

Jaequemeyns, Edouard

Born: July 10, 1806 – Verrebroek

Died: August 31, 1874 – Minderhout (Hoogstraten)

After 1830, date of the Belgian independence, the universities of Ghent, Leuven and Liège have to close down a number of faculties, due to the large number of non-Belgian professors who return to the Netherlands. Ghent and Leuven lose their faculty of Mathematics and Physics. The lack of a scientific basis in the faculty of Medicine prompts to the foundation of a Free Faculty of Mathematics and Physics. In Ghent Jaequemeyns becomes the first professor of Chemistry at the university, a task he also performs at the *Nyverheyds-School* (Ecole Industrielle).

Because of his commitment to the Orangist cause (a movement to reinstate the Dutch House of Orange in the newly founded Belgium), he is jailed and is replaced by Mareska (1803-1858). In 1833 the "*Nyverheyds-School*") becomes definitely detached from the University and Jaequemeyns is reinstated till 1844. In 1838 he publishes "*Elemens de Chimie Générale*". The lectures at the "Nyverheyds-School" are given by B. Valerius.

Jaequemeyns is a local councillor in Ghent and in June 1874 he is elected senator, as confirmed by a commemorative plaque outside the church of Minderhout