

Baptiste Detienne, Joseph Jossart, Lambert Bodart, and Jean Martin (the father of the present writer); with them, were their wives and children. The passage from Antwerp to New York was long, tedious, and rough, attended with several terrific hurricanes, one of which carried off the mainmast of the ship. There were many hardships, such as hunger, thirst, sickness, and one death; but finally we arrived in New York harbor July 5, having been tossed on the troublous sea for forty-eight days.

Whenever on the voyage the weather was fine, the heads of families would congregate and there exchange their views about the State likely to be the best for them in which to settle. From a little pamphlet in which several of the Western States were well advertised, Wisconsin seemed to the most of the party the best and most suitable on account of its land, its water, its timber, and its climate. This last is nearly the same as that of Belgium, with the exception that the winters are longer in Wisconsin; but considering the purity of its atmosphere, and the large volume of snowfall during the winter months facilitating traffic, the conditions were thought to be favorable to Wisconsin. A more hopeful little band of emigrants never set sail for America. For honesty, energy, and perseverance, considering that they came from a rural district, they were good specimens of a country whose history shows its love for human progress, for self-improvement, and for self-government.

It was on board ship that the majority of them decided to locate in Wisconsin; and upon their landing in New York July 5, 1853, they proceeded at once towards Wisconsin,—with the exception of two families, those of Martin Paque and Jean Martin, who remained in Philadelphia for a few months,—arriving at Milwaukee the latter part of July. After a few days in that young city, spent in consultation and rest, they proceeded northward along the lake shore, until they arrived at Sheboygan, where they stopped, believing they had gone far enough. Here they commenced prospecting for land, and had almost come to