

# May Michel

(1849 - 1907) <sup>1</sup>

Ettelbruck

## Biography

Michel (Léon Alphonse) MAY was born in Ettelbruck in 1849 where his father was a *Kaufmann* (*Holzhändler, Kerzenfabrikant*).

He became a *Mechaniker*, and in 1874 married Régine PISSINGER, born in Schiffflange and daughter of a *Hufschmied*.

The couple moved in with Michel's parents in the *Hauptstrasse* in Ettelbruck. <sup>2</sup> At the same time MAY set up an atelier in Ettelbruck near the railway station.

He sold sewing machines and provided repair services (*constructeur-mécanicien*).

In 1878, four years after having set up his business in Ettelbruck, MAY sold off his atelier, his machines and his tools and also two houses near the Ettelbruck railway station. <sup>3</sup>

MAY became a *négociant*. In 1880, he took part in the *Gewerbeausstellung* held in Ettelbruck where he presented *Haushaltsgeräte und Gartenmöbel* and in 1882 he diversified his offer of goods and services in the field of medicinal, electric and telegraphic equipment.

In 1887 Michel MAY and his brother Jacques stepped into the business of nail manufacturing and shared factory space with Edouard BRÉZOL in Bissen. They manufactured shoe nails on their separate account in BRÉZOL's Bissen factory.

Judging from a patent he obtained in Germany in 1896 he must have resided in Düsseldorf around the year 1896 and hence must have left the Bissen factory earlier.

MAY died in 1907 in Differdange.

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<sup>1</sup> *FamilySearch database*

<sup>2</sup> *Census Ettelbruck 1875*

<sup>3</sup> *Luxemburger Wort, 11 May 1878, page 4*