

# CHAPTER NINE

## JOSEPH-MARIE BÉLANGER

1797-1884

*Joseph Marie Belanger was born 4 April 1797 at St Roch des Aulnaies, Quebec and was christened there on 5 April 1797. He died 22 November 1884 at St Alexandre, Quebec and was buried there on 24 November 1884. He married Baselisse Dufour on 12 June 1820 at St Roch des Aulnaies.*



THE ANCIENT PROVINCES OF FRANCE

## KAMOURASKA

Kamouraska, is a small village on the south shore of the St Lawrence river between Montmagny and Riviere-du-Loup. The seigneurie of Kamouraska was granted in 1674 to Olivier Morel de Ladurantaye (1640-1716), who sold it, in 1680, to Charles Aubert de Lachesnaye (1632-1702).

The first parish, St Louis de Kamouraska, was founded in 1727. The parish municipality of St Louis de Kamouraska, was established in 1845. The village of Kamouraska became a separate municipality in 1858. Other parishes and municipalities that have developed from Kamouraska are St Joseph de Kamouraska, Ste Helene de Kamouraska, St Germain de Kamouraska and St Pascal de Kamouraska.

Joseph Marie was born just before the final defeat of the British army at Yorktown in 1781. Although primarily a conflict between the thirteen colonies and the mother land, this revolution redefined the boundaries of present day Canada. At the end of the American revolution there was a very strong desire, on the part of England, to negotiate a peace. England made many concessions which included giving up much French territory in the Montreal - Detroit area. The newly formed America contained many French strongholds. The main land route between Quebec and Nova Scotia, the Temiscouata portage, was almost cut off by the extension of present day Maine into the territory of New France. Maine was allowed to extend so far North that it almost cut Nova Scotia off from Quebec.

The end of the American revolution did not convert English loyalists and they migrated away from the thirteen colonies in order to continue living under British rule. This brought as many as 40,000 to Quebec and Nova Scotia. These loyalists had suffered persecution and loss of their land so it was not surprising to see them follow the British Flag. When the British army left Boston for Halifax, they were followed by thousands. One description of the exodus said, "All is uproar and confusion; carts, trucks, wheelbarrows, handbarrows, coaches, chaises, all driving as if the very devil was after them."<sup>1</sup>

The English Loyalists who migrated to Quebec did not find life to be easy. Wheat Midge, a disease which caused the destruction of the wheat crop, was running wild in the 1830s. By 1840, it had caused the wheat crop to be reduced by 60%. These were the same years during which the potato blight devastated the potato crop. The potato crop was about half its normal level between 1844 and 1851 as a result of this blight. Many farmers were forced to move and those that remained wished they could have done the same.

Joseph lived during those trying times, in the 1860's, where war almost broke out again between Britain and the United States. The Americans and Canadians of the day distrusted each other and many a conflict arose out of this distrust. This set the mood for years to come where a self respecting Canadian would not be known as an American and when a Canadian migrated to America, he tried to remain anonymous and gather as little attention as possible. It took many years for this attitude to dissolve. As late as 1867, when the United States bought Alaska from Russia, there was talk about annexing Canada which was strongly opposed by the Canadians.

## JOSEPH MARIE'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS

1. Jeremie married Adelaide Deschenes on 10 August 1819 at St Roch des Aulnaies.

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<sup>1</sup> Building the Canadian Nation by George Brown, P.135



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2. Firmin was born and christened in 1785 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He married Louise Ouellette on 4 November 1817 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  3. Pierre was born and christened in 1785 at St Roch des Aulnaies and died there in 1859. He married Ursule Morin on 21 February 1848 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  4. Jean Baptiste was born and christened in 1788 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He married Lucie Caron on 22 April 1823 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He was married to Theotiste Pelletier on 19 October 1830 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  5. Francois was born and christened in 1788 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He married Angélique Marier on 24 January 1814 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  6. Joseph Marie was born on 4 April 1797 and christened on 5 April 1797 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He died on 22 November 1884 at St Alexandre, Quebec and was buried there on 24 November 1884. He married Baselisse Dufour 12 June 1820 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  7. Joseph Belanger. There is some reason to believe that Joseph Marie had a brother named Joseph. A quick search through the original handwritten records of the Parish of St Roch, with the help of the local parish priest on 19 July 1995, reveals no mention of a Joseph (except for Joseph Marie) as a child of Pierre and Marthe Gervais.
  8. Celestin was born and christened in 1800 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He married Charlotte Dionne on 20 February 1827 at St Anne de la Pocatiere, Kamouraska. He married Anastasie Morin 16 January 1844 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  9. Julie was born and christened in 1803 at St Roch des Aulnaies. She married Michel Morin on 30 June 1819 at St Roch des Aulnaies. Julie Belanger and Michel Morin had no known children.
  10. Constance was born and christened in 1805 at St Roch des Aulnaies. She married Jean Baptiste Langlois on 18 February 1822 at St Roch des Aulnaies.
  11. Alexis was born 18 January 1808 at Saint Roch des Aulnaies, Lower Canada. He died at Sandy Point, Newfoundland on 7 September 1868 at the age of 60. It is said that Alexis was the youngest of a family of 16 children<sup>2</sup>. When Alexis was growing up he was rather frail and it was thought that he would never be able to work the land. He was encouraged to attend the College of St Anne de la Pocatiere in 1829. The College had just recently opened on 1 October 1829 and he studied the humanities. Alexis left the college in 1832 and spent three more years at the Grand Seminaire de Quebec until he was ordained a priest by Bishop Joseph Signay on 19 September 1835. His first assignment was at Baie du Febvre (now called Baieville) in 1836. After that "on the job training" he was appointed the parish priest at St Marie de la Nouvelle Beauce (Sainte Marie).

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<sup>2</sup> Rene Belanger, Rene Baudry, "L'Abbe Alexis Belanger, missionnaire", SHEC Rapport, 25 (1957-58), 103-9.

By 1839, Abbe Belanger, was assigned as a missionary priest to the Iles de la Madeleine with a population of 1,380. He arrived among these Acadian people in October by schooner and served there until 1845. With the Acadian turmoil during the period, Alexis wanted to be closer to his "flock" so he spent the winter of 1849-1850 at Rustico, Prince Edward Island and Caraquet, New Brunswick. The archbishop of Quebec gave him permission to minister to his Acadians in Labrador and the west coast of Newfoundland.

Arriving at St George's Bay on 7 September 1850, Alexis presented himself to the bishop of Newfoundland, John Thomas Mullock. The main village of the area was Sandy Point and this is where Alexis set up his base of operations to minister to the fishing population along the west coast. His home and chapel were both log cabin style. He didn't only stay in the local area, however, as he took two month missionary trips to travel to the lower region of the north shore of the Gulf of St Lawrence which was in his diocese until early 1853.

Sandy Point was isolated and Alexis found encouragement and a good deal of help from his colleagues at Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton Island and the islands of St Pierre and Miquelon. From these other priests, he received books from France and regularly corresponded with them in letters.

The demanding lifestyle and the hardships endured from living in an isolated area took its toll on Alexis. He had never been strong and his health deteriorated until he died on 7 September 1868, the 18th anniversary of the day he arrived on the French Shore of Newfoundland. Alexis always said he wanted to be buried at St Roch des Aulnaies so his body was transported there for burial on the 29th of September 1868.

#### Joseph Marie and Baselisse Dufour had 15 children.

- 1➤ Pierre married Marie Guy on 19 July 1853 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Quebec. Pierre Belanger and Marie Guy had no known children.
- 2➤ Alphonse married Philomene Carrier on 31 July 1860 at St Roch des Aulnaies. He died on 30 March 1911 at L'Isle Verte.
- 3➤ Timothee married Adelaide Moreau on 7 July 1858 at Notre Dame du Portage. Timothee Belanger and Adelaide Moreau had no known children.
- 4➤ Euchariste Belanger
- 5➤ Francois Belanger
- 6➤ Magloire Belanger
- 7➤ Genevieve married Benjamin Chouinard on 20 January 1857 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska. Genevieve Belanger and Benjamin Chouinard had no known children.
- 8➤ Thais married Elzear Lavoie on 3 March 1862 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska. Thais Belanger and Elzear Lavoie had no known children.
- 9➤ Arthemise married Prosper Pelletier on 30 October 1865 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska.
- 10➤ Calixte married Arthemise Gauthier on 5 November 1872 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska. Calixte Belanger and Arthemise Gauthier had no known children.
- 11➤ Victoire married Pascal Dumont on 15 February 1858 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska. Victoire Belanger and Pascal Dumont had no known children.



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- 12➤ Domitilde married Adolphe Pelletier on 4 Oct 1842 at St Andre, Kamouraska, Quebec. Domitilde Belanger and Adolphe Pelletier had no known children.
- 13➤ Narcisse was born about 1820. He died on 29 March 1891 at St Alexandre, Quebec and was buried there. He married Marie Rosalie Leclerc on 3 August 1847 at St Louis, Kamouraska, Quebec. Marie Rosalie Leclerc was born about 1839 and died on 25 February 1923 at St Alexandre. She was buried at St Alexandre.
- 14➤ Damase was born and christened in June 1830. He died on 5 May 1927 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Quebec and was buried there on 7 May 1927. He married Georgiana Modeste Pelletier on 22 July 1862 at St Pascal, Kamouraska. Georgiana Modeste Pelletier was born and baptized in 1842. She died on 31 October 1882 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Quebec and was buried there on 2 November 1882.
- Damase also married Emma Nadeau on 21 April 1884 at St Alexandre, Kamouraska. Emma Nadeau was born in 1842 and died in 1923 at St Alexandre and was buried there. Damase Belanger and Emma Nadeau had no known children.
- 15➤ Adolphe was born about 1843 and died on 16 December 1913 at St Alexandre. He married Henriette Michaud on 7 September 1868 at St Andre, Kamouraska. Adolphe Belanger and Henriette Michaud had no known children.

# Family Group Record

Page 1

## Husband Joseph Marie Belanger

Birth	4 Apr 1797	St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que
Chr	5 Apr 1797	St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que
Residence	22 Jul 1862	St Alexandre at the marriage of Damase to Georgianna Pelletier.
Death	22 Nov 1884	St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que
Burial	24 Nov 1884	St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que
Marriage	12 Jun 1820	St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que
Father	Pierre Belanger (b 2 Mar 1759)	
Mother	Marthe Talbot-Gervais (b 10 Sep 1764)	

## Wife Baselisse Dufour

Birth		
Father	Pierre Dufour (b 9 Jan 1769)	
Mother	M Josette Audet dit Lapointe (b 17 Aug 1773)	

## Children

- 1 M **Pierre Belanger**  
Spouse Marie Guy (m 19 Jul 1853)
- 2 M **Alphonse Belanger**  
Death 30 Mar 1911 Ile Verte, Riviere du Loup, Que  
Spouse Philomene Carrier (m 31 Jul 1860)
- 3 M **Timothee Belanger**  
Spouse Adelaide Moreau (m 7 Jul 1858)
- 4 M **Euchariste Belanger**  
Spouse Arthemise Gauthier
- 5 M **Francois Belanger**
- 6 M **Magloire Belanger**
- 7 F **Genevieve Belanger**  
Spouse Benjamin Chouinard (m 20 Jan 1857)
- 8 F **Thais Belanger**  
Spouse Elzear Lavoie (m 3 Mar 1862)
- 9 F **Arthemise Belanger**  
Spouse Prosper Pelletier (m 30 Oct 1865)
- 10 M **Calixte Belanger**  
Spouse Arthemise Gauthier (m 5 Nov 1872)
- 11 F **Victoire Belanger**  
Spouse Pascal Dumont (m 15 Feb 1858)
- 12 F **Domitilde Belanger**  
Spouse Adolphe Pelletier (m 4 Oct 1842)
- 13 M **Narcisse Belanger**  
Birth abt 1820  
Death 29 Mar 1891 St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que  
Burial St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que  
Spouse M Rosalie Leclerc (m 3 Aug 1849)
- 14 M **Damase Belanger**  
Birth 27 May 1830 St Andre, Kamouraska, Que  
Chr 28 May 1830 St Andre, Kamouraska, Que  
Residence 2 Oct 1900 St Alexandre when Alice married Viateur Roy-Lauzier  
Death 5 May 1927 St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que  
Burial 7 May 1927 St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que  
Spouse Georgiana Modeste Pelletier (m 22 Jul 1862)  
Spouse Emma Nadeau (m 21 Apr 1884)
- 15 M **Adolphe Belanger**  
Birth abt 1843  
Death 16 Dec 1913 St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que  
Spouse Henriette Michaud (m 7 Sep 1868)
- 16 F **Virginie Belanger**  
Spouse Paul Laplante dit Labouris (m 7 Jan 1852)

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Comments:

# Pedigree Chart

Chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Pierre Belanger

B: 2 Mar 1759  
P: Montmagny, Que  
M: 18 Jun 1781  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D: 17 Mar 1834  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que

## 1 Joseph Marie Belanger

B: 4 Apr 1797  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
M: 12 Jun 1820  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D: 22 Nov 1884  
P: St Alexandre, Kamouraska, Que

## Baselisse Dufour

Spouse

## 3 Marthe Talbot-Gervais

B: 10 Sep 1764  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D:  
P:

## 4 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

## 5 M Genevieve Gagne

B:  
P:  
D:  
P:

## 6 Pierre Talbot-Gervais

B:  
P:  
M: 12 Jul 1763  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D:  
P:

## 7 M Marthe Pelletier

B: 6 Jun 1745  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D:  
P:

## 8 Nicolas Belanger

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

## 9 Marie Magnan dit Mignier

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

## 10 Pierre Gagne

B: 30 Sep 1693 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
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

## 11 Genevieve Fournier

B: 9 Jan 1698 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: Montmagny, Montmagny Co, Que  
D:  
P:

## 12 Simon Talbot

B: 27 Oct 1702 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: St Thomas, Montmagny, Que  
M: 27 Jul 1734  
P: St Vallier, Bellechasse, Que  
D:  
P:

## 13 Therese Allaire

B: 21 May 1713 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que  
D:  
P:

## 14 Jean Bernard Pelletier

B: 10 Jan 1712 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: Riviere Ouelle, Kamouraska, Que  
M: 2 Nov 1738  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D:  
P:

## 15 M Marthe Brisson

B: 5 Dec 1719 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: St Anne de la Pocatiere, Kamouraska, Que  
D:  
P:

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# Pedigree Chart

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

Chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Pierre Dufour

B: 9 Jan 1769  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que  
M: 29 Apr 1792  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que  
D:  
P:

## 1 Baselisse Dufour

B:  
P:  
M: 12 Jun 1820  
P: St Roch des Aulnaies, L'Islet, Que  
D:  
P:

## Joseph Marie Belanger

Spouse

## 3 M Josette Audet dit Lapointe

B: 17 Aug 1773  
P:  
D:  
P:

## 4 Gabriel Dufour

B:  
P:  
M: 9 Jun 1756  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que  
D:  
P:

## 5 Madeleine Boissonnault

B: 7 Oct 1737  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que  
D:  
P:

## 6 Pierre Audet dit Lapointe

B: 14 May 1736  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que  
M: 8 Oct 1764  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que  
D:  
P:

## 7 Madeleine Louise Bouchard

B: abt 16 Apr 1743  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que  
D:  
P:

## 8 Gabriel Robert Dufour

B: \_\_\_\_\_ cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: France  
M: 26 Aug 1703  
P: Charlevoix, Que (St Francois Xavier)  
D: bef 26 Jun 1720  
P: St Joachim, Que

## 9 Louise Gagne

B: 20 Sep 1683 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: Baie St Paul, Charlevoix Ouest, Que  
D:  
P:

## 10 Jean Bte Boissonnault

B: 1708 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P:  
M: 9 Feb 1736  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que  
D: abt 4 Apr 1753  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que

## 11 Josephthe Demeules

B: \_\_\_\_\_ cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P:  
D:  
P:

## 12 Joseph Audet

B: \_\_\_\_\_ cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P:  
M: 5 Nov 1725  
P: St Jean, Isle Orleans, Que  
D:  
P:

## 13 M Charlotte Jahan

B: 10 Aug 1709 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: Quebec  
D: bef 1753  
P:

## 14 Jacques Bouchard

B: abt 8 Jan 1713 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: Baie St Paul, Charlevoix Ouest, Que  
M: 13 Nov 1741  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que  
D: 18 May 1772  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que

## 15 Louise Francoise Rousset

B: abt 24 Jul 1724 cont. \_\_\_\_\_  
P: Ile Aux Coudres, Charlevoix, Que  
D:  
P:

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