

**THE BARING ARCHIVE**

**SERIES HC13**

**BELGIUM**

## House Correspondence - Belgium

### HC13

- 13.1      **1825-31, Antwerp:** Letters from Agie & Insinger, merchant bankers of Antwerp, to Barings and to J Bates
- 1823, Jun-Aug:** Havana sugar; with account of purchases
- 1830 Feb-1831 Oct:** Critical political situation in Belgium; bad state of business; bombardment of Antwerp 27/28 Oct 1830; Agie escapes to Dunkirk; Insinger in Holland; H Schaeffer manages the business in Antwerp
- 1831 Sep-Oct:** Reconstitution of the house. (The partnership of Agie & Insinger was dissolved in 1831. Each continued in business: Agie in Antwerp with his son Charles Agie, and with H Schaeffer, as G Agie & Co - see HC13.2; and Insinger at Amsterdam, as Insinger & Co see HC8.7)
- 13.2      **1832-55, Antwerp:** Letters from G Agie & Co, merchant bankers of Antwerp, to Baring and to J Bates  
American trade - cotton, sugar, coffee
- 1837 Sep:** Death of George Agie; the business continued by Charles Agie and H Schaeffer
- 1848:** Retirement of H Schaeffer
- 1856:** Establishment of Credit Mobilier in Antwerp; the benefits of the decimal system
- 1857:** Establishment of the Société Industrielle et Commerciale d'Anvers  
**Dec:** The financial crisis
- 1862:** Agie's shares in the Venezuelan loan  
**Nov-Dec:** Bogaerts Brothers, their fraud and failure, Barings a creditor; settlement of their affairs, action of Barings
- 13.3      **1829-30, Brussels:** From Francis Williams, financier to J Bates  
Purchase of Louisiana bonds. See also HC3.27; HC5.1.14-15
- 13.4      **1829-66:** Mertens & Co, merchant bankers, of Antwerp, to J Bates and to Barings  
Trade in sugar, and general trade
- 1829 26 Oct:** A reproof for J Bates from LJ Mertens
- 1830-31:** Politics: events in the Low Counties
- 1835-38:** Edward Mertens a member of Barings; his voyage to China and India etc; descriptive letters; reports on trade and houses
- 1838:** Establishment of Mertens Mosselman & Co, at Antwerp
- 1844 Mar:** Coffee from Rio  
**Jun:** Proposal for trade with Buenos Aires  
**Dec:** J Bates buys a picture 'The Two Prayers'
- 1845 May-Jul:** Timing the sale of cotton

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- 13.4 cont **1846:** Edward Mertens withdraws from the firm. Continued by Mosselman and FC Schroder as Mosselman & Co
- 1850 Apr:** Patent iron stoves for heating and cooking
- 1852 Dec:** About Osy & Co, of Antwerp (HC13.8)
- 1862:** Edward Mertens seeks an engineering post in Algeria with Sir Morton Peto
- 13.5 **1835-38, Antwerp:** AB Putman & Co, merchants of Antwerp, to Barings Coffee and sugar imports to Europe from Brazil; Birckhead & Co, of Rio (HC4.2.1); East Indies trade
- 13.6 **1838 Jun, London:** Letters (3) from F Depouhan to J Bates and to Barings About the Belgian Government loan
- 13.7 **1840 Feb, Liege and London:** Correspondence of VJ Renkin and J Bates About opportunities for exporting manufactured goods and arms from Belgium to Venezuela
- 13.8 **1840-53, Antwerp:** Osy & Co, merchant bankers to Barings
- 1840:** Extension of Osy's mercantile activities; credit of £30,000 from Barings; credit from other bankers as well
- 1844:** Belgian loan
- 1845-46:** Large cotton operations on joint account of Osy and Barings
- 1846 Sep:** Operations in sugar
- 13.9 **1844-90, Brussels:** Brugmann & Sons, bankers to Barings
- 1844** Belgian loan; Sambre & Meuse railway
- 1847-86:** No documents
- 1887:** The voluntary disbandment of Brugmann & Sons; their business to be taken over by Charles Balsler & Co, in the same office and with the same staff
- 1888-89:** No documents
- 1890 Nov:** Brugmann & Co's willingness to continue business with Barings' new firm
- 13.10 **1867 Oct-Dec, Brussels:** S Mercier, banker to Thomas Baring Methods of operating government loans in Belgium; loan to La Compagnie des Indes
- The Belgian loan of 60 million francs at 4.5%. With (printed) official documents, 10 Jun 1867, giving the authorisation for a loan, and the conditions of its issue

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- 13.11 **1868-69, London and Brussels:** Correspondence between A Kint de Roodenbeck and Barings (Russell Sturgis)  
A railway survey, sponsored by King Leopold II, to be carried out in China; proposal for subscription for the cost of the expedition; Barings subscribe £1,000. See also HC17.287
- 13.12 **1873 May, Windsor:** 'Reponse aux observations de la note de MM Baring' Memorandum of Leopold II, king of the Belgians, about the concession to a Spanish firm of the tobacco monopoly of the Philippines, and the public finances of the islands
- 13.13 **1874 Jan-Mar:** Documents concerning the Belgian loan of 1874  
The loan was for 30 million francs at 3%; the announcement was to be made 4 Mar 1874, for the issue of the loan in London by Barings and Samuel Montagu & Co  
  
The documents are: letters and telegrams from J Malon, Belgian Minister of Finance; letters from Samuel Montagu & Co; draft of the contract agreed between the Belgian Ministry of Finance and Barings; printed official pamphlets about Belgian finances; extracts from Belgian laws governing the loan
- 13.14 **1885 Aug, Antwerp:** Louis Lemme & Co, merchants to Barings  
About the failure of C Meara & Co of Antwerp; Barings a creditor
- 13.15 **1885-1903, Antwerp:** H Albert de Bary & Co to Barings  
  
**1885:** The situation in Buenos Aires: the National Bank and the Bank of the Province (HC4.1.54); Ernesto Tornquist  
  
**1888:** The loan for the conversion of Argentine 6% foreign debt; proposal for the conversion of the Argentine 6% loan of 1824  
  
**1888-89:** The reconstitution of de Bary & Co; their contract of partnership with Tornquist & Co of Buenos Aires & Montevideo  
  
**1890 Mar-Sep:** E Tornquist & Co (HC4.1.99). Credit balance at 30 Jun 1889, report on the general finance of Argentina - speculation, inflation, remedy; cédulas  
  
**1891 Jan:** Tornquist. Credit balance at 30 Jun 1890
- 13.15 **1892-95:** No documents  
  
**1896 Aug:** Outlining the reorganisation of the firm Ernesto Tornquist & Co of Buenos Aires (HC4.1.99); the resources of the firm  
  
**1897:** No documents  
  
**1898 Sep:** The Argentine-Chile situation: insisting on likelihood of a friendly settlement with British arbitration; refuting rumours, emanating from United States, of Chilean mobilisation. Two letters

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- 13.15 cont **1899 8 Dec:** Seeking a renewal of commercial credit with Barings for the export of grain from Buenos Aires; their method of business; statement of their annual profits 1889-98. Single letter
- 1900:** No documents
- 1901:** By 1901 de Bary & Co had become Compagnie Commerciale Belge
- 1901 Apr-Nov:** Sending copies of reports on Argentine finance received from Tornquist & Co, Buenos Aires (HC4.1.99)
- Nov:** The Argentine - Chile situation
- 1902 Apr-May:** Sending copies of reports on Argentine finance and statistics of the Argentine Customs. 6 pieces
- 1903 22 Aug:** The serious financial difficulties of Le Vulcain Belge, shipwrights, recently established at Antwerp together with Bremer Vulcan, Bremen, caused by lack of working capital; the possibility of liquidation. With statement of sum owed by Le Vulcain Belge to Compagnie Commerciale. Single letter
- 1904:** No documents
- 1905:** Concerning the balance sheet of Tornquist & Co. 1 piece
- 13.16 **1888 4 Jul:** Director of the Societe Generale, Brussels (F Baeyens) to Lord Revelstoke  
Seeking the co-operation of Barings in the issue of the second part of a loan of 150 million francs to the Etat Independant du Congo. With printed particulars of the loan and prospectus
- 13.17 **1889 3 Jun, Brussels:** G Brugmann to Barings  
Inviting Barings to join an international syndicate for the issue of a loan of 25 million francs for the Congo railway (from Matadi to the Stanley Pool). With various documents concerning the railway and the loan, including a printed volume containing a survey of the line undertaken by the Compagnie du Congo pour le Commerce et l'Industrie SA, published in Brussels 1889, 126pp, with maps  
For Brugmann, see HC13.9
- 13.18 **1888, Antwerp:** Banque Centrale Anversoise to Baring Brothers and Baring Brothers Ltd
- 1888 Mar:** Arrangements for participation in the Uruguay loan to be issued by Barings with draft replies in hand of John Baring (later 2nd Lord Revelstoke)
- 1889-90:** No documents
- 1901 Mar:** Seeking participation in the Argentine conversion operation (HC4.1.210)