

Longueuil and Boucherville: his marriage and death records, the baptism records of five children, the marriage record of three of his sons, the death record of one son. No land transactions or other civil records have been discovered.

So little is known about this man. Who was he? How did this German come to be in the province of Quebec in 1787? Was he a Hessian Soldier?

For many years, Jean's date and place of birth were unknown. Then in June 2021, a baptism record, purported to be his, appeared in the publication *Entre-Nous* of the Société de Généalogie de Longueuil. According to this baptism record, a "Jean Conrad Heynemand" was born on November 6, 1726 in Wolfenbuttel (Bas-Saxe) in Germany. His parents were "Andre Heynemand" and "Marie Grey."⁵ If this record belongs to "our" Jean Conrad Heinman, it means that Jean would have been a 50-year-old soldier when he came to America with the Hessian troops. He would have been 60 years old when he married 23-year-old Apolline, and 75 when he fathered his fifth and final child. Hessian men had to present themselves annually from the age of 16 until age 30 for possible recruitment. It seems improbable that this is the baptism record of Jean Conrad Heinmann who married Apolline Bourgis in Canada in 1687.

Approximately 30,000 German soldiers were contracted by King George III and the British government as auxiliary troops of the British in the American Revolution. They came from the German Principalities of Hesse-Cassel, Brunswick, Anspach-Bayreuth, Hessen-Hanau, and Anhalt-Zerbst, as well as from other parts of Germany, including Bavaria. These German soldiers were called Hessians because the largest group came from Hesse-Cassel. Most of the Hessians returned home after the war ended in 1783; however, some 5,000 of these German soldiers chose to stay in America, including approximately 2,500 who settled in Canada. Many of the Hessians in Quebec married French-Canadian women; they were absorbed into the French culture, their German roots soon forgotten.⁶

In her book, *The Settlement of former German auxiliary troops in Canada after the American Revolution*, Virginia Easley DeMarce includes the following entry in Section IV – Identification of former German soldiers: "??Joseph Conrad Heinman, son of Andre and Marie Grais of Germany, married 12 February 1787 at Longueuil to Appolline Bourgis/Bourgy, widow of Thomas Xavier. The name also appears as Aneman, in the next generation as Ogleman."⁷

In the introduction to this section, DeMarce states that an entry preceded by ?? indicates that evidence is lacking to prove the individual was a German mercenary soldier and that the man may have been a Loyalist of German origin from the United States.⁸

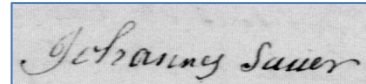
As of 2015, Johannes Helmut Merz and Dominique Ritchot, two individuals who conducted extensive research on the Hessians who settled in Canada and published books on the topic, were also unable to find this Jean (Johannes) Conrad Heinmann on any list of Hessian soldiers.⁹

So why the belief that he was a Hessian Soldier?

Family lore: In his research, Michael Christiansen, family historian and descendant of Jean Conrad Heinmann, quotes the family notes of Mabel Gilman Fox (1895-1967), daughter of Nelson O. Gilman and g-g-granddaughter of Jean Heinmann (through his son Alexis): "About

1780 O'Gilman *came to Quebec Canada in the British Army* (italics mine). About 1790 he married and had 3 sons. One was Eliexa who married in 1818 and had 6 children."¹⁰ Regarding the accuracy of this statement: After 1811, the Heinmann family surname often appears in church and census records as Ogleman or Hogleman. Jean-Conrad Heinmann actually had five sons, but only three survived to adulthood and married. One of them was Alexis who married in 1819. Alexis, in turn, had nine children, including at least two who died as infants.

The witness at his wedding: One Johannes Sauer signed as one of the witnesses to the marriage of Jean Conrad Heinmann. According to the researchers Dominique Ritchot and Johannes Helmut Merz, Johannes Sauer is listed as a soldier with the Brunswick Troops, Prinz Friedrich Regiment, Praetorius Company.¹¹ Johannes Sauer was married to Marie Charlotte Lirette on August 30, 1784 in Charlesbourg, on the outskirts of Quebec City. According to his marriage record, Johannes was from the parish of Bamburg, located in Upper Franconia which is in the heart of Northern Bavaria. Johannes' signature on the marriage record of Jean Heinmann matches the one on his own marriage record. He and his French-Canadian wife settled in Charlesbourg and began their family. Charlesbourg is some distance from Longueuil. For Johannes Sauer to appear as a witness at the wedding of Jean Heinmann suggests that they were good friends and most likely served in the same regiment. Might they have come from the same region of Germany?



Signature on the marriage record of Jean Conrad Heinmann, 1787.

Eighteenth-Century German Immigrants to Canada: Prior to the start of the American Revolution, very few Germans had settled in Canada. Most Germans living in the thirteen colonies in the mid-eighteenth century sided with the colonists in the War of Independence. There were, however, Germans who supported Britain in the conflict or who opposed war in general. The largest group of people in the latter category were some of the Mennonites of Pennsylvania. They moved to the area that is now southwest Ontario, settling around Berlin, Ontario. During and after the American War of Independence, the British Loyalists (those loyal to Great Britain in the American Revolution) who fled to Canada settled in communities segregated by ethnicity and religion. A list of these settlements is found on the Wikipedia website *United Empire Loyalist*. Jean Conrad Heinmann and Apolline Bourgis settled and raised their family in Longueuil and Boucherville; neither community is on this list. For this reason, it is unlikely that Jean was a British Loyalist who had previously settled in what became the United States. On the other hand, it is known that a group of German soldiers from the Brunswick regiment who remained in Canada settled southwest of Montreal: just where Jean Heinmann settled.

Religion: In general, the American colonies did not welcome Roman Catholics. While there were Germans among the British Loyalists who fled to Canada, they were much more likely to be Protestant. German Protestants married in Protestant Churches that had been established in Quebec and in Montreal. The fact that Jean Conrad was married and later buried in a Catholic Church further suggests that he did not come to Canada as a British Loyalist from the American colonies, but rather as a Hessian soldier, brought across the Atlantic to fight alongside the British. Johannes Sauer, Jean Conrad's friend, was from the Bavarian region of Germany. That area is strongly Roman Catholic; soldiers from that region might well have been Catholic.

Conclusion: While no definitive proof of his service has been discovered, the above is offered as strong circumstantial evidence to support the conclusion that Jean Conrad Heinmann was, in all likelihood, one of the Hessians who fought in the British army and remained in Quebec after the American Revolution.

The Family of Jean Conrad Heinmann and Apolline Bourgis

In the records of Jean and his sons, the name is spelled variously as *Heinman*, *Honnemann*, *Honman*, *Anéman*, *Auglemene*, *Augleman*, *Agninal*, *Anglemene*, *Ogleman*, *O'Gleman*, *Hogleman*, *Hogelman*, and *Ogilman*. In at least one record, Jean Conrad Heinmann is identified simply as "*Allemand*" (the German). German names were often difficult for the French to pronounce and to spell correctly. Hence, the many different spellings and name changes. Fortunately, the mother's name of Apolline Bourgis (or something close) is clearly recognizable in all the documents. The family names as they appeared in the various documents are included here to assist the family researcher in finding the original documents.

1. Nicolas:

Birth: January 18, 1788 in Longueuil, Chambly, Quebec

Marriage: February 21, 1814 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Spouse: Catherine Favreau

Notes for Nicolas:

On his baptism record, Nicolas' name is recorded as "Heinman." His parents are listed as "Jean Conrad Heinman and Appoline Bourgis." On his marriage record, Nicolas' name is given as Anéman. His parents are listed as Jean Anéman and the deceased Apolline Bourgy. Also on the marriage record is Pierre Bourdon, listed as a friend of François Anéman, the groom's brother. This latter fact is mentioned because it serves to confirm family relationships. Pierre Bourdon is listed as a witness at the burial of Nicolas' father "Jean Anneman" in 1815.

By 1820, with the baptism of his son Joseph, Nicolas is using the surname Hogleman. Nicolas and his family appear on the census records of 1825, 1851 and 1861 at Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec.¹²

According to church and census records, Nicolas was a farmer (fermier or cultivateur). He and Catherine were the parents of ten children: Catherine, Nicolas, Michel, Marie Louise, Joseph, Julie, Esther, Catherine, Pierre Avila, and Marie Adeline. All children were born in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec, between 1815 and 1830 and are listed in the Boucherville Parish Registers.

2. Joseph

Birth: February 27, 1791 in Longueuil, Chambly, Quebec

Notes for Joseph:

Only a baptism record exists for Joseph. According to this record, Joseph "Honnemann," the son of "Jean Honnemann and Apolline Bourgis," was born and baptized on February 27, 1791 in Longueuil. It is assumed that he died sometime in childhood.

3. François

Birth: July 06, 1793 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Marriage: August 07, 1815 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Spouse: Ovide Lafranchise

Notes for François:

François is listed as François Allemand, son of Jean Allemand and Pauline Bourgis, on his baptism record in 1793. On the marriage record of François "Aneman," his parents, "Jean Aneman and Appoline Bourgi," are both listed as deceased. Nicolas and Alexis are listed as brothers of François on this marriage record.

François and his family appear on the census records of 1825, 1851 and 1861 for Boucherville.¹³ In the 1825 census, his name is listed as Augleman. In the census records of 1851 and 1861, his name is given as Ogleman. In the Canadian census of 1851, there were 19 individuals listed with the surname of Ogleman. All resided in Boucherville or in nearby settlements.¹⁴

François and Ovide had six children, all born in Boucherville: Julie, unnamed infant who died at birth, Emilie, François, Julie, François.

4. Alexis

Birth: December 8, 1795 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Marriage: August 3, 1819 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Spouse: Félicité Sabourin

Notes for Alexis:

On his baptism record, Alexis was listed as "Alexis Agninal," son of "J. Baptiste Agninal and Pauline Bourgie." On his marriage record, he is listed as "Alexis Ogleman," son of the deceased "Jean Ogleman and Appoline Bourgie." On this record, his occupation is listed as "cultivateur."

Alexis and Félicité had 9 children, all born in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec between 1820 & 1835: Nicolas, Félicité, Antoine, Thomas, Aurelie, Leon, Henriette, Marie Onesime, and Marie Elise. Alexis "Augleman" and his family are found in the census of 1825 for Boucherville (as are his brothers Nicolas and François).

Alexis would be the only child of Jean Conrad Heinmann to emigrate from Canada to the United States. At some point between 1835 and 1845, Alexis moved his family to Plattsburgh, New York. It is very possible that Alexis was a participant or sympathizer in the 1837 Papineau Rebellion in Canada. This Papineau Rebellion, led by Louis Joseph Papineau and William Lyon Mackenzie, was a short-lived attempt made in 1837 to sever the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada from English rule. At the time, Papineau was an influential leader in the French Canadian Party and the Speaker of the House in the Canadian Legislature. The efforts of Papineau towards independence failed; declared a rebel, he fled to the United States. Many of his followers sought safety in the United States as well. Rebels in the Papineau Rebellion were later granted amnesty; however, a good number had put down roots in New York and chose to stay. Many of the first parishioners of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Plattsburgh were veterans of the Papineau Rebellion.¹⁵

Alexis started using the name Bourgerie or Bourgie, his mother's surname, in Plattsburgh, New York, and his descendants who remained in the Plattsburgh area also used that name. Alexis "Bourgie," his wife, Félicité Sabourin, and four of his children (Aurelie, Félicité, Thomas, and Henriette- all using the surname Bourgie) are listed in the 1857 census records for St. Peter's Catholic Church in Plattsburgh.¹⁶ Antoine "Bourgerie", another child of Alexis, is listed in the 1860 U.S. Census as a resident of Plattsburgh, along with his wife, Emily and 7 children.

By 1870, Alexis' son Thomas, Matilda (Thomas' wife), and ten children had moved to the small farming community of Chilton, Wisconsin. In the census for that year, Thomas was using the surname Gilman.¹⁷ Thomas was also known in the family as Thomas O. Gilman, not much different from the surname on his baptism record: Ogleman.

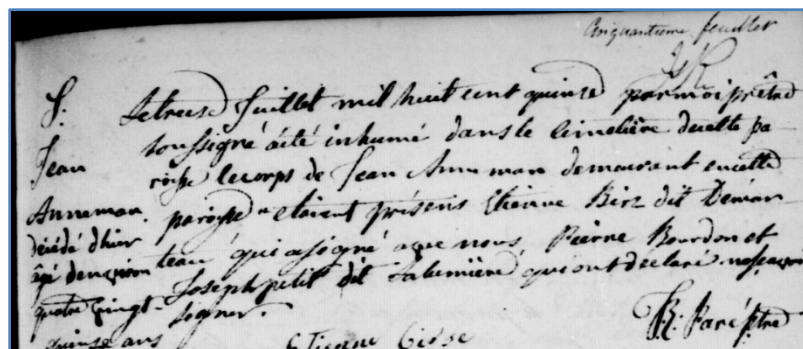
5. Jean-Baptiste

Birth: April 14, 1802 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Death: March 03, 1803 in Boucherville, Chambly, Quebec

Notes on Jean-Baptiste:

Jean Baptiste died before he was a year old. On his baptism record in the Boucherville Registres, Jean Baptiste is listed as "Baptiste Anéman." His parents are listed as "Joseph Anéman and Pauline Bourgi." On his death record "Jean-Baptiste Anémanne" is listed as the child of Jean Anémanne and Apolline Bourgie.



Burial record for Jean Anneman July 15, 1813

¹ The birth, marriage, and death records referred to in this story were accessed through the online PRDH, that is, the Program of Research in Demographic History (Vital Records of Quebec, University of Montréal and Drouin Institute, 1621-) and linked to the digitized parish records at Genealogy Quebec. On their marriage record (PRDH marriage record # 345477), Appoline is listed as the widow of Thomas Xavier. Thomas is described on his burial record in 1784 as a "Negro from Boston" who was sick and died at the Hôtel-Dieu in Quebec at about the age of 32. Appoline and Thomas had no known children.

² "Jean Anémance" is listed as a "journalier" (day laborer) on the death record of his youngest son, Jean-Baptiste, in 1811. Jean's occupation as "journalier" is also given in his wife's burial record in 1814.

³ Apolline Bourgit was born on August 29, 1763, in Boucherville. Her parents are listed as Joseph Bourgit and Euphrasie Cicot. On her burial record, Apolline "Bourgy" is listed as the wife of Baptiste Animant, "journalier" (day laborer). Baptiste was the given name of a son, not her husband. Another son "Nicolas Bourgy," witnessed the burial.

⁴ Jean's surname is given as "Anneman" on his burial record. His age is said to be "about 95." The given age is likely an error: It would have meant that he was 67 when he married Apolline Bourgit in 1887.

⁵ PRDH Individual record # 219608 for Jean Heinman (Heynemand/Hogelman). Information on baptism provided by Paul Ogelman, member of the Société de Généalogie de Longueuil.

⁶ American Revolution.org; Merz, Johannes Helmut.

⁷ Virginia Easley DeMarce. *The settlement of former German auxiliary troops in Canada after the American Revolution: a monograph*. (First Ed. pub. Joy Reisinger, Sparta, WI, 1984) 128. Accessed through Internet Archive, 5 Apr 2023.

⁸ Virginia DeMarce. *The settlement of former German auxiliary troops*, 53.

⁹ Dominique Ritchot is the author of *German Troops and their settlement in Canada 1776-1783*. (pub. Longueuil, Historical and Genealogical Ed. Pepin, 2011). Dominique did identify a Johann Conrad Hamann of Hess-Hanan, Prinz Friedrich from Switzerland. However, this man married Marie-Marguerite Desmarais and had 7 children between 1778 and 1788. According to the baptism records of his children, this Hamman lived in several communities: Trois-Rivières, La Prairie, St-Philippe, and Boucherville. (PRDH family record #92419, with baptisms linked to digitized parish records at Genealogy Quebec). Johannes Helmut Merz published the *Register of German military men who remained in Canada after the American Revolution* (Hamilton, Ontario: J.H. Merz. c2001).

¹⁰ Michael Christiansen, "Descendants of Jean Conrad Ogleman" a thoroughly researched and well-documented report published privately on February 16, 2004. Susanne Gibfried Marciniak, another descendant of Jean Conrad Heinmann, shared with me her research and communications with Michael Christiansen, Johannes Helmut Merz, and Dominique Ritchot.

¹¹ Rootsweb Quebec-Hessians Message Board, Subject: Johann Conrad HEINEMANN postings by Dominique Ritchot dated Sun, 16 Nov 2003 and Fri, 28 Nov 2003.

¹² Canadian census records downloaded from Ancestry.com in 2013.

¹³ Canadian census records, downloaded from Ancestry.com in 2013.

¹⁴ The indexed Canadian census of 1851 is available at FamilySearch.org.

¹⁵ Roswell Hogue, DDS. *Centennial 1853 - 1953: St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Plattsburgh, N.Y.*, 1953, 9-10, 18.

¹⁶ Elizabeth Botten, comp. and ed. *St. Peter's Church Census Records, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York 1857-1859-1860*. (New York: Northern New York American Canadian Genealogical Society, 1996). A copy of the book is in the Plattsburgh Public Library.

¹⁷ U.S. Census of 1870 for Chilton, Calumet County, WI. Andrew Grato, Thomas' father-in-law, was also listed in the household.