



Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière's family

by: Huguette Levasseur

This is a family photo that always fascinated me in my youth. It was stored in one of the extensions of my parents' home. I had lost sight of it but later found it in my paternal grandmother's belongings, long after her death.

This photo, taken in 1903, is a photo of the couple, Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière with their twelve children. They were married on October 3, 1826 in Bécancour. Marguerite's paternal grandfather was Joseph Potche/Larivière. He was of German origin.

Children's photo - Front: Clarisse, Céline, Esdras, Aurélie et Marie.
Rear: Hilaire, Théophile, Nazaire, Eusèbe, Joseph, Zéphirin et Alfred.

Étienne Levasseur was buried, at the age of 86, October 25, 1890, at Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval. He and his wife lived in the current territory of the city of Bécancour, in the sector of Sainte-Angèle de Laval, located along the Saint-Laurent River, opposite Trois-Rivières. The parish of Bécancour was canonically erected in 1722. The couple's children were baptized in this church. Part of this parish was detached to form the parish of Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval in 1868. Étienne Levasseur is a descendant of the ancestor Pierre who came to New-France, in 1654.

This picture represents the 12 children of Étienne Levasseur and his wife Marguerite Larivière. Nineteen children were born of their union. Eleven boys and four girls reached adulthood. Many have had a remarkable longevity. Esdras died at the age of 86; Theophile, 89; Aurélie, at 90 years; Alfred, 89; Eusèbe, at 95; Hilaire, to 96; Joseph, in 97 years. At the time of photo in 1903, Prosper, David and Elise had died.

My mother used to tell me that this photo was taken when Eusèbe visited them. He had settled in St. Paul, Minnesota. He came to Quebec to visit his brothers and sisters. Alfred and Zéphirin lived in Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval. Others remained in the Mauricie region. Marie and Hilaire had settled in the Saint-Maurice parish. Esdras, Prosper, Nazaire, Joseph and Théophile remained at Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel where they had cleared land on the St. Felix « rang »⁽¹⁾ (countryside road). Elisée settled on this rang (countryside road) with his brothers but eventually migrated to Pointe-aux-Roches in Ontario. A part of the St. Felix rang (countryside road) was separated from the Saint-Maurice parish in 1858 for the founding of the parish of Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. The first chapel of this new parish was built in 1862.

Looking at the photo, here is a brief history of each of Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière's children. Let's start with the first row, from left to right.

Clarisse, the 15th child of the couple, was born on November 23, 1843 in Bécancour. She married Moïse Landry on July 19, 1864, in Bécancour. The latter died on October 20, 1871 in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. On her second marriage, Clarisse married Joseph Béland on January 19, 1874, in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. She died on May 13, 1905, at the age of 61, in Trois-Rivières.

Céline, the 8th child of the couple, was born on December 11, 1835, in Bécancour. She married Cléophas Landry on September 27, 1859 in Bécancour. She died on September 21, 1909 in Nicolet at the age of 73.

Esdras, the 2nd child of the couple, (the first born died in infancy), was born on August 24, 1828, in Bécancour. He married Marie Levasseur, daughter of Charles Levasseur and Marie Deshaies, in Bécancour, on November 20, 1860. The couple cleared land on lot 90 on the St. Felix rang ⁽¹⁾ (countryside road) of Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. They had nine children. In 1881, Esdras is named churchwarden of the parish. He died on February 6, 1915, at the age of 86.

Aurélie, the 7th child of the couple, was born on October 7, 1834 in Bécancour. She married Jules Deshaies, on April 30, 1855 in Bécancour. She died at Sainte-Sophie-de-Odger, on January 30, 1925, at the age of 90.

Marie, the 19th and last child of the family, was born on June 19, 1850, in Bécancour. She married David Doucet, farmer, on Aug. 13, 1878, in Sainte-Angèle de Laval. The couple moved to St-Maurice, in the rang ⁽¹⁾ of Sainte-Marguerite (countryside). They had three children. Marie died on October 21 1911 in St-Maurice, at the age of 61.

Second row from left to right :

Hilaire, the couple's 4th child, was born on January 27, 1831, in Bécancour. The 1851 Canada census indicates that he lived in St-Maurice and was working as a day laborer for his uncle Louis-Étienne Levasseur. He cleared land that his uncle gave him in 1852, namely, lot 40 of the Sainte-Marguerite concession, on the Southeast side. Hilaire married Philomène Martin, on March 7, 1859, in St-Maurice. The couple had 10 children. Hilaire died in Saint-Maurice, on April 7, 1927, at the age of 96.

Théophile, the 14th child of the couple, was born on July 14, 1842, in Bécancour. He married Marie Beupré on January 7, 1879, in the parish of Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel where Théophile established himself and his family after clearing lot 36 of the St. Felix rang ⁽¹⁾ (countryside). They had fourteen children. Théophile died in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel, on March 7, 1932, at the age of 89.

Nazaire, 10th child and twin of Joseph, was born on February 2, 1837 in Bécancour. He cleared lot 84 in in the rang⁽¹⁾ of St. Felix (country side road) located in the parish of Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. Nazaire married Clarisse Doucet on January 11, 1869 in St-Maurice. The couple gave birth to 16 children. Nazaire died in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel, on December 31, 1912, at the age of 75 years.

Eusèbe, the 6th child of the couple, was born on February 22, 1833, in Bécancour. He settled in the United States in Minnesota. He married Joséphine Forcier, on January 16, 1860, at the Church of St. John Evangelist, Little Canada, Minnesota. The couple gave birth to 20 children. Several were born in Centerville, Minnesota. Eusèbe died in St. Paul, Minnesota, on August 26, 1928.

Joseph, 9th child and Nazaire's twin, was born on February 2, 1837 in Bécancour. He married Caroline Landry, November 9, 1868, in the Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel Parish where the couple settled and Joseph cleared lot 86 located in the rang⁽¹⁾ St. Felix (countryside road). They had nine children. After the death of his first wife, Joseph married Marie-Madeleine Thibodeau, on June 16, 1884 in St-Maurice. Of this union were born 2 children. Joseph died May 11, 1934, in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel, at the age of 97 years.

Zéphirin, the 18th child of the couple, was born on July 19, 1848 in Bécancour. He married Odile Houle, on July 12, 1881 in Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval. The couple lived in Sainte-Angèle de Laval. They had 12 children. Zéphirin died March 3, 1923, in Sainte-Angèle de Laval, at the age of 74.

Alfred, the 17th child of the couple, was born on June 17, 1846, in Bécancour. He married Élisabeth Forest in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel on February 3, 1880 in Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. Four children were born in Sainte-Angèle de Laval. Alfred died in this parish on May 3, 1936, at the age of 89.

At the time of the photo in 1903, three adult children of the couple, Etienne Levasseur/Marguerite Larivière had died. They were:

Prosper, the 3rd child of the couple, was born on November 29, 1829 in Bécancour. He was the first child of the family to settle in the parish of Notre-Dame of Mount Carmel. He is considered one of the pioneers of this municipality. On September 29, 1851, he bought a land of 60 acres in area, located on rang⁽¹⁾ St. Felix countryside road. On January 9, 1855, he married Adéline Richard in the Church at Bécancour. Three children are born and were baptized in St-Maurice. Prosper died prematurely at the age of 30, on April 12, 1860, as a result of a hernia. His wife remarried Charles Martin on May 6, 1861. Unfortunately, she perished in a forest fire with a small child in her arms. The burial took place on June 19, 1862, in St-Maurice.

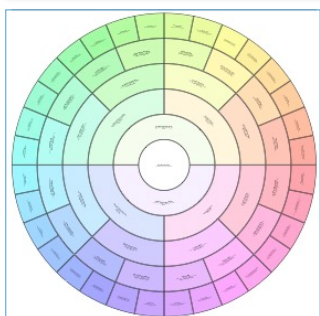
David, the 11th child of the couple, was born on May 5, 1838, in Bécancour. He married Adeline Levasseur, daughter of Charles Levasseur and Marie Deshaies, on February 12, 1866 in the village where he was born. They had four children, two were baptized in Sainte-Angèle de Laval and two in Bécancour. David died on April 3, 1872, at the age of 33.

Élisée, the 12th child of the couple, was born on July 20, 1839, at Bécancour. He cleared lot 40 located in the Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel Parish. He married in this parish, Anna Marie Anne Lord on May 18, 1869. The first six children were baptized in Mont-Carmel. Two other children were born and baptized at Pointe-aux-Roches, Ontario. Élisée had moved in Eastern Ontario. He died there on June 18, 1891, at the age of 51.

Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière had an extensive family. Several of their children lived to a ripe old age. Several boys participated in the development of the parishes of St-Maurice and Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel. Others remained in the region of Sainte-Angèle-de-Laval, Saint-Grégoire. One settled in Minnesota, in the United States. Élisée settled in Ontario. The couple left many descendants. Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière are the grandparents of 121 children and the great-grandparents of 252 children.

Note: Much of the information was extracted from the book titled "*Notre-Dame du Mont-Carmel 1859-1984*". This book was published on the 150th anniversary of this parish in 1985.

Other documents for online consultation (click on the link)

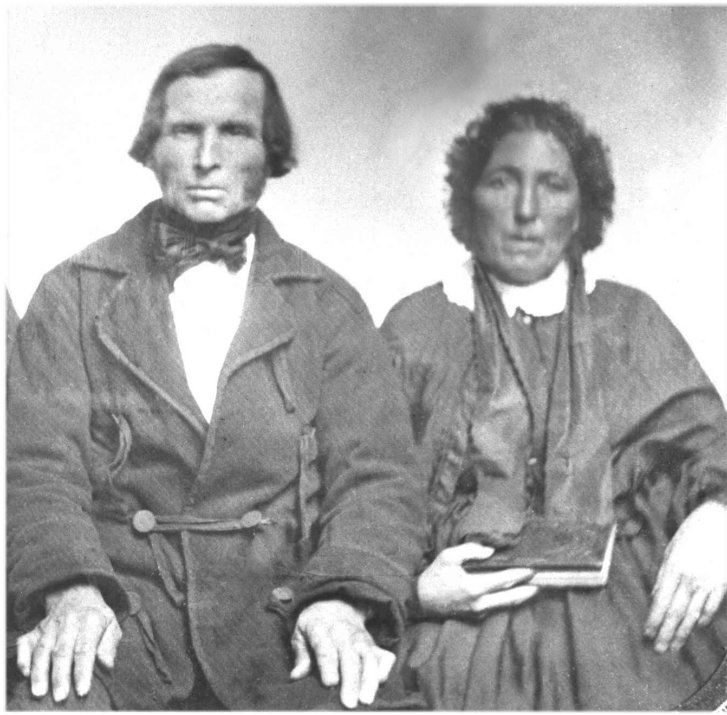


	Total			En vie			Descendants Birth Year Range
	Descendants	Spouses	Total	Descendants	Spouses	Total	
1. Self	1	1	2		0	0	1803 - 1803
2. Enfants	19	17	36		0	0	1827 - 1850
3. Grandchildren	121	74	195		0	0	1856 - 1900
4. Great grandchildren	228	156	384	14	18	32	1879 - 1934
5. G*2 grandchildren	427	350	777	237	149	386	1909 - 1965
6. G*3 grandchildren	430	212	642	299	125	424	1933 - 1993
7. G*4 grandchildren	294	29	323	165	12	177	1959 - 1993
8. G*5 grandchildren	15	0	15	2	0	2	1989 - 1990
Total	1535	839	2374	717	304	1021	

➡ [Genealogy chart](#)

➡ [List of descendants](#)

➡ [Statistics descendants](#)



Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière

We invite members and persons, who are descendants or offsprings of one or the other children of Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière, to write an article and inform us about their family. We know that some of the members of the Levasseur Association are from this family. Your article could be published in future Newsletters. Photos may accompany your text. We invite you to contact Jean-Pierre Levasseur, the webmaster of the Association of Levasseur. webmestre@levasseur.org

(1) In Québec rural areas are divided into districts, known as (rangs). The word refers to a series of rectangular fields (each known as a "lot") usually between a river and a road. The road itself being called a (rang). In Québec the expression "dans les rangs" means in the countryside. (source : Le Robert et Collins, Dictionnaire Anglais Français)

Lineage

**Pierre Levasseur dit L'Espérance and
Jeanne de Chaverlange**
Québec, 25 october 1655

Pierre Levasseur and Anne Ménage
Québec, 18 march 1696

**Denis-Joseph Levasseur and Charlotte
Couturier**
Saint-François-du-Lac, 4 february 1738

**Joseph Levasseur and Madeleine Horne/
Laneuville**
Bécancour, 7 January 1765

**Étienne-Augustin Levasseur and Antoinette
Genest/Labarre**
La Baie-du-Febvre, 21 february 1803

Étienne Levasseur and Marguerite Larivière
Bécancour, 3 october 1826

Published article on Eusèbe:

Nancy Le Vasseur Chisholm, Eusèbe's descendant wrote an article titled «Levasseurs from Minnesota», published in the Association's Newsletter of July 1997. For more information:

http://www.levasseur.org/doc/dossiers/199707_Levasseur_Minnesota_bil.pdf
and
http://www.levasseur.org/doc/dossiers/199707_Lignee_Nancy_L_Chisholm_bil.pdf



LES LEVASSEUR DU MINNESOTA

Mon grand-père, Prosper John LeVasseur (fils d'Eusèbe et Adeline Marier qui s'établirent à White Bear Lake, Minnesota) est né le 8 novembre 1888 à Centerville, Minnesota. Sa mère Adeline est morte alors que Prosper n'était âgé que de 10 ans. Le père, Eusèbe ne pouvant prendre soin de ses 7 enfants se plaça à l'école indienne de Pipestone, Minnesota. Prosper se trouva sans doute très malheureux et tenta de s'enfuir sans trop de succès.

Eusèbe épousa en 1901 Estimee Forcier, et les enfants retournèrent avec leur père. La nouvelle mère est sans doute beaucoup de difficultés à élever sa nouvelle famille, dont l'aîné-même naissance à neuf autres enfants. Le jeune Prosper fit donc élève par M. John Handy, propriétaire d'un magasin général à White Bear Lake.

Prosper épousa Rose Schaefer en septembre 1908 et décida de s'établir à son propre compte. Il obtint un prêt de \$500, avec seulement sa réputation comme collateral, pour acheter un édifice sur un terrain de 3 acres.

My grandfather, Prosper John LeVasseur (son of Eusèbe LeVasseur and Adeline Marier who had settled in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, from the Centerville area) was born November 8, 1888, in Centerville, Minnesota. His mother Adeline died when he was 10 years old. As Eusèbe was then unable to care for his 7 children, they were sent to the Indian School in Pipestone, Minnesota. Prosper was unhappy there and attempted to run away.

Subsequently Eusèbe remarried and the children were reunited with their father. Their step-mother, Estimee Forcier, had a difficult time raising her new family as she was to have 9 children of her own. Young Prosper lived with Mr. John Handy who ran a general store in White Bear Lake.

When Prosper John married Rose Schaefer in 1908, he decided it was time to go into business for himself. With a \$500, loan and an honest face her collateral he bought a 3-acre piece of property with a store building on it. Prosper became a respected and successful grocery entrepreneur and was able

L'ASSOCIATION DES LEVASSEUR



The Association, Levasseur d'Amérique Inc. is a non-profit organization, founded in 1988, in accordance to a federal charter. Its goals are:

- To join together and unite a large number of Levasseur and other descendants who have adopted the patronymic Borgia, Carmel, Carmell, Vasseur, Vassor, Vasser.
- To promote, develop and diffuse historical genealogical knowledge about the Levasseur families with Internet, an electronic Newsletter published three times per year also the publication of genealogical dictionaries.
- To maintain and update, on an ongoing basis, the genealogical data base available to members at all times on the Internet.
- To make available to members a family photo album and the Newsletters that the Association has published since 1988.
- To honor the memory of our forefathers and their descendants by way of monuments, plaques or symbolic gestures that commemorate historic events that are chronicle the Levasseur family.
- To gather all documents related to the Levasseur family for the purpose of constructing archives that will constitute the heritage of our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

We would appreciate if you could send us family related documents that would add to our data base of archives and also enable us to continue the publication of the Levasseur Newsletter three times per year. The participation of the Levasseurs and members of their families is essential to allow us to pursue our mission. Send us your photos and texts for the next publication of the Newsletter. You can download them very easily with this new tool and by providing a brief description of the photo or text that is being sent. Following receipt of your documents, a copy of all information to be published in the Newsletter will be sent to you for approval prior to final publication.

Join our team of volunteers, contact us !!

Web site : www.levasseur.org - webmaster@levasseur.org

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/associationlevasseur>

Other Levasseur Association Web sites:

irma.levasseur.org
militaires.levasseur.org
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