

this city and county, and cover nearly every branch of wholesale and retail trade; while, in the several professions, people of Belgian birth or descent have achieved among us most enviable reputations. I would like to mention them all, but the lack of space forbids. A large majority of these Belgian people have become thoroughly Americanized; they have adopted many of the American ways; but in business, with a few exceptions, they have adhered to the conservative rule. Those who have not, though for a time they were reputed to be wealthy, like their American brethren have in years of financial depression met with business disasters; while those who anchored their lines to the conservative practices of their native land, were little if at all affected by commercial cyclones.