

Belgian Laces



Belgian emigrants in Antwerp

By Louis Van Engelen, 1890

(Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten, Antwerp, Belgium)

**Our principal objective is:
Keep the Belgian Heritage alive in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity**

THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS
Belgian American Heritage Association
Our organization was founded in 1976 and welcomes as members Any person of Belgian descent interested in Genealogy, History, Biography or Heraldry, either amateur or professional.
You are invited to become a member and to participate actively in the work of the society. The annual membership fee includes a subscription to the quarterly **BELGIAN LACES**

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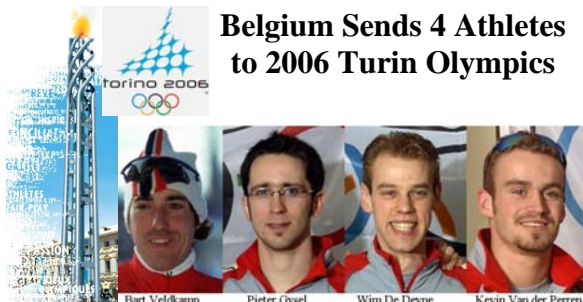
Dear Members,

We have exciting news for researchers. Micheline Gaudette, Cindy Roberts, Linda Kincade, Teresa Aguirre, Chuck Vandeheede and Gene Jenkins have answered our call to extract the Belgians from the WWI Draft Registration Cards available on Ancestry.com. **THANK YOU!!!** And Thank You, Guy (Gallez) for uploading the results already. Go take a look at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~inbr/Services/WWIDraft.htm> It's awesome! Let us know if you would like to help too by taking some of the states that still need to be done.

Glenn Cleereman is continuing to do a great job maintaining our Yahooogroup. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TheBelgianResearchers> If you have not yet taken advantage of the web features, let me encourage you to link a Yahoo ID to your address that you might be able to access the archived messages. We have opened the list to the public and would like to encourage everyone to help.

Of course there is the exciting news of the Red Starline Exhibit in New York. I had hoped to have more information to pass along to you but we will have to wait for a report from someone who attends it. Please let us hear from you! Hope this issue is to your liking... Enjoy!

Régine



Belgium Sends 4 Athletes to 2006 Turin Olympics

No gold for the Belgians this time around, but they did themselves proud all the same.
Kevin Van der Perren took 9th place in Figure Skating - improving from 12th in Salt Lake City – with a total of 197.39 points. His free style performance as a Pirate won many hearts but it was not enough to recover from the unfortunate fall he had earlier in the competition.
Bart Veldkamp, 38, ended his Olympic career (5 Olympic runs) with a 14th place in the 10,000m race with a time of 13:48.12. and a 13th place in the 5,000m with a time of 6:32.02. This also marks the end of his 20 year competition skating.
Pieter Gysel was disqualified in the first heat of semi-finals 1,000m Short Track speedskating won by the Corean Ho Suk Lee. He failed to advance after earning a 2nd place in the 1,500m ShortTrack qualifying heat with a time of 2:21.595
Wim De Deyne was no luckier. He took 3rd place in the 500m Short Track Speedskating Quarterfinals (heat 4) with a time of 0:42.979 but failed to advance

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"La Maison Saroléa" by Guy de Becker and Marc Lepoudre
 "Nostalgia Editions", 256 pages, in French, 45 Euros



The first motorcycles leave the Saroléa Factory in Herstal (Belgium) in 1898, and find great success as early as the beginning of the 20th century. By the 40's the brand is well known as much for its mechanical quality as its beauty et reaches a high point at the 1949 Salon de Bruxelles with its 600cc Supersport, described as "fast and made for Belgian roads" by the press of that day.

The 50's bring the "Oiseau Bleu", "Continental", "Vedette", "Atlantic", "Colonial", then the merging with Gillet in 1960. Guy de Becker, has already published another book about another Belgian company the "National Fabric" (Fabrique nationale) - "Quand la FN avait deux roues" – "When the FN had 2 Wheels",

http://www.moto-net.com/p_article.php?RefArticle=248

Eric MICHEL - © Copyright Moto-Net.Com

Les Motos Gillet, Herstal 1919-1959 (2000)

By Yves Campion.

The author traces back the whole industrial adventure of this company in Herstal. 700 period documents found in the book.

Born last of the 3 great Belgian maker of motorcycles (Ndlr, FN & Saroléa), Gillet would unfortunately be the first to disappear. The GILLET motorcycles.

Quickly built a enviable reputation thanks to its originality, sturdiness and many other qualities.

During its 40 years of production, they satisfied many riders who found it to be perfect for tourism or sport.

They soon enter the world of competition and shine time and time again:

Belgian Grand-Prix, Nice, World Records, Bol d'Or, Motocross...

The defense of the land would require many efforts from them, which they fulfilled patriotically. Only 13 illustrations in this book are not period photos, which explains why the edition is in black and white.

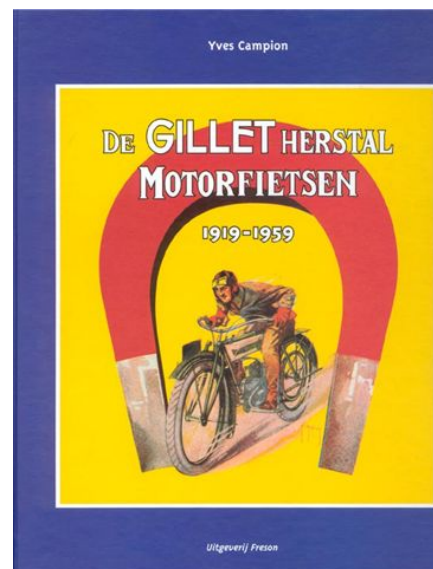
This books finally fills an important gap in the history of motorized 2-wheelers.

The history of this special motorcycle manufacturer that created so many exclusive bikes and has such a rich history. Contains information on all the models, technique, the factory itself, the people behind and the sporting history.

Illustrated with dozens of illustrations in colour and black/white.

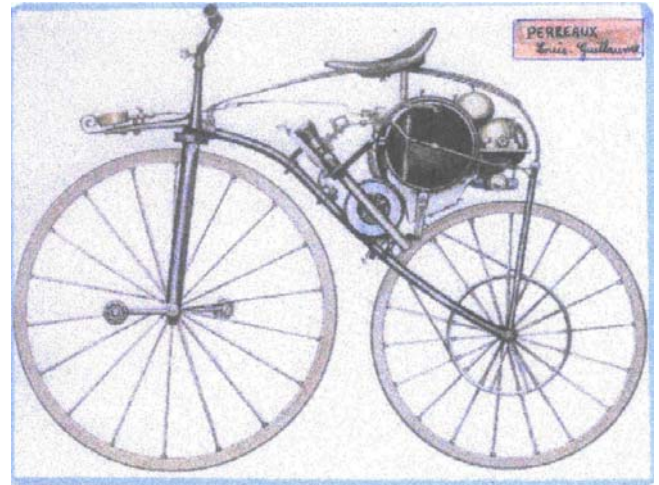
208 pages, French text. - 24.95 Euros

http://www.asnbooks.com/ShopASN_ENGELS/enter.html?target=Motorcycles_and_mopeds_by_makeGilletHistory_Gillet.html



The History of the Motorcycle

“In 1871 **Louis Guillaume Perreaux** installed a compact steam engine in a commercial bicycle, and thus produced the world's first motorcycle. However, unknown to Mr. Perreaux was a theoretical paper describing the principle of the internal combustion engine that had been published six years earlier by his fellow countryman **Alphonse Beau de Rochas**. After nearly two centuries of continual development the steam engine must have seemed to Perreaux the obvious power unit in which to invest his money and efforts. But, whether he was unaware of the de Rochas paper, or simply didn't realize its significance, the new engine it described quickly and completely transformed the world of transportation. Surprisingly, thanks to a period of extraordinarily-rapid technological advance, by 1903 essentially all the components of a modern motorcycle were in place, and changes to the motorcycle in the century since then have been largely the result of evolutionary refinement rather than revolutionary invention. Like many other objects of industrial design, motorcycles have played a variety of roles in society over the 131 years since the Michaux-Perreaux.”¹



The L.M.O.A., Ourthe-Amblève Motor League, was created on February 10th, 1921.

It's right after WWI that the motorcycle industry, already well established in Liège, developed more sporty shaped bikes that would bring fame to many riders. One of these races, the "Coupes de la Meuse", would so impress some that they decided to form a motorcycle association and sponsor a race to publicize it.

The attorney **Collard**, the doctor **Thiernesse**, Mr.**Helsgens**, Mr.**Grégoire** and a few other pioneers from Aywaille would launch the L.M.O.A. and a great contest of endurance, the "Circuit des Crêtes".

From this race a local favorite son of Aywaille would emerge: **Robert Grégoire**. He would bear the Aqualien (from Aywaille) colors from Monza to Berlin without forgetting of course Spa-Francorchamps leaving vivid memories of the sound of his Sarolea bike and the Brabançonne. Unfortunately in 1933, the league would lose its best poster boy as he would lose

his life during the Spa-Francorchamps race. Saddened but not deterred the League's leaders would continue organizing races. It was not until after WWII was over that Belgian motorcyclists made a come-back, more specifically, **Constant Honhon**. Together with Mr. **Castermans**, Mr. **Lambercy**, Mr. **Grégoire** and Mr. **Lardinois** they had been right in organizing the first time trials in Belgium in 1952, but also in organizing moto-cross and grass-track on the famous site in Aywaille.

They also developed a tourist activity that brought Aywaille to the attention of the world from New-York to Moscow. In 1971, the League's name changed to the "Royal Ligue Motoriste Ourthe-Amblève".

To date more than 150 Trials have been organized by the club. Among these, in 1981, the World Championship.



Apr-15-16, 2006
Aywaille
12th Classic
Clubmen Trial
Challenge
Constant Honhon
Trial for old and antique
motorcycles
www.aywaille.be

The Regiment's Armored Vehicles

<http://www.regiment-premier-guides.com/APRES%20GUERRE%201914.htm>

<http://www.appeldepheare.com/motos/gillet1.html>

In 1937, the state motorizes the Cavalry.

"FN" motorcycles 12ASM (M.S.M.), Side-cars, armed with Browning 30 machine gun or 7.65mm Hotchkiss machine gun began to replace the regiments' horses. Some motorcycles are modified to have a T.S.F radio mounted over the trunk on the back of the side-cars. Radio-operators sat backwards as these motorcycles were not armed. The "Gillet" motorcycles were also used. The 1st Regiment of Guides received about 310 motorcycles (100 motorcycles and 210 side-cars) for 2 squadrons.

¹ Charles Falco, University of Arizona, Physics Department - <http://www.santafe.edu/events/abstract/88>



**Bold'Or en 1928 :
René Milhoux**

With Jean Steyns, mechanic, Jules Milhoux, winner's father

**RENE MILHOUX:
more than 300 Motorcycle Victories**

Adapted from Jean VAN DER REST
of the Fédération Automoto Retro
(photos FAR & coll.privées)

http://www.automag.be/article.php3?id_article=88

19 July 2003: the "White Devil" went to Heaven.

René Milhoux passed away. Anyone who was a fan of motorcycling knows of him. From motorcycling's pioneering days he remains the one who left the deepest track with his over 300 victories, with the friendships born from competition, with the noble manner in which he won. He was almost 100.

Many of his friends died tragic deaths, some killed at the height of their glory, others trying to reach that first victory. René went by and won most of the time.

His prize list is well over 5 pages long. To his world records, earned on a one-person moto as well as in a sidecar, in the 250, 500, 600, 750 and 1000 cc categories, we need to add another hundred wins in speed races from the

Roubaix-Paris-Roubaix (1925) and several Bol d'Or, to many 24 h-races and Grands Prix of Belgium, Holland, France, Sweden, Italy, Ulster and Europe. All this in the span of 11 years (1925 - 1936).

He rode mostly on Ready, Gillet and FN bikes for the first half of the century, mastering every categories. He won everywhere he went. He set all speed records. Historians grabbed onto his name while most of them avoided retracing his victories for fear of forgetting some. It was soon after he passed the 'over 300 wins' mark that he walked away to become a technical consultants, on 4 wheels, with Albert Moorkens, who had a passion for 2 wheels, like he did.

René retired at age 92!. And moved to Southern France where he died quietly. As his son André told us in an interview : "Dad won but he didn't like to be admired. When he started he only considered that he owed it to himself to win".

When asked what motivated him to risk his life speeding on his bike, René Milhoux's simple answer defined the man he was: "It was my job. I wanted to do it well!"

It all started with his father Jules Milhoux, the first to break the 100km/h mark. At the turn of the 20th century, he too was very sought out for his tuning of local and later imported motorcycles and automobiles. René accompanied his father when the first 4 Ford T arrived in Belgium for Ets Plasman. It was 1919, right after WWI. The Americans delivered them.. René Milhoux was 14.



READY

When he was 18, it's on an Indian scout the American armies had left behind that René rode his first solo races, as well as on his own Gillet. He was not quite 20 when he represented Ready and earned 14 victories in 15 races and Grand Prix (most of them in 250cc). He won his first European Grand Prix on a 175 cc and begins to be noticed.

In 1924 the night before the race, an unfortunate technical problem occurs with his moto. The Etablissements



Van Est of Courtrai, importers of Ready have no team on hand nor spare parts to fix it..

His only solution is to abandon, or is it? !

Mr. Fagard, director of the Saroléa factories, enquires about the situation and agrees with his engineer to build him the part he needs overnight and enable him to repair the bike in time for the race.

This would be unheard of today! It was done quietly in the motorcycle manufacturer's workshop, Rue St. Lambert in Herstal. No questions.

Saroléa would become the "Matron". René understood at that point the importance of having a quality technical team at his sides. This earned him his first Grand Prix in his new category (175 cc.) thanks to his competitor's selfless assistance. Hats of to Mr. Martin Fagard !



When he rides, René felt he was in it more for the speed than for the classification. He earned his 14 victories were earned like one would earn 14 records, at full speed!

Others might have slowed down once first place was secure. Not him. He continued to speed ahead. He's first he knows, but what does the timer say?



GILLET

The following year he joins up with Gillet to move on to the 500cc and this is when the records will fall, among which the 24h World record at the Bol d'Or on 600 side-car. The "White devil" (color of his outfit) wins again.

Production and research moved forward. Not satisfied with presenting its records, its #1 pilot and quality

motorcycles, Gillet would push to show its stability on ice. René was then in Ostersund (Malmö), Sweden, on a 750cc, monocylinder motor that burnt alcohol, manual transmission with 6 nails per tire, machine without clutch or brakes. And here again another record! The launched km lancé: 203 km/h! The lake was completely frozen. It was 1930. This world record still holds, in spite of the many attempts that have since followed.

Europe however just entered crisis years. Sales dropped, small mechanics workshops close their doors, some factories began to let go their workers. The big names look for technical results that can commercialize their product. The record-breaking rider **René Milhoux** is not only known as a first class technician, he can also do an outstanding job of fine tuning. That's what the FN was still missing.

Doug Marchant, English engineer who had been hired by the FN at the end of 1929, came up with new concepts he was not necessarily able to finish. His compatriot Handley saved his hand setting a few records in early 30. Realizing that the meager results paled in comparison with the enormous budget at his disposal and that this played against him, Marchant hired **René Milhoux** and **Jules Tacheny**. Too late for Marchant, though. A few months later he is let go.



"An anecdote from the Gillet period"

René Milhoux

December 1928: Mr. Gillet sent us to Montlhéry - 2 riders, a car and a tractor loaded with 2 motorcycles - to beat a number of world records. I was "new" on the team, I agreed. This arrangement didn't suit me very well as my wife was expecting and in those days they could not predict 2 weeks ahead of time when a baby would arrive. We leave. We were supposed to be gone three days. Our second day out, I get a phonecall telling me the birth should take place within 48 hours. Third day: the last record was hard to break but at 4pm we make it. That's it. Beaten. Done. Impossible to get back to Liège quickly from Paris with the loaded tractor in tow. My colleague drop me off at the train station at 6pm. I arrive in Liège, at the Guillemins Station at 2am with my 2 big suitcases. Let's remember, this is 1928. No dollies, no luggage-office, no taxi... nothing!

With my heavy luggage in hand, I have to walk for a good hour to get home (in those days babies were born at home). Just a few hours earlier I had broken 10 to 12 speed records some of which were 150km/h, and here I was, painstakingly dragging my baggage... I almost lost my cool along the Boulevard d'Avroy, in the middle of the night.

After walking more than half an hour I heard the sound of horse hooves. A carriage! My suitcases in its way with me in the middle, my arms in the air... The carriage stops, I give my address to the driver and he said to my great surprise: "That's where I'm going. Let me take care of your suitcases and hop on!". Still pondering over his answer I sit down across a lady that I can see in the darkness.

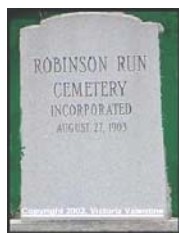
"Good evening, René" says my mother-in-law's voice. She had hired a carriage to take her to her daughter's house in the middle of the night,... in the absence of the father.

This proved to me that there are certain times in one's life that, fast or slow, but surely, we get there too.

That morning, back in 1928, Mrs. Milhoux would give birth to a future champion, **André Milhoux!**

Belgian Laces Vol#28-107 April 2006
Pennsylvania and West Virginia Obituaries

Extracted for the PA-SW-OBITS list of Rootsweb by Victoria Hospodar Valentine



Dec. 18, 1914 McDonald PA Record

Stricken by heart trouble as he was making a small purchase in the store of Louis TAZAT near his home on Belgian Hill Friday, **Henry DEHAUT** dropped to the floor and was dead before a physician could reach his side. Mr. DEHAUT had appeared in his usual health all day and had not complained of feeling unwell when about * o'clock he left his house to go to the store. Mr. DEHAUT was born near Liege, Belgium, 67 years ago. Twenty-two years ago² he and his wife came to

America, settling in McDonald, which has since been their home. For many years Mr. DEHAUT was employed in the mines. He retired from active work about ten years ago. His wife survives. The funeral was held Sunday afternoon. Interment in Robinson's Run cemetery.

Sept. 6, 1928 McDonald PA Outlook

Louis MOTTE³, aged 36 years, of this place was fatally stabbed Friday evening shortly after 10 o'clock as the result of a quarrel at a dance held in Fayolle school house north of town. The cause of the quarrel has not been determined. Frank BOLIND, aged --, of Santiago, near Imperial, was taken into custody by Chief of Police SCHONS shortly after and confessed that he had wielded the knife. Tony FIALOS of Valley street was severely slashed on the left arm when he grabbed BOLIND who attempted to run after MOTTE fell. BOLIND succeeded in getting away but was captured by Policeman SCHONS near the German church, west of town. MOTTE died before medical aid could be reached; his body was taken to the mortuary of J. C. ROGERS. FIALOS was attended to by a local physician.

Mr. MOTTE was a world war veteran serving with the 319 Infantry, 80th Division and for the past three years had been a member of the 103rd Medical Regiment U. S. National Guards. He was a well-known musician and for the past year had been in the drayage business here.

Besides his wife, Mrs. **Antonia KLIMAS MOTTE**, three children survive. They are: **Louise** aged 8 years; **Louis**, aged 6 years, and **Roseann**, 9 months. Mr. MOTTE is also survived by his father, **Alfred MOTTE**, of McDonald; two sisters, Mrs. **Jules LEMAL** of Langeloth, Mrs. **Ralph SAUNDERS**, Ellwood City, and five brothers, **Ernest, Jules, John, Alex. and Albert MOTTE** all of this place.

A military funeral was held in the St. Alphonsus church Monday morning at 9:00, in charge of the Rev. Fr. Joseph A. BURGOON. The procession from his late home to the church was headed by the 103rd Regimental band of Oakdale, of which band he has been a member for a number of years. Interment was in St. Patrick's cemetery in Noblestown.

Oct. 31, 1928 McDonald PA Outlook

Mrs. **Catherine DEHOU (nee RIGAUX)** aged 25 years, died Sunday at 2:10 p.m. after an illness of influenza. She leaves her husband, **Alfred DEHOU**, and three children: **Victorine**, five and one-half years old; **Isabelle**, four years old; **Alfred**, eighteen months old; her mother, Mrs. **Elsie RIGAUX** of Valley street; a sister and four brothers. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev. August DEVOS Wednesday at three o'clock.

Oct. 31, 1928 McDonald PA Outlook

Desire POSKIN, aged 72, died of pneumonia Tuesday at noon in the home of his

OTHER NEWS OF BELGIAN INTEREST

Aug. 9, 1912 McDonald PA Record

The **Rev. E. S. LHEUREUX**, a missionary in Porto Rico, and his family are spending the summer on the PAULL place, part of the old MCGUGIN farm, near Hickory. Mr. LHEUREUX has an interesting life history. Born in Belgium of French Huguenot ancestry, he came with his parent to Kansas, where he worked in the coal mines as a boy. Determined to enter the ministry, he studied theology, and for several years was pastor of the French church of McDonald. He married a Miss PROELLOCHS of East End Pittsburgh, member of an old French Huguenot family of Switzerland, and about nine years ago went to Porto Rico as a missionary of the Presbyterian church. Her he had to learn Spanish in order to carry on his ministry, preaching in that language. Mr. and Mrs. LHEUREUX have five children--four sturdy boys and an infant daughter two weeks old.

Sept. 16, 1893 McDonald PA Outlook

Joseph VERCHUEREN, of the East End, has returned home from a visit to his friends in old Belgium. With him came his brother, Jules, who has never been in this country before. He is a butcher and will probably locate in Willow Grove. On the same ship on when he came over were a lot of Russian and Italian emigrants who were sent by the Quarantine officers. Mr. VERCHUEREN reports business good over in Belgium. Wages are low-60 to 90 cents a day-but living is also very cheap. Miners work longer hours there; they must work ten hours a day. Girls have always worked in the pits in that country, but legislation is rapidly banishing them from the mines.

Mar. 4, 1893 McDonald PA Outlook

Recently in Belgium they make a draft for the army and **Victor VERSCHUREN**, of the east end was drawn to serve three years. He and his father are American citizens, but Belgian law will not allow Victor to go back there without serving. The names of **Fred. CHARLIER**, **Louis VEYDT**, **Paul LECLERC**, **J. B. LAUVAUX** were also drawn, but their numbers were lucky, and they are not called. **Augustine SUFFRONT**, about six weeks ago went back to Belgium and took his chance in the drawing and was lucky. The fate of Monsieur **PENCIS**, another McDonald man whose name was drawn, is yet uncertain.

² The 1910 US Census places **Henry DEHAUT**, 62, and his wife of 35 years, Julia, 52, in District 177, North Fayette Twp, Allegheny County, PA. They had 2 children but none alive in 1910.

³ WWI Draft Registration Card: **Louis A MOTTE**, b 31 Oct 1893 in Ensely, AL, resident of Cliftonville, Wva, machinist, single, medium built, slender, blue eyes, light colored hair, no handicap.

The 1900 census in McDonald, Washington Co, PA: **Alfred MOTTE**, coalminer b. Jun 1882 in **Belgium**, emigrated in 1880 (or 90 - hard to read), with wife Marie, b Nov 1874, Belgium (she has had 4 children - 3 of whom are still alive in 1900): Louis, b Nov 1893, AL, Adolphine, b May 1897, PA and Ernest, b Aug 1898, PA - The family lived on Liberty Street

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eldest son, Valentine, in North McDonald street. Mr. POSKIN came to McDonald forty-two years ago from Gilly, Belgium. He is survived by two sons, **Valentine** of North McDonald street and **Aime** of Valley street. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at three o'clock, at the home of his son on North McDonald street, with Rev. August DEVOS in charge.

Oct. 31, 1928 McDonald PA Outlook

Mrs. Antoinette BOHEY, aged 72, died at 12:20 a.m. Saturday, she was well-known and had many friends. She came to America forty-seven years ago from Marchienne-aux-Ponts, Belgium, settling in McDonald, then removing to Midway and later to Cecil. Mrs. BOHEY was a member of the French U. P. church of McDonald. She is survived by her husband, **Bernardin BOHEY** and three children: Mrs. **Mary DEBLANDER** of Ceil, **Auguste BOHEY** of Wheeling, and **Simion BOHEY** of Detroit. Funeral services were held Tuesday at two o'clock, with Rev. Auguste DEVOS in charge.

Aug. 16, 1928 McDonald PA Outlook

Emile OPENBRIER, aged 61, shot himself in a bed room at his home in Primrose about 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Mr. OPENBRIER was born in Belgium and came to this country 25 years ago. Besides his wife, Mr. OPENBRIER is survived by seven children: Mrs. **Jules GOSSIAUX**, Grindstone, Pa.; **Mrs. David FERRIS**, Midway; **Mrs. William SMART**, Bridgeville; Ferdinand, Emile, Jr., Joseph and William, at home. Funeral services will be held from his home Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. Interment will be in the Center cemetery, Midway.

June 19, 1914 McDonald PA Record

Mrs. Henrietta TOURNEY, wife of **Gregory TOURNEY** and a well known resident of McDonald died Wednesday night, June 10, at the family home on Belgian Hill. She was in her sixtieth year. Death was due to apoplexy, Mrs. TOURNEY having been ill for several weeks. Mr. and Mrs. TOURNEY came to McDonald from Belgium 28 years ago and had many friends here. Mrs. TOURNEY was a member of the French United Presbyterian Church. Beside her husband she leaves one daughter, **Mrs. RICHEL** of McDonald, and five sons, **Gregory, August, Gustave** and **Harry** of McDonald and **Charles** of Canonsburg. Funeral services were held in the French church Friday afternoon. The services were in charge of the Rev. Dr. Alexandre MAGE. Interment was in Hilldale cemetery.



Emil Louis COLIN

From "Old and New Westmoreland" Vol 4,p1288-1290, by John Boucher

The town of **Charleroi** in Hainaut, on the river Sambre in Belgium, 23 miles east of Mons and connected with Brussels by canal, was the birthplace of **Emil L. COLIN**, of Arnold, Pennsylvania, but the busy city of about 30,000 inhabitants, which he remembers, does not exist⁴, having fallen into the hands of the invading Germans shortly after the forts at Liege were taken in 1914, after the heroic defense which saved France and England from an unexpected attack. Charleroi lay in the path of the Hun and there the second great battle was fought after Liege. The city, with its extensive iron foundries, machine shops, cutlery,

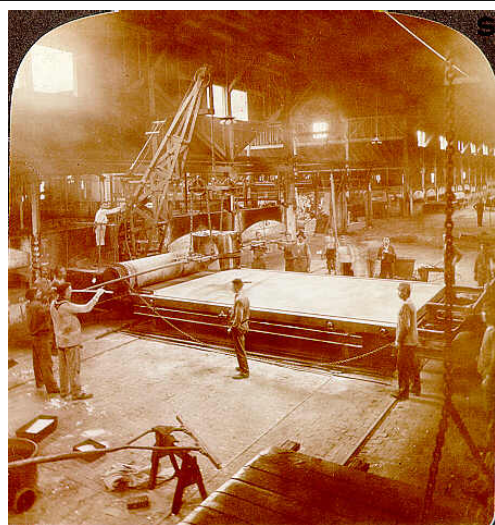
glass and nail factories, fell into the hands of the conscienceless foe,...

Emil Louis COLIN is a son of **John Joseph COLIN**, born in Charleroi, Belgium, son of **John Louis COLIN**, born in Jumet, Hainaut, Belgium, a master glass-worker and establishing glass plants in Belgium, Germany, France and England. In 1884 he came to the USA for the purpose of starting a glass factory at Creighton, PA, but 2 years later went to Crystal City, MO to start a plant there. He continued in the employ of the same company until his death in 1913, at the age of 92, having been upon the company's pension list for many of his latter-years, the first man ever to receive that honor from the company. He married **Virginia LEFEVRE**, who died in Belgium in 1884, aged 58. They were the parents of 3 children: **John, Joseph, Julius** and **Celina** who married **Louis ROUCLOUX**, now living in France.

John Joseph COLIN, eldest son of John Louis and Virginia (LEFEVRE) COLIN, was born in Charleroi, Belgium, in 1848, died in Tarentum, PA May 19, 1914. In Belgium he served his allotted time in the army, his duty being as a musician with the regimental band.

He came to the US in 1884 and followed his trade, glass inspector, until his death. He married **Ferdinande De MOULIN**, born in Tamines, Belgium... Mr. And Mrs COLIN were the parents of six children:

- **Virginia** married **Joseph NAMECHE**, of Ford City, Pennsylvania⁵



<http://akvalley.com/history/industry/ppg/ppg124.shtml>
**Casting & Rolling Sheets of Plate Glass at the
Pittsburg Plate Glass Works (Tarentum, PA)**

⁴ Original text

⁵ According to the 1900 US Census for District 577, Tarentum Ward 2, Allegheny Co., PA, **Joseph NAMECHE** is a machinist, born in Sep 1866, Virginia, his wife in May 1870 is a dressmaker. They have 2 children born in Pennsylvania: Esther M (b Aug 1892) and

- **Emil Louis**, of further mention
- **Arthur J⁶**, died in Pittsburgh, September 3, 1916, married **Elizabeth KRAMER**
- **Octave J.⁷**, proprietor of a hotel at Brackenridge, Pennsylvania
- **Irma** married **George KLENGENSMITH**, and died February 27, 1906 in Ambridge, Pennsylvania
- **Edgar**, a soldier of the United States serving at Fort Liscomb, Alaska.



«For the first few decades after Arnold was settled, life was peaceful and rather uneventful. With the establishment of the Chambers Glass Company in 1891, the quiet little village began its transformation into a thriving industrial town. This was at the same time that other businesses and industries were starting in New Kensington. Its population had risen with the increase in work, and immigrants poured into the community to make their homes. Naturally, with the heterogeneous population, plus the ever increasing industrialization, it's no small wonder that the community generally accepted as a part of New Kensington, should develop into political wards, each with it's own ax to grind.»

<http://www.arnoldpa.org/arnhistory.html>



Emil Louis COLIN, eldest son of John Joseph and Ferdinande (Demoulin) COLIN was born in Charleroi, Hainaut, Belgium October 22, 1872. He attended the State schools until twelve years of age, then, being the eldest son of a large family, was taken from school and became a wage-earner. He began learning the pattern-maker's trade but after working 9 months his father decided to come to the USA and bring his son, leaving the mother and other children in Belgium until she could dispose of the grocery business she was conducting. Father and son sailed on the steamship «Zealand» and after a rough voyage of 17 days sighted Fire Island light and soon landed in New York City. In Belgium the father had been inspector of glass in the factory and was also an accomplished musician, playing in an orchestra. They went directly from New York City, to Creighton, Pennsylvania, John J COLIN being under contract with Captain Ford, the first glass manufacturer. Six months later Mrs COLIN joined her husband in Creighton and there the boy Emil L worked as a bench boy polisher in the glassworks, his first wages being one dollar per day. He worked up through the various grades of promotion peculiar to a plate glass plant, being transferred to Tarentum, PA when plant#2 was moved from Creighton to Tarentum. This was in 1888, his position then being that of a glass polisher, and in Tarentum continued in that position for 10 years, then became a traveling salesman with **William H Holmes & Company**, of Pittsburgh, rectifiers and wholesale of liquors. He continues with that company until 1900 when he opened a hotel in Pittsburgh, which he conducted until 1905.

He then moved to East Liverpool, OH, where he conducted a café at the station, continuing there until November 23, 1905, when he came to Arnold, Westmoreland Co., PA, there taking possession of the Arnold House on December 23, 1905. and is still its proprietor. He is a Republican in politics, served 3 years as councilman in Arnold (1914-1916); is a member of the benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of New Kensington, Loyal Order of Moose, of New Kensington, Fraternal Order of Eagles, of East Liverpool.

Mr. COLIN married in Tarentum, PA June 29, 1893, **Aline FAULX⁸**, born in Charleroi, Belgium, May 23, 1873, daughter of **August and Emily (BOTTES) FAULX**.

The family sailed from Antwerp in 1885 and in the US at once located in Creighton, later moving to Tarentum. Mr. And Mrs. COLIN are members of St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church.

Their children are:

- **Jeanne Emily**, born in Tarentum, a graduate of the high school; and of Indiana State Normal, an accomplished pianist;

- **Raymond Louis**, born in Tarentum, educated in the public schools of Pittsburgh; and
- **Arnold**, was a tool and die-maker with the US Aluminum Company, leaving to learn glass-cutting with the Window Glass Company; he continued at his trade until war was imminent between the US and Germany. Then on May 1, 1917 he enlisted as a private in the coast artillery. He was stationed at Portland, Maine until March 1918 then was sent to France where he is fighting for both his own land and the land of his fathers.

Gaston (b Sep 1897). They lived next door to John Joseph and Ferdinande COLIN (b May 1851) and their children: Arthur (b. Jul 1877); Octave (b Jan 1880); Edgar (B sep 1884). The 1910 PA Miracode indicates one more child: Rene, 8.

⁶ On the 1920 US Census, **Arthur COLIN** and his wife Elizabeth are living in Harrison Twp, Allegheny Co, PA with their children:- Germaine, 7; Edith E, 6; Elizabeth, 4.

⁷ In 1910, **Octave L COLIN**, 31 and his wife Annie, 31 and their 2 children Margaret A (7) and Aloysius (5) are in District 16, Brackenridge 1st Wd, Allegheny, PA. They have been married for 9 years. By 1920, they have another child, Dorothy, 7.

⁸ By Jan 29, 1920, Aline (FAULX) COLIN is a widow. She and her children Jeanne (25) and Ray (23) live at the Arnold Hotel, on 18th Street, in Arnold Borough, Westmoreland Co., PA

The economic crisis in Flanders during the 1840s brought about the emigration of Belgians first to neighboring countries then to America. This was truly a catastrophe for the country and could be compared to the potato famines of Ireland.

At the beginning the 1840s, both Flanders were heavily populated, with a density of 250 to 350 inhabitants/km². They were mainly agricultural with some

flax-dependent linen industry here and there. Within the flax zone the agricultural lots are very fragmented. For about 160,000 of these, sitting on an average of 3 ha (7.4 acres) each, half are less than 50 ares (1.2 acres).

For most of these small farmers who work in the linen industry, at home during the winter, farming is only a supplemental income. Sowing and harvesting only occupy them 4 months a year.

Beginning in 1842, the industrially produced English linen drove the price of linen down and Belgian linen exportation dropped seriously. More and more green flax (untreated) was purchased directly by the industrial linen factories and abroad. In Flanders itself, there is not a single mechanized linen factory in 1841. For lack of market, small farmers stopped producing flax for home production. Between 1840 and 1846, flax production dropped 29% in Eastern Flanders and 23% in Western Flanders.

Small farmers lost the only other source of income that allowed them to survive besides farming. The weavers and flax workers were also reduced to unemployment. Faced with the English industrial innovations, the Belgian spinners and weavers' inertia and refusal to adjust to the market's new conditions, aggravated the situation.

France was the main market for Flemish cloth, but beginning in 1841, due to the situation with the British cloth, a high import tax was set to protect French production. Belgian exportation slowed down from year to year. In 1848, at the height of the crisis, exportation was barely a 1/3 that of 1840.

Alternating between industrial and agricultural activities had allowed the flax workers to survive with the supplement produced through farming. But the agricultural crisis ruined this meager supplement. In spite of the fact that the weavers restricted their spending to a minimum, in 1844, 6 out of 10 budgets met with a deficit, sometimes partially covered by charitable donations.

An 1844 inquiry on the working class in Western Flanders showed how these families managed to survive: "These countryside laborers's diet is made up of rye bread and potatoes, rarely wheat bread, turnips, carrots, cabbage, beans, sweet peas provide an interruption to the menu's monotony. This diet is almost exclusively vegetarian; sometimes accompanied by milk, eggs, pork since beef or veal is beyond their means. At best what a laborer eats mainly depends on the prosperity of the industry where he is employed. In the cities, laborers eat similarly to



their country counterparts, except that meats of all kinds are more often mixed in with their other food. As for living conditions, they usually meet desired health standards. However there are many exceptions, especially among the

poorest inhabitants who live in miserable thatched cottages, built with a few pieces of wood and silt this barely gives them enough protection against the wind and rain; There is no floor, no pavement, and often the floor of these homes is covered with a sickening smelling mud which makes these homes unliveable, especially considering these families also kept all their domesticated animals indoors"

Food Crisis

During the Winter of 1844-1845, the unusually low temperatures destroyed the Fall wheat and colza⁹ crops. In the Spring these crops were replaced with potatoes. In spite of a normal growth, these crops also were destroyed. It began at the end of July 1845, with fields in the area of Courtrai. Within a few weeks, Belgium was devastated as were most of the European countries. Within a few days the plants lost their foliage. The stems withered and dried or rotted according to whether the weather was dry or humid. The roots then decomposed rendering the plant inedible. The cause of this illness was unknown, so no remedy could be found. We know today that it was due to a parasitic mushroom. The preservation of the mycelium in the soil, year after year, explains that this disease reappeared year after year and was still causing havoc in 1850.

In 1845, it was estimated that 87.3% of the potato crop was lost. It was higher than 90% in Flanders.

1846 was as disastrous. A few frosty mornings after several warm days in March and April, the very humid winter and high temperature that lasted throughout the year produced cereal crops that were definitely lower than average. Rye suffered the

⁹ **Colza oil** is a non-drying oil obtained from the seeds of *Brassica campestris*, var. *oleifera*, a variety of the plant which produces Swedish turnips. Colza is extensively cultivated in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany; and, especially in the first-named country, the expression of the oil is an important industry. In commerce, colza is classed with rape oil, to which both in source and properties it is very closely allied. It is a comparatively inodorous oil of a yellow color, having a specific gravity varying from 0.912 to 0.920. The cake left after expression of the oil is a valuable feeding substance for cattle. Colza oil is extensively used as a lubricant for machinery, and for burning in lamps. - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colza>

most. Added to the potato disease, the failure of the cereal crops could only aggravate the situation.

The De Theux government (Catholic) tried to react with a series of measures:

- free entry of food products to ensure the country's supplies
- granting additional subsidies to the towns and to the homeless shelters

- launching of public works, road and canal construction to provide work for thousands of workers

During the 1847 elections, the Catholic government was replaced with a liberal majority led by Charles Rogier.

That year Rogier asked the Chambers for a 500,000Fr credit line for food for both Flanders and districts in other provinces suffering from the same conditions. It was necessary to first save the linen industry itself and then introduce new production options.

However, in spite of this and other measures that followed, the population continued to suffer from poverty for years. Spinners and weavers could no longer ensure their sustenance nor that of their families.

This already weakened population also fell prey to terrible epidemics. Typhoid fever appeared in 1846 and didn't disappear until 1848. Several thousands of people died of it. Spread in Flanders, this disease was more rare in the other provinces, less touched by the economic and food crisis.

Typhoid fever was replaced in 1848 by cholera that appeared in Antwerp on October 28th, 1848. It was brought by a sailor from Rotterdam, where the illness had been rampant for some time. Dormant through the winter, it spread through the whole country in 1849, to finally die out at the beginning of Winter.

Indigents, beggars and vagabonds

This crisis shook Belgium and brought about a boom among certain social "classes".

First of all the "indigents" who by definition were those who didn't have enough revenues to live on and therefore were either doomed to die a slow death, or, as is more likely in a "civilized society" be reduced to accept donations, whether voluntary or forced, deducted from the wages of another". The level where indigence began is of course hard to fix. The lack of uniformed rules caused great variations in the enrollment of indigents in the towns.

After that, the second social "class" to see its numbers swell was the beggars and the vagabonds. There has always been beggars but during the 1845 crisis, begging became a real institution, a real plague on the country and a social menace. In some towns begging was allowed once a week. The beggars gathered in large groups and travelled together asking for alms. Some farms received the visit of 300 beggars a day. Bands of hungry beggars, harrasing the farmers, travelled the roads in organized groups. Bruges, where there was a homeless shelter, was at one time literally invaded by beggars.

Run out of the cities in Flanders, run out of Brussels, beggard invaded the towns of Northern France. They were shipped back by the trainload. The French beggars too were unhappy with their Belgian counterparts. On April 28th, 1847, 1,200-1,500 French beggars showed up at the borders in Mouscron to enter

Belgium. They didn't leave until after calling out threats and throwing rocks at the police.

Overall, beggars were supposed to depend on one town, and those who left there, were arrested and jailed. At the term of their sentence they were sent to the homeless shelter. However only a small portion of them was condemned as during these difficult times, justice showed more tolerance towards them.

However, from 1845 to 1850, the number of people sentenced to imprisonment for crimes, infractions and tickets grew considerably in Belgium. This increase was especially noted in 1846 and 1847. From 55,600 in 1844, it reached 85,000 in 1847. It didn't come back to normal levels until 1850, witnessing that generalized poverty during these years of famine was the cause for these crimes. The population was dying of hunger. They stole what they could not buy. From the butcher's, at the market, from the potato and turnip fields, they took what they needed to prolong their existence.



Emigration

One of the consequences of this crisis was emigration, most often to neighboring France. That is how there was a large number of Flemish families in every city in Northern France. But half of those who left Flanders migrated to other Belgian provinces. By the end of 1848, there were 31,209 inhabitants less in both Flanders than in 1845, especially in the flax districts.

Bibliography : From "*Oppressed Flanders to the Most beautiful Country in the World*" translated and Edited by Jean-Albert Goris "*Les depots de mendicité en Belgique*", by Stroobant

"*Een onbekent aspect van de belgische emigratie*" by R. Boumans
"*Histoire de la crise économique des Flandres*" by G. Jacquemyns
Paintings by **Eugene Laermans**: (b Brussels, 22 Oct 1864; d Brussels, 22 Feb 1940). Belgian painter. In 1875, he became deaf and his career bore the mark of a somewhat isolated life He attended the local drawing school (1876-82), then studied at the Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts, Brussels (1882-87). In the 1890s he began to participate in various exhibits. Laermans was very interested in social issues and often depicted poor people such as immigrants, laborers and farmers. In 1924, he lost his sight and gave up painting altogether.

Index to “Commemorative Biographical Record of the Counties of Brown, Kewaunee, and Door, Wisconsin”

Published by the J. H. Beers and Co., 1895, Reel 8 Wisconsin Counties Histories, Allen County Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana, microfilm collection
Submitted by Linda Kincade

- Index and brief summary of data for individuals of Belgian ancestry, more biographical data available in the book, spelling of names is as published .
- ANDRIAENSSEN, A.A.L.:** pp378-9, b. 10 Sept 1859, son of **Anton and Sedone (GELBERT) ANDRIAENSSEN**, immigrated 1872
- BARRETTE, William:** pp583-4, b. 18 Feb 1829, son of **Francis and Mary J. (MILLMAN) BARRETTE**
- BASSINE, Louis:** pp739-40, b. 6 Sept 1860, Door Co., Wis, son of **Clement and Mary Theresa (DACOS) BASSINE**, natives of Belgium who immigrated in 1856
- BONCHER, Hector:** pp589-90, b. 6 Dec 1864, Brown Co., Wis., son of **John B. and Mary (TRACY) BONCHER**, natives of Belgium
- BORMAN, Henry:** p371, b. 18 Mar 1846, Belgium, farmer
- BOSMAN, August, J.:** pp576-7, b. 8 Mar 1830, Brabant, Belgium, son of **Louie and Mary C. (LIESSE) BOSMAN**
- BRICE, J. B.:** pp452-3, b. 6 Apr 1837, Jodoigne, Brabant, Belgium, son of **John Louis and Mary J. (STRAELE) BRICE**; consular, real estate, and ticket agent for steamship line
- CAUTEREELS, P. J., Reverend:** p362, b. 3 Jan 1833, Antwerp, Belgium, immigrated 25 June 1882 on the “Westerland”
- CLEERMANS, Charles:** pp402-3, b. 1841, Belgium, son of **Frank and Mary (DE LONG) CLEERMANS**, immigrated 1 Apr 1867
- CLEERMANS, Frank Jr.:** p263, b. 8 Apr 1845, Belgium, son of **Frank CLEERMANS Sr.** immigrated 1867, farmer.
- COLLARD, John B.:** pp718-9, b. 18 Dec 1862, Door Co., Wis., son of **Martin and Julia COLLARD**, natives of Belgium who immigrated in 1856.
- DAIX, Constant:** p491, b. 19 Feb 1838, Belgium, son of **Anton DAIX**, immigrated 1865 Antwerp to New York.
- DALEMONT, Joseph G.:** p666, b. 25 Feb 1854, Walhain, Brabant, Belgium, farmer.
- DE BEKER, Joseph:** pp713-5, b. Oct 1837, Belgium, son of **Louis and Albertine (NELIS) DE BEKER**, immigrated 1855.
- DE JONGHE, Constant:** p220, b. 1831, Belgium, son of **Frank DE JONGHE**, immigrated 25 Sept 1856, butcher.
- DELWICHE, John B.:** p655, b. 1847, Belgium, son of **William and Mary (DUPER) DELWICHE**
- DENIS, Charles:** p290, b. 17 Feb 1849, Belgium, son of **Leopold and Rosalie (NOEL) DENIS**, immigrated 1855 on the “Henry Reed”.
- DENIS, Gregorie:** p88-90, b. 8 Feb 1841, Belgium, son of **Justine and Josephine DENIS**
- DENIS, Joseph:** p147, b. 1845, Belgium, son of **Leopold and Rosalie (NOEL) DENIS**, immigrated 1855 on the “Henry Reed”, captain of the tug “Charmly”
- DROOG, Felix:** p146-7, b. 25 Dec 1823, Belgium
- DUCAT, Jacques:** p373-4, b. 10 Aug 1831, son of **Lombard DUCAT**, immigrated 1855
- DUCHATEAU, J. B.:** p454, b. 1867, Green Bay, Wis., son of **Adelbard and Felicite (DELWICHE) DUCHATEAU**, merchant
- ENGELS, Edward:** p461-2, b. 28 Sept 1839, Liege, Belgium, son of **John B. and Gertrude (SERRON) ENGELS**, immigrated 1856 Antwerp to Quebec, boot and shoe dealer
- ENGLEBERT, Desire:** p612-3, b. 8 Dec 1842, Belgium, son of **John ENGLEBERT**, immigrated 1856
- ENGLEBERT, Felix,** page 729-30, son of **John B. and Mary (PIERARD) ENGLEBERT**, immigrated spring of 1856, Antwerp to New York, on the “David Hodly”
- EVARD, Frank:** p565, b. 18 Aug 1837, Belgium, son of **Elick and Mary (MALCORD) EVARD**, immigrated 1855
- FRISQUE, Florentine:** pp432-3, b. 27 Aug 1849, Grez-Doiceau, Belgium, merchant, tailor
- GAUCHE, James, Father:** p289, b. 1825, Belgium, priest
- GENESEE, Augustus:** pp644-5, b. 16 May 1859, Brown Co., Wis., son of **Clem and Frances (KAYE) GENESEE**, natives of Belgium
- GOFFART, Ferdinand:** p121, b. 18 Nov 1836, Belgium, son of **Peter J. GOFFART**
- GOFFART, Zacharie:** p142, b. 1 Aug 1842, Belgium, son of **Peter J. GOFFART**
- GOSIN, August:** pp639-40, b. 7 Aug 1852, Belgium, son of **Donnie and Amelia (RAMOISEY) GOSIN**
- HENQUINET, John:** pp575-6, b. 16 Apr 1830, Belgium, son of **John B. and Catherine (CHANDOIR) HENQUINET**, landowner, general store proprietor, post master
- HUSSIN, Joseph:** p362, b. province of Liege, farmer and hotelkeeper, immigrated 20 June 1856
- JOANNES, Charles:** pp76-78, b. 24 Apr 1844, Tervueren, Belgium, son of **Eugene C. and Marie Elizabeth (VANDERMISSEN)**
- JOANNES, wholesale grocer,** immigrated 1856, autographed photo plate
- JOANNES, Mitchell:** pp78-80, b. 1848, Belgium, son of **Eugene C. and Marie Elizabeth (VANDERMISSEN) JOANNES**, wholesale grocer, autographed photo plate
- JOANNES, Thomas:** pp81-2, b. 17 Mar 1849, Tervueren, Belgium, son of **Eugene C. and Marie Elizabeth (VANDERMISSEN)**, wholesale grocer
- JONET, Peter:** p708, b. Aug 1834, Belgium, son of **Frank and Frances (POLISE) JONET**, farmer
- KAYE, Victor:** pp679-80, b. 26 July 1865, Wisconsin, son of **Anton Joseph and Ann Marie (PEWESMANN) KAYE**, natives of Belgium, immigrated July 1854
- LAMARRE, John L.:** p246, deceased, native of Belgium, b. 4 Aug 1822, farmer, married **Virginia MERRICK**, b Belgium 1832.

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LURQUIN, Felix: p140, b. 1842, Blanden, Belgium, son of **Joseph and Mary (HAZZENDONK) LURQUIN**, immigrated 1866
MARTIN, Constant: pp39-40, b. 11 May 1830, Brabant, son of **John MARTIN and Aseline BOSEL**:
MARTIN, Xavier: pp38-9, b. 10 Jan 1832, Grez-Doiceau, son of **John MARTIN and Aseline BOSEL**
MELERA, Felix: p670, b. 6 Aug 1835, son of **John MELERA** (of Italy) and **Constance PERA** (of Belgium), painter, decorator, farmer
MORAUX, J. D.: p196, b. Green Bay, Wis., son of **Victor and Mary (COLLART) MORAUX**, natives of Belgium, physician
NEUVILLE, Jacques: p753, b. 13 May 1840, Belgium, son of **J. Joseph and Mary J. (DELSAOU) NEUVILLE**
NEVILLE, Jules: p477, b. May 1842, son of **Julian NEVILLE**, immigrated 1855, clothier, merchant
QUATSOE, Ferdinand: pp374-8, b. 8 Dec 1847, Belgium, son of **Peter QUATSOE**, immigrated 1855, autographed photo plate
RONDOU, A.: p196, b. 1853, Belgium, son of **John and Catherine (DE VRAY) RONDOU**, gardener, immigrated to Detroit, Michigan 1868
SERVOTTE, Ernest: pp471-2, b. 25 Nov 1850, Belgium, son of **Guillaume and Victoria (DEMAIFFE) SERVOTTE**, immigrated 1856, builder
SERVOTTE, Joseph: p472, b. 17 Mar 1862, Door Co., Wis., son of **Guillaume and Victoria (DEMAIFFE) SERVOTTE**, builder
SMET, Ferdinand: p241, b. 12 Jan 1832, Belgium, son of **Albert Benedictus SMET**, immigrated 1868 abroad the "Colorado"
VAN CALSTER, Emilie: p141, b. 20 Apr 1840, son of **Gregg VAN CALSTER**, farmer
VAN DENHOUTEN, John B.: pp641-2, b. Feb 1840, Belgium, son of **William and Petronell (VANDER VEEKAM) VAN DENHOUTEN**
VAN DEUREN, P. J.: pp460-1, b. 1850, Brabant, son of **G. J. and Mary (AVANT) VAN DEUREN**, immigrated 1857, merchant
VAN DYCKE, Louis: p478, b. 12 Apr 1829, Antwerp, Belgium, died 9 Jan 1881
WATERMOLEN, Henry: pp35-6, b. 28 Oct 1836, Belgium, son of **Christopher and Mary (DEMUYLDER) WATERMOLEN**, clerk of circuit court
WATERMOLEN, John F.: p220, b. 1862, Green Bay, Wis., parents natives of Belgium who immigrated 1857, lawyer
WILLIAMS, Albert: p311, son of **John B. and Rosalie (VANDENBORNE) WILLIAMS**, natives of Belgium who immigrated in 1871.

1853 Passenger List (Part 3)

Researched and submitted by Guy Gallez



The following is a list of the passengers declared from Belgium at their arrival in **NEW YORK harbor**. Those lists were often made haphazardly and I'm sure not all of those listed were from Belgium. Also some I found listed as from "Germany" and other countries can be from Belgium. I often found names "sounding Belgian". But, without other information, I cannot put them in that list.

That list is limited to New York, the only harbor with original manifests available. The "Nr" is the serial number given on the manifest. When numbering the passengers was not done, I put a number myself in the order I found the Belgian passengers on the lists. That number is in *italic*.

Medicus, Carl G	25 M		USA	Gand	99	J Z
Metz, Magdalena	54 F		USA	Gand	63	J Z
Meyer, Alice	30 F	Mason	USA	Belgium	36	Princeton
Meyer, Carl	23 M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	112	Princeton
Meyer, Elisabeth	29 F	Mason	USA	Belgium	37	Princeton
Meyer, Elisabeth	6m F	Child	USA	Belgium	40	Princeton
Meyer, Frederick	17 M		USA	Belgium	38	Princeton
Meyer, Ulrich	4 M	Child	USA	Belgium	39	Princeton
Michels, Jacques	27 M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	181	Art Union
Moller, Emma	21 F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	140	Princeton
Muller, Henry	24 M		USA	Gand	101	J Z
Myere, Rosa	0 F	Born in the passage	USA	Belgium	151	Princeton
Nessell, Christian	27 M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	136	Princeton
Newsburg, Angela	37 F		USA	Belgium	101	Princeton
Newsburg, Barbara	4 F		USA	Belgium	105	Princeton
Newsburg, Gerhard	43 M		USA	Belgium	100	Princeton
Newsburg, Leonhard	8 M	Mason	USA	Belgium	104	Princeton
Newsburg, Nicolas	11 M		USA	Belgium	102	Princeton
Newsburg, Nicolas	9 M		USA	Belgium	103	Princeton

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Niscker, Adam	7	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	149	Princeton
Niscker, Elisabeth	39	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	144	Princeton
Niscker, Heinrich	13	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	147	Princeton
Niscker, Herman	5	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	150	Princeton
Niscker, Marie	21	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	145	Princeton
Niscker, Mina	19	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	146	Princeton
Niscker, Theresa	9	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	148	Princeton
Nullman, Anton	18	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	122	Princeton
Peton, Peter	53	M	Barber	USA	Belgium	203	Jane E Walsh
Pfander, Daniel	59	M	Stone mason	USA	Belgium	48	Princeton
Pfander, Magdalen	54	M	Stone mason	USA	Belgium	49	Princeton
Pins, Peter John	56	M		Belgium	Belgium	1	Atlantic (2)
Portman, Miss	23	F		Belgium	Belgium	2	Atlantic
Pos, Catherine	8	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	177	Art Union
Pos, Marguerite	32	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	176	Art Union
Pos, Nicekel	11	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	178	Art Union
Raiser, Peter	26		Farmer	USA	Prussia	145	Elizabeth Denison
Rampserger, Casper	31	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	123	Princeton
Reguile, Lambert	39		nystiunt???	USA	Belgium	2	Baltic
Rupp, Catherine	25	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	120	Princeton
Rupp, Johann	2	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	121	Princeton
Rusting, Carl	17	M		USA	Gand	84	J Z
Ryll, Adolph	23	M		USA	Gand	53	J Z
Saloman, Calman	59	F	Laborer	USA	Belgium	61	Princeton
Sanders, Peter	42	M	Joiner	USA	Belgium	89	Princeton
Schafer, Andreas	39	M	?	USA	Belgium	66	Princeton
Schafer, Anselon	3	F	Child	USA	Belgium	75	Princeton
Schafer, Antoin	18	F	?	USA	Belgium	70	Princeton
Schafer, Balbine	16	F	?	USA	Belgium	71	Princeton
Schafer, Catherine	11	F		USA	Belgium	65	Princeton
Schafer, Christin	11	M	Clerk	USA	Belgium	72	Princeton
Schafer, Eva	7	F	Child	USA	Belgium	74	Princeton
Schafer, Franz	10	M	Clerk	USA	Belgium	73	Princeton
Schafer, Johann	50	M	?	USA	Belgium	67	Princeton
Schafer, Josephine	6m	F	Child	USA	Belgium	76	Princeton
Schafer, Margareth	42	F	?	USA	Belgium	69	Princeton
Schafer, Michel	50	M	?	USA	Belgium	68	Princeton
Schafer, Thomas	48	M	Laborer	USA	Belgium	64	Princeton
Schodt, Wm	23	F	Clerk	USA	Belgium	1	Baltic
Schuyster, Balthazar	35	F	Servants	USA	Belgium	27	Princeton
Schwabedisser, Albertine	26	F		USA	Gand	82	J Z
Schwabedisser, Carl	27	M		USA	Gand	81	J Z
Schwabedisser, Johann	9m	M		USA	Gand	83	J Z
Seibel, Adolph	14	M		USA	Gand	77	J Z
Seibel, Carl	3	M		USA	Gand	78	J Z
Seibel, Dorothea	53	F		USA	Gand	76	J Z
Seibel, Heinrich	56	M		USA	Gand	75	J Z
Sibbern, E	30	F		USA	Belgium	2	Arabia
Sibbern, Edward	35	M	none ?	USA	Belgium	1	Arabia
Sigmund, Catherine	27	M	Laborer	USA	Belgium	58	Princeton
Sigmund, Eva	23	F	Laborer	USA	Belgium	59	Princeton
Sigmund, Martha	30	M	Laborer	USA	Belgium	57	Princeton
Sigmund, Mathias	26	F	Laborer	USA	Belgium	60	Princeton
Smith, Mary	30	F		USA	Belgium	267?	Victoria (2)
Soenan, Hendrick	35	M	Laborer	USA	Belgium	1	Margaret Evans
Spang, Wilhelm	25	M		USA	Gand	55	J Z
Staiger, Christoph	28	M		USA	Gand	60	J Z
Stappaerts, Jean	21	M		USA	Gand	64	J Z
Stebble, Crescenzia	31	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	124	Princeton
Stebbl, Elisabeth	18	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	126	Princeton
Stebble, Joseph	2	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	125	Princeton
Studes, Nicolas	17	M	Stone mason	USA	Belgium	50	Princeton
Sutter, Elisabeth	23	F	Servants	USA	Belgium	25	Princeton

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Sutter, Pauline	3	F	Servants	USA	Belgium	26	Princeton
Theisen, Catharina	63	F	farmer	USA	Holland/Ohio	150	Elizabeth Denison
Theisen, Francois	23	M	farmer	USA	Holland/Ohio	152	Elizabeth Denison
Theisen, Nicolas	27	M	farmer	USA	Holland/Ohio	151	Elizabeth Denison
Unsens, Camille	0		Born at sea	USA	Belgium	152	Princeton
Valleman, Anna	31	F	Mason	USA	Belgium	35	Princeton
Valleman, Henri	32	M	Mason	USA	Belgium	34	Princeton
Van Dursberg, H	26			USA	Belgium	4	Humboldt (4)
Van Hoof, Lewis	28	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	129	Princeton
Van Hoorebeke, Edmond/19	M			USA	Gand	51	J Z
Vanleekhout, Guillaume	26	M	Brewer	USA	Belgium	?63	Roger Stewart
Velten, Eberhard	26	M		USA	Gand	65	J Z
Vermazion, Jean	29	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	133	Princeton
Verstrepen, Joseph	34	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	132	Princeton
Vineer, Clara	41	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	114	Princeton
Vineer, Francisca	3	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	116	Princeton
Vineer, Johan	22	F	Farmer	USA	Belgium	113	Princeton
Vineer, Salomon	9m	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	117	Princeton
Vineer, Simon	4	M	Farmer	USA	Belgium	115	Princeton
Voght, Adolph	26	M		USA	Gand	52	J Z
Walter, Bonifacius	44	M	Merchant	USA	Belgium	78	Princeton
Webber, Christian	30	M	Laborer	USA	Belgium	24	Princeton
Weiss, Anton	43	M	Joiner	USA	Belgium	90	Princeton
Weiss, Heinrich	7	M		USA	Belgium	93	Princeton
Weiss, Helena	17	F		USA	Belgium	92	Princeton
Weiss, Joseph	3	M		USA	Belgium	94	Princeton
Weiss, Theresa	40	F	Joiner	USA	Belgium	91	Princeton
Werland, Catharina	44	F	farmer	USA	Holland/Ohio	148	Elizabeth Denison
Werland, Henri	66	M	farmer	USA	Belgium/Ohio	147	Elizabeth Denison
Werland, Margaretha	24	F	farmer	USA	Holland/Ohio	149	Elizabeth Denison
Whappers, Henry	18	M		Zerage?	Altert?	106	J Z
Wiederkehs, Johann	24	F		USA	Belgium	51	Princeton
Winkleman, Henry	24	M		USA	Gand	100	J Z
Withneker, Andreas	40	F		USA	Belgium	52	Princeton

A LETTER FROM AMERICA

Submitted by Neil HERALY

Jean Charles HERALY wrote the letter presented here to a cousin in Corroy le Grand, Belgium, in the year 1867.

I am told the letter was written in the French language of the time with the spelling of the time and includes numerous spelling errors that made it difficult to translate.

The letter gives a brief glimpse into the lives of the Belgian immigrants, and shows their enthusiasm for their new home. It also describes some of the conditions following the Civil War.

A copy of this letter was sent to me by my friend and distant cousin in Belgium, **Yves Heraly**. Yves and I have corresponded for many years and have exchanged visits to each other's homes. He helped me with many problems in researching family history, but was he unable to translate the letter.

A Belgian friend, **Jacques D'Aout** (married to a Belgian cousin of mine) and his neighbor, **Jean Alexandre**, a former English teacher in a secondary school, translated the entire letter in a few days. A few words were unable to be translated and are noted (.....).

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Robinsonville, the 16th of March 1867

Dear cousin,

I'm writing to you to let you know about the state of my health. I am very well like the whole family.

I hope it is the same for you. I haven't written in three year but thanks to Duquaine on his way back to Biet (Biez ??).

Now in America, the country is quiet.

We didn't pay any taxes to cover the cost of the war, but we pay it on all foodstuffs.

Everything is expensive, but the Government has worked to lower costs. The biggest taxes are on what you need the least as the heaviest are on liquor and beer. There isn't any tax on horses, cows and pigs. There are heavy taxes on factory, machine, but nothing on flourmill.

In America there are many more steam machines/engines than in Belgium.. In a plank sawmill one single machine saws 60,000 feet a day. I don't know one single object that isn't made by machine: plowing the soil, sowing, thrashing wheat, grinding wheat, making carts, making nails, pulling a stump out of earth, sewing clothes, knitting, refining iron, straw mill to grind straw for horses as thin as bran. It's all that can be done with a machine.

With that machinery you need a lot of workers, but they are scarce, because you work at home. Those who want to work in sawmills earn \$35-\$40/month and are fed. Here a day-laborer earns \$1.50/day besides being fed too; a mason (earns) \$3, a mason \$3, a carpenter \$3. Don't say it's not true if I tell you \$5. That has happened already. See, \$3/day in Belgian money makes 15fr and 90c a day. When I was making slates with my boy and my girls, we earned \$5/day. 1,000 slates. We do that during winter, at home, near the fire. Let's compare a day's labor with food prices.

a 100 lbs sack of top-quality wheat =\$5.50; 100 lbs of potatoes =\$1; 1 lb of bacon = 16 cents; 1 lb of beef = 14 cents; a barrel of salt (280 pounds) = 4\$; cotton = 25 cents; muslin wool = 37 cents; thin fabric for shirt = 6 shillings to 1\$ a yard (5/4(?) of an aune¹⁰ in Belgium); cloth = \$2.50 a yard; a cape (an overcoat) = \$10,\$20 and \$25; a nice ready-to-wear sweater = \$5 to \$8; a hat \$5; a pair of boots = \$5 to \$10; shoes = \$3.50 to \$4; coffee = 37 cents; 1lb of sugar = 18 cents; butter is sold for 50 cents a pound; eggs = 40 cents a dozen. Please note that 100 cents make a dollar.

If someone were unhappy in America, within six months he could earn

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money to go back to Belgium and even the whole family, but thank God I'm very happy. When I think about it, when I was in Belgium, I worked for 35 Belgian cents a day, a piece of brown bread in my pocket. It's funny. Imagine a 12 cents day in America. I don't even go to work for 150 cents a day even if I'm fed very well. Not to brag or to flatter America, but there is work everywhere to earn a living. There is much sweat and tiredness when clearing our land. God said to man "You will eat your bread by the sweat of your brow". You work for yourself at home. When you are tired, you take a rest. You make beer all year round. It's freedom. Everyone can make beer. I bought a ten bucket-boiler for \$7.

In 1866, in the North, the golden wheat was almost completely frozen. I got 12 cents a sheaf for winter and March wheat, altogether 2000 sheaves: 90 measures of wheat, 30 of rye, 10 of oats, 25 of peas. Potatoes didn't do well.

The same amount in Belgium: wheat sells for \$2.5; rye for \$1.20; oats for 50 cents; peas for \$1.

I have 20 arpents (acres) of land, that's about 8 hectares. I have two good 7y old oxen, a cow, a heifer, four 6 months old pigs for next winter. I have a complete carriage, a cart dating from before the war that cost \$65. Now you need \$100.

*Three fourths of our fellow Belgians have two horses. **Jos Gilson** called Carasée has two horses. I myself prefer oxen. Two horses cost 450 good dollars !*

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..... \$200; a cow \$50 to \$70. This year, there was no hard frost., but it frosted hard in December without any snow.

There is still a risk for the grain. Now it is still freezing with one foot of snow. Winter has not been good to take the foodstuff to Greenbay with the sled. Snow melted on the way. In America, we use a sled to go to the mill 9 miles away from my home.

In winter, you couldn't go with the Yaguine (?). My son plows. I have a young man and two young women.

We have a priest since 1862. Our congregation is made up of 130 families. Each family pays the priest \$3 every year. We have a beautiful wooden church, a stone-built vestry, a 557 lb bell that cost \$180.

Dear cousin, I'm asking you for news from Corroy and to find out the results. Dear cousin I count on you. You already helped me in Corroy. I hope you'll send me a letter before three months.

*I finish my letter, dear cousin. I send you my regards, also to my cousin and to my cousin Jules. Regards from my wife too, from my three children. Don't forget my regards to my sister, also to Joseph and Gérard. Regards to cousin Constant and his wife Minet. Regads to N. Lurquin and his wife, regards to **Louise Brise** and to **Pierre Brise**, regards to **J-B Dusart** and to Thérèse his mother and to all my neighbours.*

Address:

*to m.m.Jean-Charles Heraly
in Robinsonville in North America
Wisconsin*

Jean-Charles Heraly

Jean Charles HERALY came to America from Corroy le Grand, where he had been a farmer. The family left Antwerp 14 August 1855, on ship SS EMERALD ISLE, destination Hull-Liverpool destination New York. He was accompanied by his wife and children: **BOUILLON, Ann Marie Sylvie**, 41, **HERALY, Simon Florent**, 13; **HERALY, Marie Eugenie**, 7; **HERALY, Ann Joseph**, 5; **HERALY, Florent Eugene**, 1.

On the same ship was his brother **Francois Norbert HERALY**, 58, from Corroy le Grand. His occupation was also farming. He was accompanied by his wife and children: **PUES, Marie Francoise**, 54; **HERALY, Michael Joseph**, 25; **HERALY, Marie Antoinette**, 16.

Jean Charles settled in Robinsonville, WI, while his brother's family settled in the area of Casco.

If you are interested in more information on these families, contact Neil Heraly (nheraly@comcast.net)

¹⁰ An "aune" is an old measurement equalling about 47.5in (4 Roman feet). It was not a reliable form of measurement as its dimensions varied from place to place. In 1793, it was replaced permanently with the metric system!

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DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION: Brown County, Wisconsin

submitted by Mary Ann Defnet

Beginning in the year 1907, the Declarations include the birth date and place of birth of the immigrants. We are including these to aid the researcher. Names appear as written by the Clerk or the immigrant, with corrections in parentheses, if known. These Declarations are on file at the Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin/Green Bay.

Name	Birth	Place	Port	Arrival	Declaration
CALUWAERTS , Henry	18-Mar-1907	St Joris Weert	New York	3-Mar-1908	7-Nov-1931
NUTHALS , Philip Edmond Theophiel	8 Jan 1889	St George Weert	New York	18-Mar-1912	18-Apr-1934
NUTHALS , Raymond Jules René	8-Jan-1910	St George Weert	New York	18-Mar-1912	24-Apr-1934
VAN DAMME , Leo	11 Apr 1873	Hillegem	New York	21-Apr-1903	12-Dec-1934
BOUSHAERT , Charles	26 Mar 1866	Weert St George	New York	1 Jul 1885	16-Jan-1935
JESSOGNE , Emile Joseph	2 Feb 1870	Res: Temploux	Spring 1873	6-Dec-1935	
LAMARRE , Louis Joseph	21 Jun 1868	Grez-Doiceau	New York	15 Sep 1869	27-Dec-1935
THYRION , Joseph John	23 Oct 1872		Baltimore	Fall 1882	7-Oct-1935
VAN LORYNEN , John	11 Jan 1863	Overijssche	New York	15 Jun 1863	27-Apr-1935
VERSIN , Louis	24 Jun 1862	Near Antwerp	New York	Oct 1865	3-Aug-1935
CAPELLE , Joseph	7 Jul 1870	Meux		1894	16-Mar-1936
DELIE ¹¹ , Gaston Maurice	8-Jul-1905	Handre-lez-Bruges	New York	4-Sep-1920	10-Aug-1936
HUBERT , Emil	18 Jun 1868	Reem (Rhisnes)	New York	Sep 1871	8-May-1936
NOEL , Alexis Joseph	11 Aug 1866	Meux	New York	Nov 1888	3-Feb-1936
STERCKX ¹² , Pierre C. A.	11 Sep 1898	Leuven/Louvain	New York	7-Apr-1906	6-Oct-1936
VANDENBUSCH , Philip	17 Dec 1864	Weert St George	New York	May 1866	18-Feb-1936
VERSCHOOREN , Camille	12 Dec 1876	Heule	Vancouver	8-Jul-1908	14-Apr-1936
WILMET , Gustave Julian	17 Aug 1866	Namur	New York	1870	14-Oct-1936
DE BRUIN , Eugene	24 Feb 1862	Gleve Waas(?)	New York	29 Oct 1889	30-Mar-1937
GLIM , Hortense	9 Sep 1871	Sauvenière	New York	2 Sep 1881	9-Feb-1937
PETERS ¹³ , Mary (Mrs. Aug.)	6 Sep 1870	Roy	New York	Apr 1884	3-Jul-1937
PIERQUET , John	26 Mar 1876	Hontain*	New York	Jan 1884	22-Dec-1938
BAEB , Herman Franck	14 Dec 1880	Haasrode/Bierbeek	New York	7 Apr 1887	25-Sep-1939
LEFEVER ¹⁴ , Josephine	13 Oct 1879	St Joris Weert	New York	Aug 1887	16-Feb-1939
SALMON ¹⁵ , Mathilda	28 May 1865	Marchienne-au-Pont	New York	12 Feb 1881	16-Feb-1939
THYRION , Leonard Martin	17 Sep 1870	Thisnes	Baltimore	Mar 1882	28-Apr-1939
VANDERLINDEN , Henry D.	24 Jun 1876	Weert St George	New York	15 Jul 1882	21-Sep-1939
HEBELER ¹⁶ , Marie Jeanne	21 Oct 1889	Habay-la-Neuve	New York	Spring 1891	19-Dec-1940
VAN BEVER , John Victor	7 Aug 1877	Roy	New York	7 Apr 1882	14-Nov-1940
VANDERLINDEN ¹⁷ , Jeanne	12 Feb 1888	Brussels	New York	15 Jul 1882	14-Feb-1940
BOURGUIGNON ¹⁸ , Rosie	1 Sep 1873	Louvain	New York	Aug 1879	13-Mar-1941
COLLAER , Raymond	1 Jan 1879	Louvain	New York	Sep 1891	14-May-1941
COPPENS , Justine	27 Apr 1892	St Joris Weert	New York	18-Mar-1912	15-Mar-1941
COPPENS , Leopold Victor	25 Oct 1891	St Joris Weert	New York	17-Feb-1911	15-Mar-1941
DERBIQUE , Henriette M	28 Jul 1870	Charleroi	Philadelphia	28 May 1896	24-Mar-1941
JASSOGNE , Constant T	26 Mar 1872	Temploux	New York	15 May 1892	26-Nov-1941
LACROSSE , Emil	11 May 1864	Ernage	New York	5 Jun 1881	27-Jun-1941
MERTENS , Henry	17 Jul 1874	Brabant Province	New York	22 Mar 1880	1-Dec-1941
VAN PAY , Louis	25 Dec 1881	Huldenberg	New York	26 Jun 1886	2-Sep-1941

¹¹ Note: There is a Declaration for this person in the 1926 file, giving birthplace as St Andre Bruges. Correct spelling is Sint Andries (a section of Bruges)

¹² This person also made a Declaration on 17 Nov 1922

¹³ Maiden name: VAN BEAVER

¹⁴ Maiden name: VAN LANGENDONCK

¹⁵ Maiden name: MAAS

¹⁶ Sr. Mary of St Francis Borgia

¹⁷ Wife of Henry, maiden name: STERCKX

¹⁸ Maiden name: VANDENPLAS

VERHOEVE, Maurice Joseph; Tillsonburg ON Canada; born Apr 7, 1912 Clerken, West Flanders, Belgium; died May 19, 1986; son of Justin VERHOEVE & Stefanie DECLERK

VERHOEVE, Oscar Joseph; born May 26, 1904 Clerken, West Flanders, Belgium; died Jan 20, 1983; son of Justin VERHOEVE & Stefanie DECLERK

VERKINDT, Marguerite; Delhi, ON, Canada; born Meenen, Belgium; came to Canada in 1928; died Jul 16, 1988; age 89th year

VERMAERCKE, Maria; of Delhi, Ontario, Canada; born Belcele, Belgium; came to Canada in 1926; died Sep 9, 1995; age 90th year; husband Maurice VERMAERCKE 1988; daughter of Peter PENNEMAN & Elodie WUUYTACK

VERMAERCKE, Maurice; Delhi, ON, Canada; born Zeverghem, Belgium; came to Canada in 1927; died Apr 15, 1988; age 88th year; son of Jules VERMAERCKE & Irma WOLLAERT

VERMEERSCH, Rachel: Peacefully, with family members at her side, on Tuesday, March 6, 2001, at the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Rachel Vermeersch, a resident of the Tillsonburg Retirement Centre and former resident of Norwich at the age of 88 years. Born December 2, 1912, Woumen, W.F., Belgium, daughter of the late Richard Morreel and the late former Sylvia Soete (both of Belgium). Predeceased by her much loved husband of 62 years Gaston J. Vermeersch (November 6, 1998). Much loved mother of five sons and four daughters: George and his wife Willy Vermeersch of Tillsonburg, John and his wife Arlene Vermeersch of Norwich, Dan and his wife Diane of Norwich, Joel and his wife Jeanine Vermeersch of Norwich, Noel and his wife Kathy Vermeersch of Mount Elgin, Lea and her husband Joel Beelprez of California, U.S.A., Clara and her husband Urbain Dehens of Langton, Georgette and her husband Marcel Goris of California, U.S.A. and Jenny and her husband Peter Bouw of Vittoria, Ontario. Proud grandmother of 24 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Dear sister of Albert and George Morreel both of Belgium. Predeceased by a sister Martha Ryckeboer and a brother Valere Morreel and two sisters-in-law: Madeleine and Elvire. Relatives and friends of the family are welcome for public visitation Wednesday 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Verhoeve Funeral Home, 262 Broadway, Tillsonburg. Mass of a Christian Burial to be celebrated on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. at the St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Tillsonburg by Rev. Father Michael Langan. Interment Tillsonburg Cemetery. *Tillsonburg News, March 7, 2001*

VERMEULEN, Edmond; born Stekene, Belgium; died June 6, 1983; 73rd yr; son of Joseph VERMEULEN & Julia VANDOESLAERE

VERPLANCKE, Emma; of Delhi, ON, Canada; born Veldegem, Belgium; came to Canada in 1924; died Nov 19, 1994; age 98th year; husband Peter VERPLANCKE (1977); daughter of Charles TAFFERIREN & Clemmantine KEIRSEBILCK

VERSCHEURE, Marcella; of RR2, Aylmer, Ontario, Canada; born Sep 16, 1995 Sint-Eloois-Winkel, Belgium; came to Canada in 1986; died Dec 26, 1995; husband Albert VERSCHEURE; daughter of Ernest & Elisa (TANGHESOENS)

VERSCHEURE, Julianne M; RR #2, Aylmer ON Canada; born Jan 23, 1916 Wetteren, Belgium; came to Canada in 1935; died Sep 26, 1985; daughter of Adolf DEMAERE & Rosalie DUQUET

VERSTRAETE, Agnes; RR #2, Delhi ON Canada; born Aug 15, 1924 Ledegem, West Flanders, Belgium; died Dec 21, 1985; daughter of Maurice and Clemente VANDENHEEDE

VERSTRAETE, Gaston G; RR #2, Delhi ON Canada; born Aug 7, 1914 Moorsele, West Flanders, Belgium; came to Canada in 1948; died July 30, 1986; son of Camiel VERSTRAETE & Maria VANOVERSCHELDE

VERVAET, Cesar; of Langton, ON, Canada; born Zaffelare, E.F., Belgium; came to Canada in 1975; died Nov 11, 1994; age 91st year; wife Amelia VERVAET (1968); son of Alfonse VERVAET & Maria VANDAMME

VUYLSTEKE, Arthur; Hamilton ON Canada; born Aug 4, 1905 Wevelchem, West Flanders, Belgium; died Feb 2, 1985; son of Henri VUYLSTEKE & Elodie DEPOORTER

VUYLSTEKE, Godelieve Alice, born May 14, 1907, Beveren-Roselaere, West Flanders, Belgium, died Sept 26, 1990, daughter of Karel Vandewyngaerde & Elodie Bauvin

VUYLSTEKE, Henri Theophile; Langton, ON, Canada; born Sep 4, 1896 Becelaere, West Flanders, Belgium; died Aug 24, 1988; son of Emiel VUYLSTEKE & Leonie DEMEY

VUYLSTEKE, Vivian Mary Jane; 66; Sept. 3, 2001; Tillsonburg, ON, CAN. At the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Monday, September 3, 2001 after a courageous battle with cancer. Vivian was born on June 23, 1935 in Middleton Township, Norfolk County. She grew up in the Langton area and spent the rest of her life in Norwich Township. She was a member of St. Mary's R.C. Church, Tillsonburg and a C.W.L. member for 40 years. Beloved wife and best friend of Ralph Vuylsteke. Dear mother and mother-in-law of Deborah Vuylsteke and James Linton of Cantley, Quebec; Christine and Chris Legein of Oakville, Ontario; and Ralph and Laurie Vuylsteke of Tillsonburg, Ontario. Sadly missed by her grandchildren Tyler, Stefan and Jacob Legein; Hayley and

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Olivia Vuylsteke; and James-Jules and Samantha Linton. Dear sister and sister-in-law of Andre and Diane Vanderhaeghe; Roger and Paula Vuylsteke; Margaret [and the late Mitch] Pleeters; and Cecelia and Gilbert Van Laeken.

Predeceased by her parents Jules and Julia [DeKINDT] Vanderhaeghe. Beloved aunt of several nieces, nephews and cousins and a good friend to many in the Tillsonburg, Langton and Long Point areas.

Resting at the VERHOEVE FUNERAL HOME, 262 Broadway, Tillsonburg until Thursday, September 6, 2001, thence to St. Mary's R.C. Church for mass of Christian Burial at 2 P.M. by Rev. Fr. Michael Langan. Interment to follow at the Tillsonburg Cemetery. The family has requested donations to honour Vivian's memory to Camp Trillium [helping children with cancer], St. Mary's R.C. Church, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital or choice [by cheque

WATHY, Zoe; Vienna ON Canada; born Apr 5,1899 Boesinghe, Belgium; came to Canada in 1924; died Nov 10,1986; daughter of Leonard & Prudence FASSEEL

WAEM, Margaret; born Dec.7,1920 St. Nicholas, Belgium died Oct.21,2001; widow of Jerry E Thournout (1972); Buried Delhi Cemetery, Delhi, ON, Canada

WYBO, Adrienne C; of Langton, Ontario, Canada; born Oct 9,1913 St.Andries, West Flanders, Belgium; died Oct 9,1995; husband Hippoliet WYBO (Sep 17,1977); former MOEYAERT

WYBOUW, Julius;born Ruddervoorde, Belgium; died Sept 10,1983; 89th yr; son of Victor WYBOUW & Hectorina JANSSENS

WYBOUW, Pharaïlda, born Ichtegen, Belgium died Jan 22,1990 daughter of Levien Declerck & Rosalie Dejonhge *Tillsonburg News Obits*

WYSEVELDE, Remy C; of Port Burwell, Ontario, Canada; born May 15,1925 Kemzeke, Belgium;died Mar 17,1995; wife Linda GRIDTSCHINA; son of Ray WYSEVELDE & Matilda VANDOSSELEARE

Belgians in the 1901 Canadian Census: Lorne, Lisgar, Manitoba

5.9	Rosier, Alfred	M	15 Aug 1870	Belgium	head	1895
5.9	Rosier, Josephine	F	24 Jan 1874	Belgium	wife	1895
5.9	Rosier, Maria	F	28 Aug 1893	Belgium	daughter	1895
5.9	Rosier, Rosel	F	6 Jul 1894	Manitoba	daughter	
5.9	Rosier, Zedith	F	17 Oct 1896	Manitoba	daughter	
5.9	Rosier, Valentine	F	9 Jun 1898	Manitoba	daughter	
5.9	Rosier, Lydie	F	13 Jul 1899	Manitoba	daughter	
5.9	Rosier, Clementine	F	29-Sep-1900	Manitoba	daughter	
5.9	Maurage, Omer	M	2 Dec 1839	Belgium	head	1888
5.9	Maurage, Josephine	F	15 Oct 1840	Belgium	wife	1888
5.9	Maurage, Edmond	M	19 Jun 1865	Belgium	head	1895
5.9	Poncelet, Joseph	M	15 May 1875	Belgium	head	1891
5.9	Poncelet, Delia	F	26 Dec 1880	Manitoba	wife	
5.9	Poncelet, Orelie	F	24 Oct 1899	Manitoba	daughter	
5.9	Delechter, Constant	M	1841	Belgium	head	1893
5.9	Delechter, Constance	F	Sep 1844	Belgium	wife	1893
5.9	Delechter, Theophile	M	Apr 1877	Belgium	son	1893
5.9	Delechter, Alphonse	M	15 Apr 1879	Belgium	son	1893
5.9	Delechter, Celine	F	15 Sep 1881	Belgium	daughter	1893
5.9	Delechter, Mathilda	F	20 Jun 1884	Belgium	daughter	1893
5.9	Delechter, Arthur	M	30 May 1887	Belgium	son	1893
5.9	Delechter, Levina	F	20 Jun 1890	Belgium	daughter	1893
5.9	Van De Woorde, Leonard	M	2 Mar 1862	Belgium	head	1896
5.9	Van De Woorde, Ludovica	F	15 Nov 1825	Belgium	mother	1896
5.10	Van Brabant, Charles L	M	15 Sep 1851	Belgium	head	1892
5.10	Van Brabant, Barbara	F	May 1852	Belgium	wife	1892
5.11	Martin, Edward	M	16 Oct 1835	Belgium	head	1882
5.11	Martin, Idonia	F	1835	Belgium	wife	1882
5.11	Agarand, John	M	9 Feb 1856	Belgium	head	1889
5.11	Agarand, Alexandrine	F	27 Aug 1871	Belgium	wife	1892
5.11	Agarand, Jule	M	15 Jun 1895	Manitoba	son	

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5.11	Agarand, Rene	M	9 Dec 1898	Manitoba	son	
5.11	Kergen, Joseph	M	11 Jan 1875	Belgium	domestic	1890
5.11	Godard, Auguste	M	21 Nov 1873-4	Belgium	head	1892
5.11	Godart, Rosalie	F	26 Jul 1877-8	France	wife	
5.11	Godart, Clementine	F	7 Feb 1899-00	Manitoba	daughter	
5.11	Godart, Mathilde	F	26-Mar-1900	Manitoba	daughter	
5.12	Francois, Jule	M	26 Nov 1860	Belgium	head	1892
5.12	Francois, Marie I	F	10 Jul 1863	Belgium	wife	1894
5.12	Francois, Adolphe	M	15 Jul 1885	Belgium	son	1894
5.12	Francois, Ivonne	F	21 Nov 1887	Belgium	daughter	1894
5.12	Francois, August	M	8 Dec 1890	Belgium	son	1894
5.12	Dekelver, Gillam	M	15 May 1832	Belgium	head	1888
5.12	Dekelver, Catherine	F	20 Oct 1840	Belgium	wife	1888
5.12	Dekelver, Henri	M	19 Aug 1863	France	son	1887
5.12	Dekelver, Guilmin	M	6 Jan 1881	Belgium	son	1888
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Peter	M	8 Sep 1847	Belgium	head	1894
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Octavie	F	8 Nov 1848	Belgium	wife	1894
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Victor	M	10 May 1877	Belgium	son	1894
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Hoctor	M	21 Dec 1878	Belgium	son	1894
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Polontine	F	3 May 1882	Belgium	daughter	1894
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Esidore	M	5 Apr 1887	Belgium	son	1894
5.12	Cauwenberghe, Theodore	M	11 May 1889	Belgium	son	1894
5.12	Schumacher, Reinard	M	25 Oct 1851	Belgium	head	1888
5.12	Schumacher, Seraphine	F	11 Mar 1852	Belgium	wife	1888
5.12	Schumacher, Stephani	F	2 Feb 1884	Belgium	daughter	1888
5.12	Schumacher, Joseph	M	1 Jan 1888	Belgium	son	1888
5.12	Schumacher, Marie	F	20 Mar 1890	Manitoba	daughter	
5.12	Schumacher, Eleonard	M	20 May 1894	Manitoba	daughter	
5.12	Ledoyen, Elie	M	1870	Belgium	head	1892
5.12	Ledoyen, Sidonie	F	18 Sep 1874	Belgium	wife	1888
5.12	Ledoyen, Adolphe	M	2 Sep 1898	Manitoba	son	
5.12	Ledoyen, Albert	M	10-May-1900	Manitoba	son	
5.12	Deschouwer, Francis	M	22 Feb 1856	Belgium	head	1888
5.12	Deschouwer, Adele	F	8 Nov 1859	Belgium	wife	1889
5.12	Deschouwer, Marie	F	12 Jul 1879	Belgium	daughter	1889
5.12	Deschouwer, Arthur	M	6 Mar 1881	Belgium	son	1889
5.12	Deschouwer, Malvina	F	21 Jun 1883	Belgium	daughter	1889
5.12	Deschouwer, Victorine	F	19 Jan 1886	Belgium	daughter	1889
5.12	Deschouwer, Adeline	F	7 Aug 1888	Belgium	daughter	1889
5.12	Deschouwer, Alphonse I	M	21 Mar 1891	Manitoba	son	
5.13	Demaght, Bruno	M	1853	Belgium	domestic	1892
5.13	Rigaux, Joseph	M	27 May 1833	Belgium	head	1882
5.14	Depape, Ange	M	21 Sep 1835	Belgium	head	1894
5.14	Depape, Philomene	F	24 Jun 1845	Belgium	wife	1894
5.14	Depape, Louise	F	8 Aug 1872	Belgium	daughter	1894
5.14	Depape, Charles	M	4 Apr 1876	Belgium	son	1894
5.14	Depape, Marie	F	11 Apr 1880	Belgium	daughter	1894
5.14	Depape, Emma	F	12 Mar 1883	Belgium	daughter	1894
5.14	Depape, Elodie	F	18 Mar 1891	Belgium	daughter	1894
5.14	Van Zele, Hipolyte	M	30 Apr 1865	Belgium	domestic	1894
5.15	Van Herrawige, Prosper	M	21 Mar 1874	Belgium	domestic	1896

May 8

Leon went to the show alone last night. I didn't feel like it. We all had a very restful night. This morning it is quite windy again. The ship is rolling and heaving a lot more compared to yesterday. But we appear to be getting used to this. It does not bother us as much.

The whole family went to lunch. The food tasted fine. Only A nne Marie is not fully recovered. She eats very little but at least takes a ham sandwich to our cabin. She feels weak, yesterday she could hardly stand on her legs but she feels better today. She spends some time on deck strong winds and cold temperature notwithstanding.

On deck, they serve us steaming hot coffee; A nne Marie has two cups of it. It makes her feel better. She reclines in a deckchair. I cover her with my topcoat. Too bad it is so cold. Jules claims the reason is the fact we are near the cold gulf stream. I go back upstairs and eat a leftover orange. It tastes good.

May 9, Sunday morning

Yesterday we all went for lunch: vegetable soup, beans with bacon, no sauce, just the fat from the bacon, potatoes and an orange for dessert. We spend the afternoon on deck again. The weather is much improved. We are getting used to the sea air, but our skin feels rougher to the touch. On deck, they serve us tea and raisin buns. Scrumptious.

Supper brings us tomato soup with meatballs, meat and croquettes, stewed meat with red beets and potatoes, ice cream for dessert.

We met a Dutch farm family. They have ten children. The oldest is 24 while the youngest is about A nne-Marie's age. They are good, down to earth people, a bit like us and very friendly. They tell us there is H oly Mass every morning at 7 a.m. and at night, around 8:30 p.m. communal evening prayers in the children's room. We didn't know this, so we accompany them for evening prayers. The chaplain comes to see us and fills out some papers with our names, baptismal records and so on. We inform him; A nne-Marie has done her holy communion but is not yet confirmed. H e writes it all down, even the address where Leon will go to work. H e says that he will mail it all to the Toronto diocese who will look us up in Canada. The chaplain makes this trip regularly to inform the Canadian clergy about the new immigrants. This is his mission.

So this morning we attended Mass and received H oly Communion in the cinema hall. A fter breakfast it is back to church at 8:30 am. This time it is a sung Mass by all those present. Even some crew members are present. We feel much moved by it all. The rest of the morning we spent on deck where they served us hot chocolate (two cups). Tasty. A fter, until lunch time, I worked on my correspondence again.

Early in the morning, around 6:30 or so, we spotted another ship from our cabin window. A while later we saw another one. There are still 2 or 3 seagulls around. The rest is water, nothing but endless water upon which our ship rolls and heaves. It does not bother us anymore. But the children are getting anxious to set foot on land again.

Tomorrow, so it is announced, we should be able to see part of Newfoundland. The trip is getting along. This morning I posted some letters; though, I don't know how they can get them off this ship. I mailed one to you, and one for the Devriese family. I hope you will be happy to hear from us.

It is now 7:15 pm. For today's lunch, we had asparagus soup, steak and fries with tomato salad. In the afternoon, it was cake and tea on deck. Suppertime brought us a smorgasbord with various kinds of meat, vegetables, mashed potatoes, the whole thing baked till brown. Then came salted herring, salad, corned beef, two kinds of cheese, white and brown bread, coffee, jam, and oranges for dessert. It was a sight to behold. The table could barely hold all the different plates and dishes. A person can really stuff himself on this ship. Even a man from Brussels (he is about 50), he used to be a waiter in a hotel, states: the food as well as the service is excellent.

A fter supper, we accompany our Dutch friends to the evening prayers. Then comes bedtime. A whole day on deck makes one sleepy. I forgot to tell you about our neighbors. On the one side, we have the chaplain, and on the other side five young fellows from Luik. They seem to be having a very good time. Sometimes they party until well after midnight. A nd they eat like horses.

May 10, Monday.

Last night while we were in bed, a group of Germans sang and played the guitar in the salon across from us. It was truly beautiful. Then came a group of Dutchmen. Later they sang and played all together. It was a pleasant Sunday evening.

We attend Mass this morning. Jules serves as altar boy. It was in a small meeting room. A fter that breakfast: H alf a grapefruit, 3 kinds of bread, buns, jam, sausage, cheese and rice or quaker oats boiled in milk (porridge, something, we call pap in Flanders). It seems to be a Dutch custom to eat porridge at breakfast time.

3 pm. For lunch we get soup, hutsepot and sausage. Dessert is an apple. Later on, I finish a letter and write two postcards. The mail must be ready by 6 p.m. for the airmail.

A nne-Marie went to the children's show, for those between the age of 8 and 13. Pierre plays a game of checkers with the Dutch kids. Jules is reading a book. This morning, Leon played chess with a German fellow. Tea will be served shortly. We don't even have a chance to get hungry.

This afternoon, everybody has to fill out landing papers declaring what we have brought along and its value. This is to facilitate and speed up the customs inspection. This means we are nearing our destination.

Supper is oxtail soup, veal sauté with vegetables and potatoes, and apples for dessert. A fter the evening prayers, we sit around in the salon 'till 9:30. Some people are singing and dancing.

Tuesday

A fter H oly Mass and communion, we have breakfast: bacon and eggs, blood sausage, cheese, honey cake, and radishes. One simply cannot eat it all. Our full bellies are tight as a drum. Too bad the feast is almost over.

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The ocean is a lot rougher today. Yesterday it was smooth as glass. It starts to rain. No matter. We'll enjoy being big- shots and pass the time' playing cards, chess, checkers, reading, and going for a walk on deck which won't be too enjoyable this morning. No land is in sight as yet. It was quite foggy last night. The foghorn sounded constantly, even this morning for a while. Probably if it wasn't so foggy, we might be able to see land.

Due to the extremely rough sea, we remained inside all afternoon. The loudspeaker announced light snow was falling in Quebec. The ship itself was surrounded by snow squalls from time to time. The weather was icy cold.

Supper is once again a grand feast: tomato soup, spare ribs and fries, witloof, chicken with pineapple, ice cream in tumblers with peaches and whipped cream, and oranges. Everybody pigged out.

That night Leon goes to the show. The rest of us passed the time in the salon till around 10 p.m. Then it is bedtime.

A fter the evening prayers, the chaplain blessed us and gave us a remembrance cross, and also a list of Dutch speaking clergy in Ontario.

Wednesday morning, I have been looking through our little porthole. I think, I see land but probably it is the dark horizon. Two ships pass by. A fter a while, it clears up a bit. Then I see the land: mountains covered with snow.

There is land to be seen on both sides now. We spot villages, enormous forests and high mountains. It is beautiful beyond compare. Too bad it isn't sunny. Yesterday, the heaving seas made the ship toll quite a bit. Even this morning it was still rather, rough. The coffee spilled on the table. Now the water is calm.

A fter breakfast, we walk on deck to look at the land and the many ships passing by. We see the "A tlantic" on its way to Le H avre.

There land to be seen on both sides now. We spot villages, enormous forests and high mountains. It is beautiful beyond compare. Too bad it isn't sunny. The seas have calmed down quite bit now. Yesterday, the heaving seas made the ship roll quite a bit. Even this morning it was still rather rough. We had to hold on to everything, even the chairs would slide on the floor. The coffee spilled on the table. We are used to the rough water by now, these incidents seem like a big joke now. Now the water is calm.

Crossing an ocean makes one aware of God's almighty greatness. We all felt it. It made us realize how puny mankind really is, all of us feel proud and glad we made this voyage. We will be going to have lunch soon.

(Written 4 June)

Lunch: veal chops, I still remember it. A fine meal as usual. We spend the afternoon on deck. The sun was shining and the shoreline is pretty close now. It is so beautiful, mighty mountains, forested hillsides, neat little houses and villas. We believe the first houses we see are probably those of the people who work in the vast forests along the river. Farther up, we spot some farms, cars, churches, etc.

We arrive in Quebec around 4 p.m. H owever, it is 8 p.m. before anyone goes ashore. The Canadian authorities came aboard to check our papers. - Upon debarkation, they lead us to a large hangar. It is 10 p.m. before we get through customs where they make us open a suitcase and a trunk. Everything is in order. Even though we had supper on board, in the station, they continue to offer us coffee, cookies, and milk. No need to go hungry. Then it is on to the train for Toronto. Everybody had the number of the car they were to board. The train departs around 2 a.m. Thursday, almost immediately Pierre and A nne Marie fall asleep. Except for the odd catnap, Jules, Leon and I stayed up pretty well all night. Towards morning we pass some neat looking villages. Later on we speed through vast forests. Once in a while we spotted an abandoned farm. We looked at each other but kept our thoughts to ourselves. The train was really moving now. Now the farms along the way appeared to look more dilapidated. We saw large herds of cattle and sheep, or at times a small village of wooden houses. We arrive in Toronto around 4 pm.

Toronto is a very large city. They tell us in the railway station office that the Immigration building is already closed and advise us to see them on Friday morning. We take the downtown subway and spend the night in a hotel not far from the immigration building. That costs us 300 franks just for sleeping, no food.

In the morning we eat breakfast along the road, before we go to the immigration building. There was a garage on the first floor, the offices are on the second floor. It was after 10 am when Leon came back out. They told him to come back on Monday to find out if and where there might be a job for him.. Everything is so expensive in Toronto. We worried a bit, so we went to Calus's, as I already wrote to you.

In Delhi, A t A ndriesens we are well received. We are lucky to find work where most of us can work together. We are living on the farm where we work, upstairs in the farm house. We (Leon, Jules and me) are planting tobacco, Pierre works about 1 km from here, and he comes home every night and is home on Sundays. It is a pleasant place to be. The children are getting used to the new country. They don't seem to mind the work. Saturdays they come along when we go shopping in town. They've been to the show twice with Mare A ndries. He is 17. He is always at home on Sundays. He swims a lot when the weather is warm. In winter time, they do a lot of skating as well as various other sports.

This is the end of my report. We wish you all the best. Our deepest thanks to you.

Léon - Maria Vanhaelemeesch, Jules - Pierre - A nne Marie

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World War I Draft Registration Cards: 1917-1918

Submitted by Beverly Bolton Hyde - rbhyde@ldsliving.com

The period of 1880-1920 was a high immigration period to the United States. With the loss of the 1890 U.S census records, the World War I Draft Registration Cards provide an oft overlooked resource to the approximately 24 million men living in the United States in the early twentieth-century.

On 6 April 1917, the United States declared war on Germany and officially entered the Great War. Six weeks later, on 18 May 1917, the Selective Service Act was passed, which authorized the president (then, Woodrow Wilson) to increase the military forces of the United States. As a result, every male living within the United States between the ages of 18 and 45 was required to register for the draft.

Over the next two years, approximately 98% of the men under the age of 46 regardless of their U.S. citizenship status filled out registration cards. Not all the men who registered actually served in the armed forces, and there were some who served in the war that did not register. Those already enlisted or in the reserves were exempt from registering.

Registration

There were three registration dates:

First Registration: 5 June 1917: -- Men aged 21 to 31 – those born between 6 June 1886 and 5 June 1896

This card (sometimes called the Twelve-Question card) asked for: name, age, address, date and place of birth, citizenship status, employer's name and address, dependent information, marital status, race, military service, and physical appearance.

Second Registration: 5 June 1918 / 24 August 1918

--Men aged 21 since previous registration – those born between 6 June 1896 and 5 June 1897

--Men who had not previously registered and were not already in the military also registered

--A supplemental registration on 24 August 1918, was for men who turned 21 since 5 June 1918.

This card (sometimes called the Ten-Question card) requested the following information: name, age, address, date and place of birth, father's birthplace, citizenship status, occupation, employer's name and address, dependent information, name and address of nearest relative, and physical appearance.

Third Registration: 12 Sept 1918: --Men aged 18 to 21 and 31 to 45 – men born between 11 Sept 1872 and 12 Sept 1900.

This card (sometimes referred to as the Twenty-Question card) includes

Search Tips

- Some Italian immigrants wrote their last names first, resulting in some cards being filed under first names. Also, cards of Hispanics may be filed under their mother's maiden name surname if the registrant gave both parents' surnames
- Illiterate men were unable to spell their names and birth location, so you may need to be flexible when searching for specific names.
- If viewing microfilms, you are unable to find your ancestor, check the end of the alphabet. Some cards were misfiled and were added at the end of the filming.
- If a registrant was not living in his home town, he could register elsewhere and the card would be sent to his home draft board. In some rural counties, it may have been easier to travel to the bordering county to register and request that the registration be sent on to the actual county. Because it's possible that some registrations were never transferred, an individual's card may appear in a neighboring county or state.
- Non-citizens were required to register but were not subject to induction into the American military. So don't overlook this source for your non-citizen ancestors.

Tips for using Ancestry.com:

- Have a blank copy on hand. When enlarged, the printing can become blurry and hard to distinguish, use of the magnification option on the screen to enlarge the image will help.
- Start your search with the least amount of information you can enter. Just remember the adage "sometimes less is more." You can always narrow down from there.
- Wildcard searches can be conducted on the first name or last name (or both). Wildcard searches use the asterisk (*) as a stand in for any letter or number of letters.
- By entering Carolina in the birthplace box, you would bring results for both North Carolina and South Carolina, or any birthplace containing the word "Carolina". This would be true with entering "Dakota" or "Virginia".
- The card itself may be missing some obvious information. Remember that the transcribers are told not to "add" information to the card that is not there. Therefore, if a registrant listed "Chicago" for his birthplace, that is how it would show up on the index. If you were to try to find him by entering Illinois in the state field, he would not come up. If however, you were to put Chicago in the City field, he would.
- Try different combinations: name & state; name & city; name & year; name & county; etc. You can search without a name. Play with the search fields and see what you can find.

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the name, address, age, date of birth, race, citizenship status, occupation, employer's name and address, name and address of nearest relative, and physical appearance.

The complete registration included men between the ages of 18 and 45 – males born between 1873 and 1900---who were not already in the military. Although the cards varied some from one registration to the next, all contained vital information and all carried (in most cases) the actual signature of the individual.

Currently, you can access the registration cards in one of several ways:

- **Ancestry.com** has most of the states online with the remainder slated to come on in the near future. These can be viewed here Family History Center libraries free of charge.
- **The Family History Library** (Salt Lake City) has them on microfilm categorized by state and county
- Many **State Library collections** also have microfilm copies
- Microfilms can also be obtained through the **National Archives regional branches**
- The originals are housed in the **National Archives** in the Southeast Region located in Atlanta, Georgia

In conclusion, give the World War I Draft Registration Cards a try. You may find the missing links to open the doors to your block walls. If not, at least you will get a better idea of what your ancestor was like.

Sources:

Eileen Polakoff. "World War I Draft Registration Cards." Ancestry Magazine, Sep/Oct 2002,

<http://www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=6811>

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<http://www.gale.Ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=9076>

NARA. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, M1509;

Belgians on the WWI Draft Registration Cards

Some of our members are currently extracting the men who indicated their ties with Belgium. Guy Gallez is uploading these on our Rootsweb site where a more complete listing will be available! The format was left up to the transcriber. Some of these cards are very hard to decipher. We still have several states 'up for grabs', contact us if you would be interested in helping! THANKS!!! Check out what Chuck, Cindy and Micheline's work. Guy uploaded it at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~inbr/Services/WWIDraft.htm>

ARIZONA, by Gene JENKINS

Name	Age	City/County	Status	Imm.	BirthDate/Place	Trade/Employer
Buysens, Maurice	27	Cochise Co.	M	DI	14 Sep 1889, Quaremont	Miner, Calumet & Arizona Min.
Dalton, John	29	Douglas	M	C	4 Dec 1888, Antwerp	Waiter, Roy Café
Dujardin, Hipolite	26	Bisbee	S	DI	5 Feb 1891, Reisseigneir	Miner, Copper & M. Co
Dujardin, Leopold	28	Bisbee	S	DI	5 Jan 1889, Quaremont	Miner, C.O.C.M. Co.
Hoppenbrouwers, Edward	28	Boston	S	A	16 Dec 1888, Turnhout	Cigar Maker, Alles & Fisher
Lambert, Alexander	38	Cananea	S	A	Oct 1880, Brussels	Miner, Cananea Copper Co.
Ruyffelaerd, Achille	29	Bisbee	S	DI	17 Oct 1887, Rouse	Gardner, Himself
Ruyffelare, Joe	23	Bisbee	M	A	19 Mar 1894, Renaise	Miner, C 2 Mining Co.
Steyaert, Gus Bernard	29	Phoenix	S	N	14 Oct 1887, Brussels	TrainEngineer, Arizona Eastern RR
Van Bever, Emile V	29	Phoenix	M	N	14 Aug 1888, Brussels	Lawyer Himself wife
Van Daele, Oscar	26	Phoenix	S	N	20 Feb 1891, Swevezelle	Merchant, Himself
Van Loo, Herman	27	Miami	M	C	14 Feb 1890, Liege	Carpenter, Inspiration Con. Co.
Vandendeale, Frank	25	Bisbee	S	A	30 Apr 1892, Belhaur	Miner, Copper Queen Mines

WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON DC by Regine BRINDLE

Name	Birthdate/place	Status	Imm	Trade/Employer
De Gryse, Abel	1 Dec 1888, Roulers	S	P	Translator, Southern Railway Co, Washington DC
Van Looock, Albert	22 Aug 1893, Brussels	S	N	Band instrument maker, self
Van Looock, Louis Anthony	5 Sep 1889, Brussels	M	C	Draftsman, US Govt, Navy Yard
Staal, Armand Jack	24 Dec 1895, Antwerp	S	A	Baker, White House Lunch Crew, Washington DC
Daememe, Ferdinand Engelbert	31 Jul 1887, Antwerp	M	A	Sec to Belgian minister to US, Baron E de Cartier (Belgian Emb.), Washington DC
Phelan, Frank Anthony	5 Dec 1896, Brussels	S	C	none
Demoor, Peter	8 Jun 1877, Belgium		P	Baker, Proprietor Soreham Hotel

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Name	Birthdate/place	Status	Imm	Trade/Employer
Colle, Edgard	12 Apr 1889, Ghent	M	P	carpenter, Thompson & Binges, Wilmington

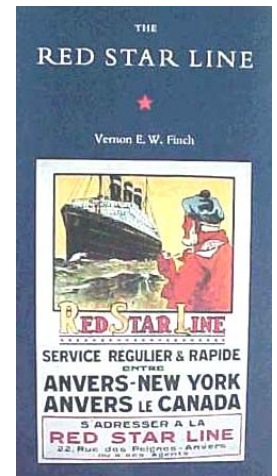


The South Street Seaport Antwerp-America: The Red Star Line and the Paintings of Eugene Van Mieghem, 1870-1935.

www.southstreetseaport.com

The Port of Antwerp (1870-1935) comes to life in an exhibit that highlights the paintings of Belgian artist **Eugeen Van Mieghem**.

'The focus in this history of Antwerp and its port is on the Red Star Line, the Belgian shipping company that carried millions of immigrants to America during this period. The drawings and paintings of Antwerp artist **Eugeen Van Mieghem** are interwoven into the exhibit.'



When:

Apr 29, 2006 - Oct 31, 2006

Where:

South Street Seaport Museum
Schermershorn Row Galleries
12 Fulton Street,
New York, NY 10038

Museum hours:

Tue - Sun 10 am. - 6 pm
Mon: Closed

The Antwerp harbor was one of the main embarkation points for the New World, and thousands of Jews fleeing the pogroms of Eastern Europe set sail to their freedom from here. Eugene van Mieghem (1875-1930) is presumably the only artist to have recorded this exodus for posterity. Between the years of 1902 and 1904, he made a series of impressive drawings of these largely destitute emigrants on their way to a better life.

Eugeen Van Mieghem (Oct 1, 1875-Mar 24, 1930) was a Belgian artist born in Antwerp in 1875 to a mother who owned a café in the harbor district and a father who loaded river vessels. Van Mieghem grew up amidst the dockyards along the River Scheldt. The offices of the Red Star Line shipping company, which would transport more than three million emigrants to America during its years of operation, were located opposite his mother's café.

As a boy Van Mieghem was confronted with the harsh reality of life at the waterfront. From the window of the back of the building, Van Mieghem could see the grounds and buildings of this shipping company.

Even at primary school he showed a talent for drawing and was introduced to the work of Vincent Van Gogh, Georges Seurat, Henri Meunier, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and others at an exhibit organized by Flemish painter and architect **Henry van de Velde** at the Antwerp Academy around 1892. An idealism began to grow in him that he would never renounce. He became the artist of the typical



harbour folk: sack porters, sack makers, emigrants, dockers, bargees, and tramps. He sketched the emigrants as they wandered about, waiting for their ship to depart or for the rigorous medical exam they were forced to endure. Van Mieghem skillfully captured the hope and sorrow of these travelers.

Van Mieghem married **Augustine Pautre** in 1902. At the end of November 1904 his young wife fell ill. Van Mieghem depicted her in an impressive series of drawings and pastels that rate alongside similar work by such artists as Rembrandt and Ferdinand Hodler. Grief-stricken at the death of his wife, it was 1910 before Van Mieghem showed his work again.

After his first individual exhibit at the Royal Society of Art of Antwerp in 1912 international interest in his work grew and group exhibits followed in Cologne and The Hague. In 1929 he became a teacher of life drawing at the Academy in Antwerp.

Van Mieghem had no equal when it came down to drawing and painting the lives of

ordinary people, living and working in an international seaport. Like the precursor of social art, Van Mieghem never had to leave his own environment in search of subjects. The world was on his doorstep.

In recent years Van Mieghem's work has been rediscovered internationally. In 1993 a Van Mieghem Museum opened its doors in Antwerp with a collection of 150 of his works.

South Street Seaport Museum will open a special exhibit in cooperation with the city of Antwerp (Belgium), the Eugene Van Mieghem Foundation, also located in Antwerp, and the Friends of the Red Star Line with collector **Robert Vervoort**.

In addition to the exhibit the musical **'Portrait of a Stolen Spring'** will open the last week of October (location yet to be confirmed) with David Verbeeck and An De Winne, Music by Wim Verhoeven, Production by MAPP Productions. It is a unique musical drama which tells the true story of the Ukrainian Jews Chaja Zimmerman and Moses Kalter, who left their homeland at the beginning of the 20th century hoping to reach America via the port of Antwerp with the Red Star Line. The original Dutch-language version was premièred in March 2003 to unanimous critical acclaim. It played to packed houses in Belgium and in Holland and received numerous awards in both countries.

Researching Online: Internet Links of Interest

Canadian Ports Passenger Lists: by the Nanaimo Family History Society: <http://members.shaw.ca/nanaimo.fhs/>



“The manifests of ships arriving at Canadian Ports listing passengers have been preserved on microfilm at Library and Archives Canada. Our aim is to index arrivals at Halifax and Quebec (Montreal is included in the Port of Quebec) from 1900 to about 1921 when the passenger lists were discontinued for a time in favour of the form 30A. This is a large project that will take many years and would not be possible without the many volunteers who are transcribing the lists. Currently the project is indexing **Quebec arrivals from 1908 to 1910**.

Quebec Ports for the periods 2 Jul 1908 to 13 May 1910 and 17 Sep 1910 to 13 Oct 1910 has been completed and the index, comprising of 177,739 listings from 409 ship arrivals is shown on these pages.



Front Page of SS Teutonic



A Passenger Page from the SS Teutonic

You are permitted to download the index and use it for your own research only. Any other use requires the permission of the Nanaimo Family History Society.

Belgian Historical Trivia

2 April 1920 – The Senate accepts the principle of women’s right to vote’.

3 April 1877 - Death of **Jean-Baptiste Madou**, painter and lithographer, Art teacher to the royal children. During his funeral, the mayor of St-Josse-ten-Noode announced that the square where the deceased resided would be renamed "Place Madou".

9 April 1835 – Birth of Leopold, Louis, Philippe, Marie, Victor, son of Leopold I and Louise-Marie. He would later be crowned King Leopold II.

9 April 1939 – Belgian bike rider **Emile Masson** wins the 40th Paris-Roubaix Race.

16 April 1858 – Birth of **Philippe Wolfers**. World renowned jeweler from Brussels. He also worked with ivory, crystal, and more. He was known as one of the masters of Art Nouveau.

1 May 1832 – Inauguration of *Le Grand Hornu*: ambitious dream of the coal merchant **Henri De Gorge** becomes reality: the “Grand Hornu” is made up of workshops, offices, a 450 workers’ housing community and the “Château de Gorge”, administrators’ residence. This industrial complex in the Borinage, was turned into a museum with the help of the architect from Tournais **Bruno Renard**.

8 May 1847 – Military service goes from 5 to 8 years: 5 years on duty and 3 years in the reserves. Volunteers are recruited. But in case of need a lottery will be held every year.

9 May 1850 - Creation of a General Pension Fund, guaranteed by the state. It’s the idea of the Interior Minister **Charles Rogier**. Its purpose is to ensure a pension for every worker. Each worker will deposit a minimum of 5 francs per month, disbursements not to exceed 750 francs per year. The workers could withdraw their savings at 50, 60 or 65 years of age.

5 Jun 1832 – The Belgian franc is born. It was almost called the “pound”. At the time it was a 5g silver coin made of 9/10 fine metal.

Aug 1 1900 – There is a total of 1,119 cars and 297 motorcycles in the Kingdom.

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The 1862 Plot to Kidnap Jefferson Davis

By Victor Vifquain

Edited by Jeffrey H. Smith and Phillip Thomas Tucker

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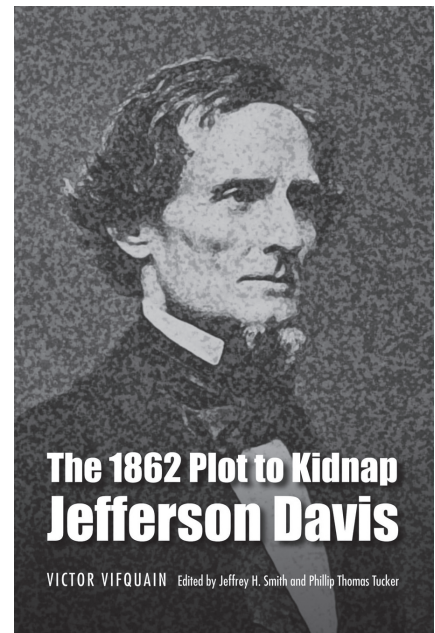
Victor Vifquain (1836–1904) was born in Belgium. His family was among the first European settlers in the Nebraska Territory. Vifquain was awarded the nation's highest military honor for his valor in the Civil War. Jeffrey H. Smith is a professor of history at Bellevue University in Bellevue, Nebraska, and is the author of *A Frenchman Fights for the Union: Victor Vifquain and the 97th Illinois*. Phillip Thomas Tucker is a historian at the Air Force History Office in Washington DC. He is the author of several books on the Civil War, including *The Confederacy's Fighting Chaplain*, winner of the Douglas Southall Freeman Award.

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