. Although it is certainly possible that two brothers married wives with the same name in the same year, it is not likely. It is more probable that Jean Marie and Francois are the same person. In any case, Marie Genevieve Toupin died sometime after the birth of her last child and the Fall of 1763 and that left Jean Marie with a ten year old child.

On 5 August 1763 Jean Marie married for a second time to 31 year old Marie Louise Trudelle. At age 47, Jean Marie was not too old to remarry and raise a new family. He and Marie Louise had only one child, however. Pierre was born on 4 December 1765 in Beauport and grew up to marry Louise Bourret on 24 January 1791.

12. Pierre was born on 1 June 1719 in Bourg Royal, Charlesbourg. The main part of the city, the commercial part, was usually called the Bourg Royal. The only other information we have about Pierre is that he was buried on 8 January 1743 in Montreal. We must assume he died either that day or just a day or so before, according to the custom of burial at the time. He must have moved west as a young adult and the records available don't shed any light on his life.
13. Jacques was born 3 August 1721 in Charlesbourg and baptized there on the same day. He married Marie Jeanne Proteau in Charlesbourg on 1 September 1749. Her name should sound familiar to you as she was mentioned earlier in the marriage of Germain as the sister of Germain's wife Suzanne. Marie Jeanne was born on 10 July 1720 and her parents were Michel Proteau and Marie Suzanne Bedard.

Jacques and Marie Jeanne Proteau had eleven children.

- 1➤ Jean Baptiste married Genevieve Parent in 1790 and Francoise Grenier in 1795.
- 2➤ Genevieve married Gabriel Lemieux about 1782.
- 3➤ Jacques was born 25 February 1751 in Beauport and married Elisabeth Rageot in 1785.
- 4➤ Marie Jeanne was born 10 June 1752 in Beauport, Quebec.
- 5➤ Nicolas was born 13 January 1754 in Beauport and married Marie Anne Boucher in 1785.
- 6➤ Charles was born 4 November 1755 in Beauport and married Marguerite Parent in 1784.
- 7➤ Vincent was born 6 July 1757 in Beauport and married Marie Vezina in 1787.
- 8➤ Marie Jeanne was born 18 June 1759 in Charlesbourg.
- 9➤ Marie Louise was born 6 March 1761 in Beauport, Quebec.
- 10➤ Marie Elisabeth was born 15 October 1762 in Beauport, Quebec.
- 11➤ Jean Toussaint was born 23 July 1765 in Beauport, Quebec.

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14. Angelique Belanger. Before we end the history of the children in this family, we must mention Angelique. It is not certain where Angelique fits in with the other children but we have reason to believe that she was another of the children in this family. Her exact date of birth is not known and the works of Rene Jette don't even mention her. The genealogical information produced by Tanguay, however, lists Angelique, the daughter of Nicolas and Marie Magnan, in a record of marriage to Joseph Baudet. Even the corrections to Tanguay list Angelique as the daughter of Nicolas and Marie Magnan and married to Joseph Baudet on 8 October 1747 with a marriage contract recorded by the Notary Choret.

MARIE GENEVIEVE GAGNE

The next document found on Ignace⁵ is the record of his wedding on 14 November 1746 at St Valier in PRDH Reference books Volume 22 (Notre Dame de Beauport records 1730-1749). This shows Ignace to be a resident of Beauport, he spells his name with one "L" (Bélanger) and his bride is Genevieve Gagne who is a resident of L'Assomption de Berthier. The document further states that his father, Nicolas, is deceased⁶ and so is his bride's mother, Genevieve Fournier. Ignace's mother is listed as Marie Magnan but she is not present at the ceremony. The father of the bride, Pierre Gagne, is there as is a witness by the name of Guillaume Guillemette. The wedding ceremony is performed by Father Leclair, the local parish priest.

The marriage contract between Ignace and Marie Genevieve is recorded in the records of the notary Michon, on 13 November 1746. At 23 years of age, Ignace seems a bit young in contrast to his brothers who seem to have all married at about age 30. No link has been shown between the family of Ignace and the existing turmoil of the Acadians during this period. In 1749 and 1750 those Acadians who had not fled to Ile St Jean and Ile Royale, not far from the fortress of Louisbourg, were exiled to the American colonies and to France. As we see, a little later, Ignace and Marie Genevieve move to the south side of the river.

The Gagne family also came from Orne in France. Marie Genevieve's great grandfather was Pierre (the son of Louis and Marie Launay) and he was baptized in 1610 in France. He died in 1656 in St Anne de Beauport. His son Louis, the grandfather of Marie Genevieve, had a concession in the seigneurie Gamache under Nicolas Gamache in 1672. This same Nicolas Gamache is connected to this writer's tenth grandchild, Nicolas Gamache born 15 July 1996, as the first Gamache ancestor in New France. Interestingly enough, if one traces the family ancestry on Irene Michaud (my mother) on the paternal side, the Michaud line goes back to this very same Nicolas Gamache.

MARIE GENEVIEVE GAGNE BROTHERS AND SISTERS

15. Marie Genevieve Gagne was the daughter of Pierre Gagne and Genevieve Fournier. Her grandfather was Louis Gagne Sieur de la Fresnaye (dit Belleavance). He was given a piece of land in the Seigneurie Gamache with Nicolas Gamache on 03 November 1672. To this concession was added another piece of land on 03 September 1675. All of this was left to his son Alexis on 1 November 1689 except that he kept the western part on the Fief Lafresnaye. His son Alexis was born 27 October 1680 and married Catherine Cloutier in 1702.

⁵Ignace was 23 years of age

⁶Buried in Beauport on 12 April 1742

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16. Pierre was born 1714 and married Genevieve Letourneau on 20 October 1738 at St Laurent on the Isle of Orleans. Pierre and Genevieve had three boys and three girls between 1740 and 1757 at St Pierre du Sud.
 17. Brigitte married Charles Quemleur dit LaFlamme sometime before 1748 since Charles remarried to Marie Josephe Vermet on 22 February 1748. When looking up the family of Charles, be aware that the family name was often spelled Quemeneur. Brigitte Gagne died before 1748 but the date is not certain. There were no records of any children born to Brigitte and Charles.
 18. Alexis, date of birth not found, married Marie Catherine Boucher on 25 November 1743 at Berthier. He and Marie Catherine had three boys and one girl between 1749 and 1757. Alexis was killed in the war in 1759.
 19. Barthelemi married Marie Marthe Malboeuf on 7 April 1750 at St Pierre du Sud in the county of Montmagny. Barthelemi and Marie Marthe had two boys between 1751 and 1753 at St Francois du Sud and St Pierre du Sud.
 20. Marie Joseph married Jean Moise Morin on 23 November 1750 at St Michel in the county of Bellechasse. Marie and Jean had four girls and one boy between 1751 and 1759 and all were born at St Pierre du Sud.
 21. Joseph Toussaint married Marie Louise Blais on 14 November 1757 at Berthier sur Mer, Montmagny, Quebec. They had two girls and a boy between 1760 and 1764 at Cap St Ignace. Marie Louise Blais and Marguerite Blais, the wife of Ambroise, were cousins. Their fathers were brothers.
 22. Ambroise married Marguerite Blais on 11 February 1765 at Berthier sur Mer. Ambroise and Marguerite had one boy in December of 1765 at Levis. They may have had other children after that. Marguerite was the cousin of Marie Louise Blais, above.

MOVE TO THE SOUTH

As we know, Nicolas Belanger was involved in the fishing industry as well as in farming. Crossing the river to the south side must have been as natural to Nicolas and his son, Ignace as driving to the next town for shopping is to us today. As was mentioned earlier, Ignace's grandfather had owned some land on the Isle of Orleans and this was half way to the south side of the river. Without a doubt, this is what brought Ignace to the south shore of the river and to become acquainted with the Gagne family and especially with Marie Genevieve. Marie was born the fourth of eight children.

Marie Genevieve's family lived and married in the towns of St Vallier, Berthier sur Mer, St Pierre du Sud, Cap St Ignace and Montmagny. It is not known how Ignace met Marie Genevieve but they were married in her home town, St Vallier. St Vallier is just off the river and is considered one of the river bank towns. The community, in 1995, is still very small and agricultural in makeup. It has a big stone church, as do most communities in the area. The Trans-Canada highway bypasses the town but even the old highway does. You need to turn off the through road to enter the town of St Vallier. Marie's family often frequented the Isle of Orleans, half way between Beauport and their

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village of Berthier sur Mer and St Michel and St Pierre. The Isle of Orleans is not very far from this side of the river at this point.

The migration of Ignace across the river and Pierre to St Roch des Aulnaies, to the east, starts a progression East and South for the Belanger family. We trace their roots from Beauport to St Val-lier, St Roch des Aulnaies, St Pascal, St Alexandre, L'Isle Verte and then to New Brunswick. That explains the relatives many of us remember in Riviere du Loup and that area, especially in the Gagnon family.

1745 - 1747

Gathering information on Ignace has been mostly through notarial records. On 28 January 1745 we find a record by notary Pierre Rousselot which shows the seigneur of L'Islet, Joseph Couillard, conveying a concession of land to Ignace. This concession had three arpents of frontage and forty two arpents in depth. Ignace and his heirs were obliged to pay the usual cens and rente to the seigneur for the use of this land. Ignace was to pay the seigneur, on the 11th of November each year, the sum of twenty sols of money of France and three sols in rente for each arpent. He also had to clear the land and plant grain. As part of the concession, Ignace had to clear roads necessary to haul wood out of the concession to the seigneurial manor which Ignace had to supply. The wood taken from the roadway as well as the stones had to be taken to the location of the seigneurial manor to help in its construction as well as the construction of the church and the mill. The seigneur gave Ignace the right of fishing and hunting in the seigneurie of L'Islet. This agreement was signed by J. Caron, Ignace Belanger and the notary. Copies of the original document are part of the manuscript for this book.

On 3 November 1746 we find Ignace is before the notary Abel Michon in a matter where his future brother in law, Alexis Gagne conveys some land to Ignace. It is not clear where Alexis Gagne obtained this land but Ignace was to pay for it with an annual payment in wheat. This transaction between Ignace and the brother of his future wife was just before Ignace and Genevieve entered into a marriage contract before the same notary on 13 November 1746.

On 30 May 1747 we find another contract before notary Pierre Rousselot. This time the action was an exchange of property between Ignace and his brother Jacques. In this record, Ignace is listed as a farmer of the parish of L'Islet as is his brother Jacques. The land in question was three rods of frontage and forty two arpents in depth. This certainly sounds like the same land conveyed to Ignace on 28 January 1745. The document goes on to say that this property is located in the seigneurie of L'Islet. In exchange, Ignace was to receive a similar piece of land which Jacques had acquired from his other brother, Joseph, who had received it from Joseph Couillard. Each brother agreed to make the exchange as an even transaction with no money exchange or recourse.

There is little information on Ignace between 1746 and 1755. We do know that he must have been awed at the news of a fire that destroyed Trois Rivieres in two days in 1752. It appears a soldier named Pierre Beaudoin dit Dumberland felt the town had imprisoned him unjustly and admitted to setting the blaze. Fires were feared and hard to fight in these early years. Many fires plagued the Montreal and Quebec regions.

1758

11 March 1758 marks the burial of Ignace's mother, Marie Magnan. She was buried in Beauport where she must have been living since her husband Nicolas's death in 1742. Marie was born on 2

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Ignace & Marie Genevieve Gagne had 9 children.

- 1➤ Francois married Marie Louise Morissette 12 June 1786 in St Michel.
- 2➤ Marie Reine married Pierre Bélanger 17 October 1786.
- 3➤ Ignace II was born 27 September 1747, married Angelique Ouellet 3 October 1774 at St Anne de la Pocatiere, married Catherine Soulard 27 October 1777 at St Roch des Aulnaies and married Marie Louise Gauvin on 21 September 1802 at St Louis de Kamouraska.
- 4➤ Marie Marguerite was born 25 November 1749, married Isaac Langlois on 11 January 1773 at St Pierre du Sud and married Joseph Pelletier 27 August 1810 at Montmagny.
- 5➤ Marie Genevieve was born 20 October 1751, married Francois Vaillancourt in 1770 and married Louis Marie Picard 11 January 1773 at St Pierre de la Riviere Sud.
- 6➤ Marie Francoise was born 29 April 1753 and married Augustin Morin 17 Sept 1779 at St Pierre de la Riviere Sud.
- 7➤ Jean Baptiste was born 25 March 1755 and married Marie Reine Boulet on 8 October 1785 at St Francois du Sud.
- 8➤ Marie Anne was born 18 March 1757 and married Alexis Morin 3 August 1784 at St Pierre du Sud.
- 9➤ **Pierre was born 2 March 1759 and married Marie Marthe Gervais dit Talbot on 18 June 1781 at St Roch des Aulnaies.**

Pedigree Chart

Chart no. _____

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. _____ on chart no. _____

2 Nicolas Belanger

B: 12 Jan 1672
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que
M: 2 Nov 1699
P: Charlesbourg, Quebec, Que
D: 12 Apr 1742
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que

1 Ignace Belanger

B: 8 Feb 1723
P: Charlesbourg, Quebec, Que
M: 14 Nov 1746
P: St Vallier, Bellechasse, Que
D: 21 Jan 1797
P: Montmagny, Que

M Genevieve Gagne

Spouse

3 Marie Magnan dit Mignier

B: 2 Mar 1681
P: Bourg Royal at Charlesbourg, Que
D: abt 11 Mar 1758
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que

4 Nicolas Belanger

B: abt 1638
P: Pont L'Eveque, Calvados, France
M: 11 Jan 1660
P: ND de Quebec, Quebec, Que
D: 19 Oct 1682
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que

5 Marie Rainville (de)

B: abt 1645
P: Touques, Normandie, France
D: 6 Nov 1711
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que

6 Jacques Magnan

B: abt 31 Mar 1636
P: France
M: 14 Oct 1669
P: Quebec, Quebec Co, Que
D: abt 21 Dec 1713
P: Charlesbourg, Quebec, Que

7 Ambroise Doigt

B: abt 1644
P: France
D: 19 Feb 1709
P: Charlesbourg, Quebec, Que

8 Francois Belanger

B: 7 Oct 1612
P: Touque, Normandy, France
M: 12 Jul 1637
P: ND de Quebec, Quebec, Que
D: bet 1687 and 1691
P: L'Islet sur Mer, L'Islet, Que

9 Marie Guyon

B: 18 Mar 1624
P: Mortagne, Perche, Orne, France
D: 29 Aug 1696
P:

10 Paul Rainville (de)

B: 1619
P: Lisieux, Normandy, France
M: abt 1638
P: Touques, Normandie, France
D: 10 Dec 1686
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que

11 Rolline Poette dit Poite

B: abt 1619
P:
D: 16 Feb 1666
P: Beauport, Quebec, Que

12 Gilles Magnan

B:
P: France
M:
P: France
D:
P:

13 Jeanne Touchette

B:
P: France
D:
P:

14 Nicolas Doigt

B:
P:
M:
P: France
D:
P:

15 Perrine Alain

B:
P: France
D:
P:

Prepared 25 Oct 1997 by:

Jim Belanger
32 Plain Road
Hollis, NH 03049

Family Group Record

Page 1

Husband Ignace Belanger		
Birth	8 Feb 1723	Charlesbourg, Quebec, Que
Chr	9 Feb 1723	Charlesbourg, Quebec, Que
Death	21 Jan 1797	St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
Marriage	14 Nov 1746	St Vallier, Bellechasse, Que
Father	Nicolas Belanger (b 12 Jan 1672)	
Mother	Marie Magnan dit Mignier (b 2 Mar 1681)	
Wife M Genevieve Gagne		
Father	Pierre Gagne (b 30 Sep 1693)	
Mother	Genevieve Fournier (b 9 Jan 1698)	
Children		
1	M Francois Belanger	
	Birth	abt 1762
	Death	8 Jan 1834 St Michel, Bellechasse, Que
	Spouse	M Louise Morissette (m 12 Jun 1786)
2	F M Reine Belanger	
	Death	bef 28 Oct 1799
	Spouse	Pierre Belanger (m 17 Oct 1786)
3	M Ignace Belanger	
	Birth	27 Sep 1747 Berthier sur Mer, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	27 Sep 1747 Berthier sur Mer, Montmagny, Que
	Spouse	Angelique Ouellet (m 2 Oct 1774)
	Spouse	Catherine Soulard (m 27 Oct 1777)
	Spouse	M Louise Gauvin (m 21 Sep 1802)
4	F M Marguerite Belanger	
	Birth	25 Nov 1749 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	25 Nov 1749 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Spouse	Isaac Langlois (m 11 Jan 1773)
	Spouse	Joseph Pelletier (m 27 Aug 1810)
5	F M Genevieve Belanger	
	Birth	20 Oct 1751 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	20 Oct 1751 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Spouse	Francois Xavier Vaillancourt (m 1770)
	Spouse	Louis Marie Picard (m 11 Jan 1773)
6	F M Francoise Belanger	
	Birth	29 Apr 1753 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	29 Apr 1753 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Death	28 Dec 1837 St Michel, Bellechasse, Que
	Spouse	Augustin Morin (m 17 Sep 1779)
7	M Jean Baptiste Belanger	
	Birth	25 Mar 1755 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	25 Mar 1755 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Death	22 Feb 1841 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Spouse	M Reine Boulet (m 8 Oct 1785)
8	F M Anne Belanger	
	Birth	18 Mar 1757 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	18 Mar 1757 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Spouse	Alexis Morin (m 3 Aug 1784)
9	M Pierre Belanger	
	Birth	2 Mar 1759 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Chr	2 Mar 1759 St Pierre de la Riviere du Sud, Montmagny, Que
	Death	17 Mar 1834 St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que
	Burial	19 Mar 1834 St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que
	Spouse	Marthe Talbot-Gervais (m 18 Jun 1781)
Prepared 25 Oct 1997 by: Jim Belanger 32 Plain Road Hollis, NH 03049 603 465-2301		Comments:

Pedigree Chart

Chart no. _____

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. _____ on chart no. _____

2 Pierre Gagne

B: 30 Sep 1693
P: Cap St Ignace, Montmagny Co, Que
M: 13 Oct 1715
P: Riviere du Sud, Que
D: abt 4 Feb 1775
P: Berthier sur Mer, Montmagny, Que

1 M Genevieve Gagne

B:
P:
M: 14 Nov 1746
P: St Vallier, Bellechasse, Que
D:
P:

Ignace Belanger

Spouse

3 Genevieve Fournier

B: 9 Jan 1698
P: Montmagny, Montmagny Co, Que
D:
P:

4 Louis Gagne

B: 28 Jan 1643
P: St Come de Vair, France
M: 4 Oct 1673
P: Montmorency, Quebec
D: abt 24 Jun 1698
P: Quebec

5 Louise Picard

B: 29 Sep 1659
P: Quebec
D:
P:

6 Simon Fournier

B: 27 Apr 1667
P: Quebec
M: 12 Nov 1691
P: St Pierre, Isle Orleans, Que
D:
P:

7 M Anne Catherine Rousseau

B: 19 Jul 1668
P: Isle Orleans, Quebec, Que
D:
P:

8 Pierre Gagne

B: abt 2 Jan 1610
P: St Martin d'Iger, Perche, Orne, France
M: abt 1639
P: St Come de Vair, France
D: 30 Apr 1656
P: Montmorency, Quebec

9 Marguerite Rosee

B: abt 1615
P:
D:
P:

10 Jean Picard

B: abt 1635
P:
M: 28 Jul 1656
P: Quebec
D: abt 29 Nov 1700
P: Quebec

11 Marie Caron

B:
P:
D: 9 Jun 1660
P: Quebec

12 Guillaume Fournier

B: abt 1619
P: Normandie, France
M: 20 Nov 1651
P: Quebec
D: 24 Oct 1699
P: Montmagny, Montmagny Co, Que

13 Francoise Hebert

B: abt 23 Jan 1638
P: Quebec
D: abt 16 Mar 1716
P: Montmagny, Montmagny Co, Que

14 Thomas Rousseau

B: bet 1626 and 1632
P: Potiers, France
M: 5 Oct 1667
P: Quebec
D: aft 26 Jul 1716
P: Montmagny, Que

15 Madeleine Olivier

B: abt 1637
P:
D: 21 Apr 1690
P: St Laurent, Isle Orleans, Que

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