

SIMONS Joseph

(1837 - 1911) ¹

Diekirch

Biography

Jean Joseph Palmace SIMONS was born in Diekirch in 1837. At the time, his father Charles Mathias SIMONS (1802-1874) was *avocat et membre du conseil provincial*. He was born in Bitburg and studied law in Liège before settling in Diekirch in 1824. ² He later became Prime Minister of Luxembourg (1853 to 1860).

Joseph's mother Josephine WINCKELL was born in *Schloss Berg*, Nennig. She was the daughter of Jean Paul WINCKELL, *marchand de vin patenté*, residing in Remich.

Joseph SIMONS grew up in Diekirch and Luxembourg-city.

Around 1862 he married Berta HEWER, born in Saarburg.

SIMONS was an *ingénieur des chemins de fer*, first in Luxembourg and later in Alsace Lorraine and Romania.

In 1883 he took over the "Hollericher Walzwerk" through his newly created company "J. Simons et Cie". The company went bankrupt in 1885. SIMONS escaped to the USA where his son Ernest was residing.

Joseph SIMONS died in Queens, New York (USA) in 1911.

The following details of his professional career can be retraced:

1856	<i>examen de maturité</i>
1860	<i>ingénieur du chemin de fer</i> , Grevenmacher
1863	<i>employé de chemin de fer</i> , Troisvierges
1866	<i>ingénieur</i> , Luxembourg
1867	lived in rue du Saint Esprit, Luxembourg
1868	acquired Villa Louvigny
1869	resided in Gasperich/Hollerich
1871	wife Bertha HEWER died, one month after child-birth sold Villa Louvigny
1875	<i>ingénieur des chemins de fer d'Alsace-Lorraine</i> ; resided in Thionville
1877	sold Gasperich property took on the citizenship of Alsace Lorraine and was candidate for representing the Thionville area in the Reichstag in Berlin; his candidature was not retained (see addendum)
1879	<i>directeur général des chemins de fer roumains</i> ³
1883	back in Luxembourg, took over the "Hollericher Walzwerk" through his company "J. Simons et Cie"
1885	company went bankrupt
1886	<i>Kaiserlicher Baurat, conseil impérial</i> in Luxembourg
1888	son Ernest (1869-1945) emigrated to the USA Joseph emigrated to the USA
1892	bankruptcy (personal and company "J. Simons et Cie", <i>laminoir</i> de Hollerich); <i>"actuellement sans profession, domicile ni résidence connus"</i> (see Addendum)

¹ [FamilySearch database \(GCDQ-21K\)](#)

² [Wikipedia](#)

³ [www.industrie.lu](#)