



THE
“DIRTY-FOOTED
VENUSES”

AND THEIR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Denis Pellerin / Bruno Tartarin



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INTRODUCTION

This volume is meant to be a companion to the book *The History of Nudes in Stereoscopic Daguerreotypes* by the same author. *The History of Nudes* is based on images from the collection of Werner Bosshard and although it examines a fair number of photographers, and female models, it leaves out a lot of sitters and an equally large number of photographers who sat for and dealt in “indecent” images. Even though the information we have on some of them is sometimes very scant, I thought it was important to bring them back to life as it will help anyone interested in the history of the photographic medium to better understand the little-studied “underworld” of photography. Who were these young women ? What drove them to undress in front of a camera even when they were perfectly aware of the risks they were running ? And how about the photographers ? Were they really the vicious monsters described in the press of the time ?

The information in these pages is drawn from **the B B/3 police register**, housed at the Paris Préfecture de police, and from prison records kept at the Archives de Paris. It will soon be clear to the reader that a lot of the “official” data is inaccurate and cannot always be trusted. In those days people were not often too sure when their exact date of birth was and some of them, especially the female models, often lied about their age and place of birth. Some research therefore had to be done, mostly in online archives, to confirm or contradict what was lifted from those records. It does not help that most of the Parisian birth, marriage and death certificates were destroyed in 1871 in the fires lit by the Communards. A third of them were patiently reconstructed from 1872 onwards but some people were already dead by then, others had left the French capital and never bothered to have the information re-created, while a third category used the opportunity to get a new identity and try and start a new life with a clean slate.

The following pages give what information I have been able to collect at this stage. It is far from complete but constitute,

I think, a good start, and should prove ample for anyone who would wish to pick up the trail where I have left it or for historians who want to study some specific aspect of the life and careers of both models and photographers.

One last word, about the title of this book. In lots of photographic images showing nude young women one cannot help noticing that the sole of their feet got dirty while they were walking barefoot around the dusty studios in which they sat. A painter would have made sure that their feet appeared immaculate on the canvas but photography captures every single detail and mostly shows things as they are. The dirty-footed Venuses you will discover in the following pages were not goddesses, graces or nymphs. They were young women with dreams, hopes and aspirations who thought that showing their naked flesh and curves would bring them more and easier money than working long hours in a workshop. What they did not expect, at least not at the start, was that they would be treated like criminals and would have to pay a high price for stripping in front of a camera.

PART ONE

FEMALE MODELS

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE IN THE B B/3 POLICE REGISTER

CHEMIN Ursule Eugénie was born at Paris on 31 January 1837 to Guillaume Chemin and his wife Marie Sophie Joséphine Alexandre. Both her parents were dead by 1860 and their birth, marriage and death certificates were not reconstructed. On 22 October 1852 Eugénie was sent to a juvenile detention centre for theft. She was to stay there until her twentieth birthday and was given back to her parents on 11 August 1854. It is not clear when she started modelling but she was arrested while sitting in her birthday suit for her lover, photographer Auguste Girardot, with whom she had been living for the previous five months. At the time of her arrest she was working as a lingère (a person looking after linen, usually in a community, making, washing and mending it). She was tried by the sixth chamber on 2 January 1857 and sentenced to one month in prison.

On 27 October 1860 she married one Hubert Seivert, locksmith, at the mairie of the 11th arrondissement. She died less than eight years later, on 18 January 1868. She was then living at 44, rue de la Grande Armée, in the 8th arrondissement, but passed away at 208, rue du Faubourg-Saint-Honoré, in the nearby Beaujon Hospital. Her death certificate describes her as a thirty-one year old seamstress. Her widowed husband re-married in 1870.

BUHL Adolphine Thérèse Cécile, was born at Paris on 19 November 1833 to Joseph Adolphe David Buhl and his wife Pauline Lucile Louise Guanteliat, ten months after they were married at Saint Nicolas du Chardonnet church on 14 January 1833.

Adolphine, who was a music engraver and was living at 7, rue de la Perle, in the Marais, was brought before judge Rohault de Fleury on 19 May 1857 after she was charged with sitting in the nude for photographer Louis Antoine Maline. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 13 June 1857 and sentenced to one month's imprisonment and a fine of one hundred francs. I lose track of her after her release from prison.

PARANT Julie Elisabeth was born at Paris on 1 April 1840 to Laurent Louis Parant, a postman, and is wife Marie Adélaïde Auguste Tangy. She was baptised 4 days after her birth, at Saint-Denis-du-Saint-Sacrement. At the time of her arrest in 1857 for sitting for photographer Louis Antoine Maline, she was already married to one Pierre Odin (1836-1896) but was apparently hiding from him under the name Louise Alexandrine Maurice, as she said he wanted her to be registered as a prostitute. She was then working as a lingère and a florist. She was tried in absentia on 13 June 1857 and sentenced to six months in prison but after her arrest she appeared in court in person and her sentence was reduced to one month which she spent at the Saint Lazare prison for female prisoners from 29 August to 28 September 1857.

I lose track of her after her release from prison. All I know is that she died a street seller in the 20th arrondissement of Paris on 19 July 1883. She had apparently been separated from her husband for a while. The latter married one Marie Louise Geoffroy, colorist, a few months later, on 6 October 1883. She was still alive at the time of his death in the 13th arrondissement of Paris on 25 October 1896.

TARDIVEL Bertrande Dominiquelle, known as Berthe, was born at Toulouse on 14 March 1836 to businessman Jean Louis Tardivel and his wife Angélique Poudar. She was arrested on 20 May 1857 by two policemen of the Vice squad for posing without any clothes on for photographer Louis Antoine Maline but she was not incarcerated at once and took advantage of this respite to disappear. She was tried in abstentia on 13 June 1857 and sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and a year's imprisonment but since she could not be found she did not go to prison or had to pay anything. Her disappearing act was so successful that I have not been able to find any other information about her. Chances are she changed her name and went on with her life, possibly outside of Paris.

DARDENNE Louise Virginie, known as Eugénie, was born at Paris on 29 October 1839 to Louis Joseph Dardenne, a “garde champêtre”, and his wife Colette Bonnet, although the police register as her being born on 28 April 1840. She is one of the few young women who was already a prostitute before her arrest. She sat for Louis Antoine Maline and like the previous models was tried on 13 June 1857. She was sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and six months in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint Lazare from 13 June to 12 December 1857 where she is described in the prison register as a seamstress. Louise Virginie somehow managed to get out of prostitution at some point and married one Jean Métrol, twelve years her junior, on 5 May 1887 in Marseille.

BERLET Adèle also sat for Louis Antoine Maline and was tried in abstentia on 13 June 1857 as she could not be found at the address Maline had provided. Like Bertrande Tardivel she was sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and a year’s imprisonment but did not go to prison. One Adèle Catherine Berlet married in the 6th arrondissement of Paris on 28 April 1860 but I cannot be one hundred percent sure she is the same person as we have no birth date or any other information to compare with.



GUY Pauline Augustine Louise, known as Desbureau, was born at Paris on 1 April 1840, to Louis Pierre Désiré Guy, a notary clerk who later became a barrister, and his wife Adélaïde Eugénie Rouyer. She was baptised on 25 October 1840 at La Madeleine church. A brother was born at Tours on 14 May 1842 and was given the names of Louis Alphonse. Her mother died on 23 May 1849 and just over one year later her father married one Marie Céleste Clémentine Estachon (29 August 1822-3 January 1888) on 29 August 1850, her birthday. From their union was born at least one child, Marie Léon Charles Gabriel who came into this world on 8 July 1851 and was baptised one week later, on 16 July, at Saint Merry church. Louis Pierre Désiré Guy died on 16 December 1863 in the 3rd arrondissement of Paris. At the time of

his death he was a businessman. One cannot wonder how a girl from a middle class background ended up becoming a seamstress and earning extra money on the side by modelling in the nude for photographers. Were there issues between Augustine and her stepmother that led her to leave home and fend for herself ? We will probably never know but the fact is that Augustine is listed as a seamstress in the police register and moved from one place to the other. She is described as living successively 34, rue de la Pépinière at Plaisance, then rue des Noyers at Belleville before moving to 38, rue de Lorillon, also at Belleville. Augustine was just over seventeen when she was arrested for the first time, in August 1857, after sitting for photographer François Lepage. She was tried on 8 September and sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and a month at the Saint-Lazare prison. She did her time between 26 September and 27 September. In June 1858, she was arrested again for sitting for Eugène Darnay. She was tried on 5 August, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to a month’s imprisonment. She stayed at Saint-Lazare from 1 August to 4 September and must have gone back to modelling after her release as she was arrested a third time after sitting for Philippe Dubourjal. Since it was her third arrest for indecency, Augustine was automatically registered as a prostitute by the Bureau des Mœurs (the equivalent of the vice squad) in August 1860. This meant she was given a special card which had to be shown to every police constable or officer who asked for it and had to pay regular visits to the infirmary of the Saint-Lazare prison to be checked for venereal diseases. Once a young woman was given such a card, nicknamed “the bream” as it was as white and flat as the fish of that name, she could not get a job and had to become a prostitute if she wanted to eat. By October Augustine was working in a brothel at 39, rue Sainte-Anne. Her third trial took place on 24 October 1860 and she got the same fine and the same sentence as the previous time. She was behind bars between 12 October and 11 November 1860. She was tried a fourth time just under one year later, on 17 September 1861 but was acquitted because it was proved that the incriminating photos were the same as the ones she had been sentenced for before. It is the last mention of Augustine in the police register. I have no idea what became of her. If she remained a prostitute her chances of having a long life were very limited. I found trace, in a Californian cemetery, of an Augustine Guy who was born around 1840 and died in 1887. There is, unfortunately, no way of knowing if this Augustine was the same person as the one of whom I have just told you the sad story. Augustine is one of the women in the B B/3 register who have a photograph pasted next to their names. Her

features make her easy to recognise. Although she was very short (1.42 m or 4 foot 6) Augustine appears to have been a very popular model and there are lots of stereoscopic images of her on plate or on paper. We know she sat for Lepage, Darnay and Dubourjal, but she was also a model for Auguste Belloc and is often seen flaunting her nudity.



Unidentified photographer. Stereo card featuring Augustine Guy.



Alfred François Cordier. Augustine Guy. This is a very odd example of a sequential stereo. Notice that something has fallen or somehow appeared on the studio prop balustrade. Augustine, however, seasoned model as she was, has not moved at all.

SOLARY Christine, was born at Faido, in the Italian-speaking canton of Ticino, Switzerland, on 19 December 1840, to Joseph Solary and his wife Augustine Bullo. Like Augustine, she was first arrested after sitting for François Lepage, and tried on 8 September 1857. She was sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and a month’s imprisonment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from 16 October to 17 November 1857. She is described as a colorist in the prison register. Christine seems to have given up modelling after her release as she does not feature any more in the police records. On 6 February 1864, at the mairie of the 5th arrondissement of Paris, she married one Samuele Clemente Giacomo Beffa, a fellow Swiss citizen, born in March 1838, who was then working as a shop assistant and later became a glazier. Christine is still described as a colorist in her marriage certificate. She was nearly eight months pregnant at the time of her wedding and gave birth to a son, Henri Joachim, on 16 March. She, her husband and their son seem to have stayed in the 5th arrondissement since they were still living there at the time of their son’s wedding, on 7 July 1896, three years later when he died, on 18 August 1899, and also when Clément Beffa breathed his last, on 3 November 1910. Christine was seventy at the time of his death. I have not yet been able to find out when or where she passed away.

ROLLAND Antoinette Céleste, known as Amélie, was born at Paris on 1 June 1839, to Jean Claude Rolland, a tailor, and his wife Pierrette Brenet. Amélie, who was a professional model, was arrested in August 1857 after sitting for François Lepage, and tried on 8 September. She was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month at Saint Lazare where she stayed from 21 September to 21 October 1857. She resumed modelling after her release and should have been arrested again in October 1860, after posing for Auguste Belloc, but she could not be found. She was tried in abstentia and sentenced to a fine of 16 francs and a month’s imprisonment. Her disappearing act was so successful that I have not yet found what became of her.



DECORS Fanny, known as Palmyre. Although she gave her date of birth as 4 October 1836, Fanny Décors was born Victoire Célénie DÉCORS, DÉCORPS, or DESCORPS (the real spelling of her name remains a mystery and does not make research very easy) on 19 January 1837 in the former fourth arrondissement of Paris.

She was the daughter of Victoire Décors, a seamstress living at 12 rue Boucher, and of an unnamed and unidentified father. Fanny, as she called herself before adopting the alias of Palmyre, was a boot sewer by trade but must have been noticed at a fairly early age for her beauty and her shapely curves as she soon became a very popular model with photographers. There are dozens of photographs featuring her, mostly stereoscopic ones. She had a particular pose which she was aware accentuated her charms and which she kept using over and over again. We know she sat for Bruno Braquehais, Félix Moulin, Pierre Ambroise Richebourg, François Lepage, Auguste Belloc and François Benjamin Lamiche. It is to the credit of the latter that he kept using her as a model long after her youthful bloom had gone and she started getting plumper and plumper, probably on account of some health issues. Fanny was first arrested in August 1857 after sitting for François Lepage. She was tried on 7 September 1857 and sentenced to one month in prison and a fine of one hundred francs. In the report of her trial, published in La Gazette des Tribunaux on 9 September, she is called Jenny ! Fanny was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 24 September to 24 October 1857 but went back to modelling in the nude as soon as she was released. She was arrested a second time on 11 October 1860 and charged with sitting without any clothes on for Auguste Belloc. Her trial took place on 24 October and she was once again sentenced to a month's imprisonment. However, the fine, this time, was reduced to 16 francs. Fanny was back at Saint-Lazare from 24 October to 23 November 1860 but she does not seem to have been arrested again after that. She went on modelling for a few years but kept her clothes on most of the time and only showed her breasts when she did not. Most of her later photos were made by Lamiche who gradually made her take on more matronly parts instead of titillating ones. The reconstruction of Fanny's birth certificate was requested on 8 December 1873 by her niece, one Marie Descorps, a florist living at 25, Place Gaillon. I was not able, however, to find how long after that date Fanny lived, nor where she rests in peace. I will keep searching !



François Benjamin Lamiche. Fanny Décors at the peak of her modelling career.



François Benjamin Lamiche. Same photographer and same but much plumper model.



Unidentified photographer. A superb stereoscopic portrait of Fanny Décors.



GOTTE Adèle, known as Antonia. Antonia was born Adèle Gotte at Montrouge, near Paris, on August 13th 1837. Her father, Maximilien Joseph Gotte, born at Remagen, near Koblenz, Prussia, in 1807, was a conductor for “Les Favorites”, one of the several competing omnibus companies that operated in France

before they were amalgamated into one unique entity in 1855. On July 9th 1835 Maximilien married a thirty-one year old laundress, Véronique Virginie Compain, who was three years his senior and had already been married then widowed. They seem to have had only one child, Adèle, who was barely one and a half years old when her mother passed away on December 15th 1838. Just over three months later, on March 18th 1839, her father, who had by then become a coachman, remarried. His second wife, Marguerite Virginie Chenevière, was a child carer and had probably looked after Adèle after her mother had died. It is to be supposed she had done a good job of it and was fond enough of the child for her father to take her as his wife.



Unidentified photographer. A very nice stereo card of Antonia Gotte.

Nothing else is known of Adèle's childhood but we can assume she grew up into a rather pretty teenager, was noticed, and started modelling for artists. It must be at this point she started using the more exotic and romantic name Antonia, instead of the one she had been given at birth. She soon became a professional model and appears to have been very much appreciated in the artistic milieu where she was known as “the Fair Antonia”.

At some point in her modelling career Antonia accepted to sit for photographers and used as she was to unveiling for painters did not think twice before doing the same in front of the camera. But, as she was soon to learn at her expense, sitting in the nude for a painter who used the excuse of Mythology or of the Bible to represent women in their birthday suit and elevate them to the status of goddesses, nymphs or biblical figures was very different from taking off one's clothes for a photographer. Painting and Sculpture, however thin the pretext was for showing women in a state of nature, idealised the models. Through the medium of the brush or the chisel they became nudes, they were Art, and could consequently be exhibited in public without anyone finding fault with them. The camera captured the models as they really were, that is women who had taken off their clothes. They were not nudes, they were simply naked flesh, and therefore indecent and reprehensible in the eyes of the prudes and of the law.

Some time around 1857 Antonia started working for photographer François Antoine Lepage (Paris, 15 May 1836 – Paris, 11 February 1893) who had a studio rue du Four-Saint-Germain. Lepage was arrested by the Police des Mœurs (Vice Squad) on 12 August 1857 while trying to sell seventy-two daguerreotypes showing women in various states of undress not very far from where he operated. He was forced to reveal the names and addresses of his female models and soon afterwards some policemen repaired to 13, rue du Pont Louis-Philippe, where Antonia resided, and arrested her. She was tried by the seventh chamber on 8 September, along with Lepage, his associate Xavier Merieux and seven other female models: Augustine Guy, Christine Solari, Amélie Rolland, Aglaé Antoinette Brunel, Adèle Buffet, Pauline Sophie Lacroix and Fanny Decors. Antonia's natural poise and grace must somehow have stood out for two of the journalists who reviewed the trial commented on her beauty. One, from Le Droit, described her face as “remarkably pretty”, the other, from La Gazette des Tribunaux, said of her that she was “known in artistic circles as the Fair Antonia, a nickname which is amply justified”. Both also noticed that, from the start, Antonia looked restless, even agitated. She had a fit of hysterics just before the proceedings began and had to be carried out of court. Later in the day, when she heard she was being fined one hundred francs and sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment, she fainted on the bench where she was sitting with the other accused and had to be carried out again. When she came back to her senses

she had another fit of hysterics. The newspaperman from La Gazette des Tribunaux wrote that “four of five people could hardly contain her and her screams could be heard throughout the Palais de Justice”. Oddly enough the same journalist refers to Antonia as Mrs Lebon. It is the only suggestion I have found so far that she could have been married. Neither her police file nor her prison register mentions her alleged husband so it is my assumption that she only pretended to be married to ward off some of her more daring admirers and suitors. To go back to her trial, we must try and understand Antonia’s shock on realising she was being sentenced to some time in prison for doing exactly what she must have done several times before for painters, and we cannot but excuse her extreme reaction. Out of the eight models on trial that day, she was the only professional sitter and had previously been praised both by the artists and by the public for her curvaceous body and her beauty. To find herself suddenly accused of indecency – outrage à la morale publique was the exact charge in French – and treated like a common criminal must have been too much for her.

Although she had been sentenced to fifteen days’ imprisonment, Antonia, for a reason which is yet to be determined, only spent a week at Saint-Lazare, the only prison for women in Paris. Most of the young women who had been tried with her were incarcerated before September was over but Antonia arrived at the prison on Monday 2 November 1857. Did she fall ill after her fit and was she sent somewhere to rest until she had recovered ? We shall probably never know. Her name and details were entered in the prison register under record number 1969. She was measured and her description was written down before she was made to don the prison uniform. That is how we know she was 1.58 metres tall (5 foot two inches), had chestnut hair and eyebrows, brown eyes, an oval face, a low forehead, average-sized mouth and nose, a round chin and a fair complexion. I very much doubt anyone reading this dry and unpoetic record would recognize her in the street, or on a photograph for that matter, or have an idea of how pretty she was, but that was the way repeating offenders were supposed to be identified before “Bertillonage” – the Bertillon system – and afterwards fingerprinting were introduced. It is a pity we do not know anything about Antonia’s stay in prison, but judging from her reaction during the trial it cannot have been a pleasant experience for her. Antonia was released on 10 November and went back to modelling but she must have kept

her clothes on, or at least covered her body within the limits of what was considered “decent” at the time, as her name is not mentioned again in the police files or in the judiciary press. We know she sat for photographer Eugène Thiébault (Metz area, 25 February 1826 – Enghien-les-Bains, 24 March 1880), as is evidenced by the photographs below.



Thiébault. Antonia at the piano.



Eugène Thiébault. Antonia with male model.

It is not clear at which point Antonia put an end to her modelling career. A unique sentence published in Le Figaro on November 15th 1867 reveals that she was hired as an actress and/or singer at the newly opened Athénée Theatre. Originally built in 1865 in the basement of a large house at 17 rue Scribe by banker Bischoffheim to hold concerts and lectures, the room was enlarged in 1867 and turned into a theatre that could accommodate 900 spectators. The first performance took place on December 13th 1867. Although such composers as Georges Bizet, Léo Delibes and Charles Lecocq had some

of their works performed there, the venture was not a financial success and the first company that occupied the Athénée was out of business by January 1869. Since I could not find any other trace of Antonia’s acting career in the press of the time it is difficult to know how long she graced the stage with her presence and with no later photographs of her it is equally impossible to get an idea of how kind, or unkind, time was to her. Antonia died on November 9th 1885 in the house of one Mr Henry at 6, rue d’Aumale in the ninth arrondissement of Paris. Her death certificate bears the name she was given at birth and the one she chose for herself: Antonia Adèle Gotte. She must have been lying to her friends and acquaintances about her age since the witnesses as well as the three death notices I found in the press describe her as a forty-year old woman though she was actually forty-eight when she passed away. I think she can be forgiven this final touch of vanity which was then very common in artistic milieux (and still is, I am told).

Up to now Antonia was only remembered through dozens of stereoscopic images on plate or paper. I hope this entry will give her another lease of life as well as a real presence as a person, not just “a pretty face”. She was born in humble circumstances, like most of her fellow models, but her natural elegance and grace – something no amount of money can buy as is evidenced daily in hundreds of photos of celebrities – make her instantly recognisable. It gives her a special place in the pantheon of young women who unveiled for the camera when there was a high price to pay for doing so.

BRUNEL Antoinette Aglaé, was born at Gannat, Allier, on 18 May 1836 to Alexandre Brunel and his wife Elisabeth Rousselle. She was working as a florist when she was arrested for sitting without a stitch on for photographer François Lepage. She was tried in September 1857 by the seventh chamber and was sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and to fifteen days in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint Lazare from 8 to 20 September 1857. Her name is not mentioned again in the police records and I have no clue as to what became of her after she was released.

BUFFET Françoise Adèle, was born on 23 March 1837 at Langres, Haute-Marne, to François Buffet and his wife Marie Buffet. She was a model for François Lepage and was arrested in August 1857. Her trial took place on 8 September and she was sentenced to a fine of one hundred francs and a fortnight in prison. However, she only spent eight days at Saint-Lazare, from 26 December 1857 to 3 January 1858. She totally disappears after her release.



LACROIX Pauline Sophie, was born at Noyon, Oise, on 6 September 1839, to Pierre Auguste Lacroix, a wine merchant, and his wife Victoire Sophie Benoist. She was a “lingère” and was arrested in 1857 after sitting for François Lepage. Tried on 8 September 1857, she was fined a hundred francs and sentenced to a month’s imprisonment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from 21 September to 6 October 1857. Pauline sat in the nude for several other photographers, including François Benjamin Lamiche and Félix Marie Chevalier, but she does not seem to have been arrested again, which is actually strange as she features in her birthday suit in dozens of stereoscopic negatives. She must have been a very popular model and is easily identifiable. Pauline never married and died a spinster at Rueil-Malmaison on 20 August 1914. She was seventy-four.



Unidentified photographer. Pauline Sophie Lacroix, fully clothed, at the beginning of her modelling career.



François Benjamin Lamiche. Pauline as a kitchen maid.

RENAUDIN Euphrosine Louise, known as Zina, was born at Cherbourg, Manche, on 18 March 1837, to Antoine Bienaimé Renaudin and his wife Euphrosine Augustine Charlotte Provost-Duhamel, both primary school teachers. Euphrosine was already a prostitute working in a brothel at 5, rue Rameau, Paris, when she was summoned to the presence of judge Rohault de Fleury on 17 December 1857 after posing for Alexandre Crépin. She was not arrested but was tried on 16 January 1858 by the sixth chamber. She was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months behind bars. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 16 March 1858. Euphrosine managed to leave her former life behind her and married one Jean Bocognano at Marseille, Bouches-du-Rhône, on 13 September 1879.

RUFF Jeanne Marie Frédérique, who called herself Eugénie, was born at Turin, Italy, on 30 August 1841, to Frédéric Ruff, a cook, and his wife Marie Bonard. She was the mistress of photographer Eugène Darnay and sat for him in the nude. She was also a model for Edme Alphonse Chuchu. She was arrested on 19 June 1858, along with her then lover Darnay when the police raided the latter’s studio. She was tried on 5 August 1858 and was sentenced to a fine of sixteen francs and a month’s imprisonment. Although the police records have her as being without a job, she is described as being a shop assistant in the prison register of Saint Lazare, where she was incarcerated from 5 August to 4 September 1858. Eugénie must have had a “thing” for photographers since she became the model and mistress of François Deruaz after her release. She was arrested again, on 18 August 1859, after posing for him, and was tried a second time, on 6 October 1859. She was again fined sixteen francs but this time her judges gave her a harsher sentence and she had to spend three months behind bars. Things did not end too badly for Eugénie who married François Deruaz at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement on 31 July 1862. They had six children, born between 1863 and 1877 in the third arrondissement of Paris, and by 1866 Eugénie had apparently become a photographer too. Her husband died on 15 January 1880 and Eugénie went to live with her daughter Marie until the latter’s untimely death on 20 March 1889, at the age of twenty-five.

TISSERANDOT Marie Jeanne was born an illegitimate child in 1841. According to the prison records her mother was one Jeanne Tisserandot. Marie Jeanne declared she was born in Dijon, Côtes d’Or, on 12 January 1841 but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers for that period, except one Louise Tisserandet (not Tisserandot), born on 4 January 1841, who was the legitimate child of one Pierre Tisserandet and of his wife Anne Audiffret. Marie Jeanne may have lied about her birthplace and birthday. We know she was a florist who sat for Eugène Darnay and was consequently arrested on 23 June 1858. She was tried on 5 August, fined 16 francs and sentenced to a month’s imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 4 September 1858. I am afraid that is all I have on this young person, at least at the moment.

PAGÈS Reine Hortense is said to have been born at Paris on 12 or 16 January 1842 (depending on the sources), the daughter of Jean Pagès and Marie Dautère, but there is nothing under her name in the reconstructed birth certificates. This may mean either that she lied about her name and birth, that she died before 1872, when the records started being reconstructed, or that she left Paris and never bothered to have her identity confirmed. She was a florist too and also sat for Eugène Darnay, as well as for another photographer, Edme Alphonse Chuchu. Her trial took place on 5 August 1858 when she was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one months behind bars. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 4 September 1858.

RAPHAËL Rachel said she was born at Clermont Ferrand around 1837 but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers of that period. She was a professional model who was summoned in the presence of judge Rohault de Fleury on 23 June 1858 after sitting for Eugène Darnay. She was, however, released and never featured in the police records afterwards.



after sitting without veils for Eugène Darnay. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 August 1858, fined 16 francs and sentenced to a month at Saint Lazare where she was incarcerated from the day of her trial to 4 September. She resumed modelling and was summoned to appear before the same judge a second time in July 1860 and a third time on 15 September 1860 after sitting for Alfred Cordier-Billon and Bernard Ambroise Castaings. Less than a month later she was arrested at her unnamed lover’s flat, 38, rue de Rivoli, after it turned out she had also modelled for Auguste Belloc. Her trials took place

on 10 and 24 October and she was sentenced three times to a fine of sixteen francs and a month’s imprisonment. The sentences were combined and she therefore stayed at Saint-Lazare from 24 October 1860 to 8 January 1861. After her release she quit modelling and barely six months after she was free again, on 28 June 1861, she married her lover, one Félix Jean Baptiste Jacquelin, a spectacle-maker, at the mairie of the 4th arrondissement. In her marriage certificate she is oddly called Adolphine Herbet, instead of Delphine Rosa, but there is no doubt she is the same person as the date of birth and the name of her parents match. I still have to find out what became of her after her wedding.



Auguste Belloc. Stereo card featuring Delphine Herbet.

BAZIÈRE Clotilde Alexandrine, was supposedly born at Paris in October or November 1840 but her birth certificate was never reconstructed so we only have her word for it. Her father was one Victor Bazière and his wife was called Virginie Constance Vavin, that is if we are to believe the information she gave at the time of her incarceration. Clotilde was also a florist and she was arrested on 8 July 1858 at the Bal Favier (a music hall and dancing place in the 19th arrondissement of Paris) after sitting for Eugène Darnay and Edme Alphonse Chuchu. She was then living with her parents at 23, rue du Buisson St.-Louis, in what is now the 10th arrondissement. Her trial took place on 5 August 1858. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month behind bars. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 4 September 1858. She totally disappears after her release and does not seem to have been arrested again but I have no idea what became of her.

CLOUET Joséphine Elisa, known as Julia, was supposedly born at Chartres, Eure-et-Loir, on 24 June 1837 to François Michel Clouet and his wife Marie Françoise Brigitte Domain, but there is no mention of anyone by that name in the birth registers of that period. Joséphine was already a prostitute working at the house of the Widow Blanchard, 28, Boulevard de la Chopinette, Belleville, when she was summoned on 14 July 1858 before judge Rouhault de Fleury, charged with sitting for Eugène Darnay and for Edme Alphonse Chuchu. She was tried on 5 August 1858, fined 16 francs and sentenced to one month's imprisonment which she served from the day of her trial to 4 September.

COUTELAS Julie, known as Amelia or Camelia, was born at Esternay, Marne, on 10 March 1838, to Jean Baptiste Coutelas, an inn-keeper and later a pork butcher, and his wife Marie Louise Augustine Euphrasie Nague. Julie was working as a prostitute in a brothel run by one Mrs Marchand, boulevard de la Chopinette, at Belleville, when she was summoned before judge Rohault de Fleury on 14 July 1858. She was charged with sitting in the nude for Bernard Ambroise Castaings and Edme Alphonse Chuchu. She was tried on 5 August 1858, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint Lazare from the day of her trial to 4 September 1858. Julie managed to get out of prostitution and to start a new life. On 21 April 1868 she married one Léonard Ferdinand Verger, a tinsmith, at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement. She was then working as a cashier and living at 41, rue de Chabrol in the same building as the groom. They do not seem to have had any children. At the time of Julie's death, on 21 March 1890, Léonard Ferdinand had become a plumber and the Vergers were living in the 11th arrondissement.

JOURNET Denise Louise Aglaé, was born at Paris on 24 January 1840, to Victor Jacques Journet, a blacksmith, and his wife Virginie Adélaïde Bidault. Denise was working as a prostitute in a brothel run by one Mrs Georges, at 22, rue du Fauboug-Montmartre, when she appeared before judge Rohault de Fleury on 18 July 1858. She was charged with sitting without a stitch on for Darnay and Chuchu, was tried

on 5 August, fined 16 francs and sentenced to one month at Saint-Lazare. She was incarcerated there from the day of her trial to 4 September. I have yet to find what became of her after her release.

HILBER Anna, was written down as being born in Metz in 1841, (police records) and in Prussia (prison register). She was also a prostitute, known as Souris (Mouse), when she was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury on 12 July 1858. She was then serving some time at Saint-Lazare. Mr Rohault de Fleury charged her with sitting in the nude for Eugène Darnay. She was tried on 14 August 1858, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 14 September. Anna was summoned before the same judge on 15 September 1859 after modelling for Philippe Dubourjal but she was not tried.

DEPRÉ Marie, was born at Romainville, Seine, on 13 April 1839, to Louis Depré and Catherine Beauvet. She was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 10 September 1859 and was charged with sitting in her birthday suit for Philippe Dubourjal. She was tried on 21 October 1859 and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 20 November. The prison register describes her as an embroiderer in gold. Marie appeared again before a judge in July 1860 after modelling for Balthazar Pascal Gaudry and his partner Jules Rivemale, but there was apparently not enough evidence for her to be tried.

GALLY Caroline Francine, or Caroline Charlotte as she called herself, was born at Montmartre on 28 May 1842 to Barthélémy Gally, a former baker, and his wife Hélène Mouillot. Caroline was a florist but was earning money on the side by modelling for Philippe Dubourjal. She ended up being summoned before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 11 September 1859. She was tried on 21 October and was sentenced to one month at Saint-Lazare. She was summoned again in July 1860 after sitting for Gaudry and Rivemale, tried on 22 August and sentenced to a fortnight behind bars. She was incarcerated



from 13 to 27 September 1860. While she was in prison she was summoned a third time, this time for modelling for Eugène Lamy, but there was not enough evidence for her to be tried. Less than two weeks after her release she was tried again for sitting for Edouard Briousse. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month behind bars. She was back at Saint-Lazare between 10 October and 9 November 1860. Caroline had several brothers and sisters. One of them married in November 1855 but died six years later. One sister married in 1859. Two other brothers tied the knot in 1862. There is no trace of Caroline getting married and she totally disappears after her release in November 1860.

BERNIER Berthe is something of a mystery. She was only seventeen and a florist when she was summoned before judge Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Dubourjal but she was not tried through lack of evidence and her police record does not mention her date of birth, just her age. I therefore do not know anything more about her.

BARRÉ Victorine Marie, was born on 20 May 1842 at La Chapelle Janson, Ile et Vilaine, to Pierre Barré, a farmer, and his wife Renée Moulay. Victorine, who was also a florist, was summoned on 15 September 1859 to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Philippe Dubourjal. She was apparently already at Saint-Lazare then. She was tried in abstentia on 21 October and sentenced to a month in prison. She was arrested on 25 October and did her time from 26 October to 24 November. She is never mentioned again in the police records and I have no idea what happened to her after she was released from prison.

COTTEREL Louise Rose was born at Paris on 22 April 1841 to Louis Ladislas Cotterel, a tinsmith, and his wife Laurence Désirée Marie Bernard, although she is recorded in her prison registers as being born on 21 March 1839. She was first arrested on 20 October 1859, after sitting for Philippe Dubourjal, and tried on the following day. She was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment and incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 20 November. She apparently resumed modelling for Dubourjal and also sat for Gaudry

and Rivemale. She was tried again on 18 July 1860 and was sentenced to two months in prison but only spent one at Saint-Lazare from 15 August to 14 September. She appeared a third time before the sixth chamber on 10 October 1860, was fined 16 francs and was sentenced to another month in prison. She served her time from the day of her trial to 9 November. She was tried again for sitting for Castaings and was acquitted but she did not escape punishment when she sat in the dock again on 16 October 1861 after undressing in front of Jean Ferdinand Rocheblanc’s camera. She was fined 16 francs again and spent the next two months of her life behind bars until 15 December 1861.

CORDANI Reine Françoise, known as Julie, was born at Sainte-Colombe-sur-Seine, Côte d’Or, on 24 October 1841 to Jean Cordani, a merchant, and his wife Catherine Junot. She was a milliner by trade but sat in the nude for her lover, photographer Jean-Pierre Veyrat. She was arrested on 16 September 1859 at his studio and was tried on 21 October by the sixth chamber. She was sentenced to one month in prison and was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial until 20 November. After her release she went back to modelling for Veyrat and was arrested again on 10 October 1860. Her second trial took place on 24 October 1860. The seventh chamber fined her sixteen francs and sentenced her to two months’ imprisonment which she spent at Saint Lazare until 23 December 1860. Reine Cordani separated from her lover and became a glover. She married one Pierre Jean Louis Soffys, also a glover, at the mairie of the 15th arrondissement on 10 August 1867. Her husband died in the 15th arrondissement on 11 April 1902. He was working as a park attendant then and was living with his wife at Issy-les-Moulineaux, Hauts-de-Seine. Reine Cordani survived her husband by nine years and passed away at Issy on 14 December 1911.

MAIRE Caroline Catherine, known as Fat Caroline, was born at Esse-lès-Nancy, on 5 August 1839, to Joseph Maire, a tailor, and his wife Catherine Jacquemin. She was nineteen, and a prostitute, when she was summoned on 17 September 1859 by judge Rohault de Fleury for sitting in the nude for Philippe Dubourjal. Caroline Catherine Maire was first tried on 21 October and sentenced to one month’s impris-

onment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from 4 to 23 February 1860. She resumed modelling after her release and was summoned again on 11 October 1860 by the same Rohault de Fleury when it transpired she had been sitting for Jean-Pierre Veyrat. She could not be found then and was only arrested on 20 October. Her second trial took place on 24 October and this time she was given two months in prison and a fine of sixteen francs. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 23 December. Caroline must have learnt her lesson and is not mentioned again in the police register. She managed to leave behind her days as a prostitute, found a job as a florist and married one Henri Auguste Buffé, a printer, at the mairie of the 15 arrondissement on 3 April 1869.

VILAIN Radegonde Lucie was born at Brest, Finistère, on 26 November 1841, to Jean Baptiste Vilain and his wife Catherine Talonnier. Radegonde was a florist when she was summoned on 17 September 1859 to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting in her birthday suit for Philippe Dubourjal. She was tried on 21 October 1859 and was sent to Saint-Lazare for two weeks, from the day of her trial to 5 November. She was over four months pregnant then and her illegitimate baby, a son named Louis René, was born on 5 February 1860. On 2 July 1860, Radegonde married the father of her child, one Alfred Raphaël Marcelin Hory, a worker in copper, at the mairie of the 12th arrondissement. They legitimised their son on that same day. It appears the newlyweds were not earning enough money to make both ends meet and on 18 July 1860 Radegonde was tried a second time after modelling for Rivemale and Gaudry. The sixth chamber sentenced her to two months’ imprisonment. On 10 October 1860 Radegonde was summoned again to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Auguste Belloc. She was tried on 24 October and was sentenced to a fine of sixteen francs and a month at Saint-Lazare where she was incarcerated from 29 October to 1 December. I do not know what became of her after her release from prison.

SAMAIN Hortense was born at Vadre, Belgium, on 24 June 1835, to Ambroise Samain and his wife Louise Hazard. She was an unmmaried laundry girl and the mother of an illegitimate boy, Jean Baptiste Emmanuel, born at Paris on

June 1855, when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 23 September 1859, charged with sitting in the nude for Philippe Dubourjal. She was tried on 21 October by the sixth chamber and sentenced to a month’s imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 20 November. Her son married on 22 July 1886 at the mairie of the 11th arrondissement but at the time he had no information as to the whereabouts of his estranged mother. Neither do I.

VARIN Marie Anne Victoire, known as Victorine, was supposedly born at Formerie, Oise, on 19 May 1830 to Jean Baptiste Firmin Varin and his wife Marie Elisabeth Hay, but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers of that period. Victorine married Louis Auguste Hilaire, a sculptor, on 8 April 1848. She was a laundry girl when she was summoned, on 28 April 1860, to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury, charged with sitting naked for photographer Joseph Penne. She was apparently separated from her husband and living with her lover, one Henri Mativat, seven years her junior, who was also modelling in the nude for Penne. Victorine, who appeared with her lover in photos known as “polkas”, involving a couple making love, was tried on 26 May 1860 and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment and a fine of sixteen francs. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 25 November. I do not know what became of her after her release.

PAUL Victorine Caroline Stéphanie, calling herself Lassagne, was born at Paris on 23 August 1840, to Christophe Paul and his wife Marie Anne Victorine Leblanc. She was a laundry girl and the mother of an illegitimate child when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 29 April 1860, after sitting for Joseph Penne. She was tried on 26 May 1860, fined 16 francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 15 June to 13 July. In 1862 she had a relationship with a printer named Alfred Jean Baptiste Chassagne (1831-1901) out of which a son, Eugène Victor, was born on 8 April 1863 in the 11th arrondissement. The child was legitimised by his father and bore the name Chassagme. Banns were published in July 1875 for a wedding between Alfred Jean Baptiste Chassagne

and Victorine Caroline Stéphanie Paul, but for some unkown reason the wedding bells never rang and the ceremony was called off. Chassagne died on 3 September 1901 in the 20th arrondissement. His son married in 1905 but died two years later, on 9 June 1907 at the age of forty-four. Victorine Caroline Stéphanie passed away, aged 81, on 17 December 1921, in the 13th arrondissement.

AMRHEIN Anastasie Françoise, known as Blanche, was born at Paris on 4 October 1834, to Joseph Amrhein and his wife Catherine Vicaire. She married one Jean Hippolyte Stourm on 4 January 1851 but by the time she was summoned before judge Rohault de Fleury on 29 April 1860, for sitting in the nude for Joseph Penne, she was already registered as a prostitute. She was not tried, however and there is no other mention of her name in the police records.

SIMON, Louise Elisa, was supposedly born at La Villette, in June 1839 to one Nicolas Simon but her birth certificate has not been reconstructed so it is impossible to verify the information. Louise was already registered as a prostitute when she was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury on 2 May 1860 after modelling for Joseph Penne. She was tried on 26 May by the sixth chamber, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 11 June to 12 August 1860.

DOHET Louise, was apparently born at Spa, Germany some time around 1837. Louise, a twenty-three year old chambermaid, was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury in April 1860 after sitting for Joseph Penne, but she could not be found. A warrant for her arrest was issued on 16 May but it could never be carried out. She was tried in abstentia on 26 May 1860 and sentenced to 3 months’ imprisonment but her complete disappearance resulted in her not actually going to Saint-Lazare.

NIQUET Félicie Alexandrine, was apparently born at Paris on 18 November 1836, to François Eugène Niquet and his wife Felicie Thérèse Bernier, but since her birth certificate was never reconstructed there is no way of confirming when her birth took place. She married Denis Petot, an optician from Lyon, at the mairie of the former sixth arrondissement, on 11 May 1854 but the reconstructed marriage record does not mention a birth date for the bride. She was a seamstress and modelling on the side for Rivemale and Gaudry when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 30 June 1860. She was tried on 18 July 1860 by the sixth chamber and sentenced to one month at Saint-Lazare where she was incarcerated from the day of her trial to 17 August. On 4 September she was summoned a second time before Mr. Fleury as she had been modelling without any veils on for photographers Jules Auguste Edouard Getting and Eugène Lamy. She was tried on 10 October, fined sixteen francs and sent back to Saint Lazare for a month, from 22 October to 21 November. She was tried a third time on 17 September 1861 but was acquitted after it was established that the incrimating photos where she featured had been the same ones she had been previsouly sentenced for. She does not appear again in the police records after that date. We know that Félicie was still alive in 1880 and was living then at 9 impasse Montferrat (now rue de Chaumont), in the 19th arrondissement but I have yet to find out when and where she passed away.

DÉTOURBET Marie was supposedly born at Paris on 6 March 1840 to Charles Claude Détourbet and Marie Louise Léger. At least, that is the information that one can find about her in the prison registers of Saint-Lazare but since her birth certificate does not appear to have been reconstructed, it is impossible to check the veracity of her statement. She was a florist and living at 11, rue des Filles du Calvaire when she was summoned on 11 August 1860 to appear before judge Rohaut de Fleury after sitting for François Benjamin Lamiche. Her summon was served at Saint Lazare where she was spending a month after being sentenced on 18 July by the sixth chamber for a similar “crime”. She was tried on 15 August 1860 and sentenced to another month in prison to which sentence was added a fine of sixteen francs. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 14 September and while in prison she received another summon to appear before



the judge after it became apparent she had also been a model for Bernard Ambroise Castaings. She was tried a third time on 10 October and remained in prison until 10 November. Her name does not appear again in the police records.

COTTEREL Désirée Marie, calling herself Louise, was the sister of Louise Rose, previously mentioned. She was born at Paris on 23 August 1843 to Louis Ladislas Cotterel and Laurence Marie Désirée Marie Bernard. Before she reached the age of seventeen, she was already registered as a prostitute. She was tried on 18 July 1860 after modelling for Rivemale and Gaudry and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. She was tried again on 15 August and was again sentenced to one month in prison after it appeared she has also sat for Castaings. She therefore spent two months at Saint-Lazare from 15 August to 18 October.

ROLAND Maria said she was born at Orléans, Loiret, in November 1840 but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers of that period. She was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 20 July 1860 after modelling for Philippe Dubourjal. She had been taken to the latter’s studio by Louise Courtault (see further below). She received her summon at the Hôtel Dieu hospital where she was lying sick. She was tried on 22 July but was not sentenced.

CARDOT Sophie Joséphine Alexandrine, was born at Sully-sur-Loire, Loiret, on 27 May 1843, to Constantin Louis Maximilien Cardot, a locksmith, and his wife Sophie Alexandrine Girault. On 19 July 1860 the seventeen year old “lingère” was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury for modelling for Philippe Dubourjal. She was tried on 22 August 1860 and sentenced by the sixth chamber to spend two weeks at St Lazare. She was tried again on 10 October when it became clear she had also sat for Castaings and at the Gouin Studio, 37, rue Louis-le-Grand. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to a month’s imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial. In October she was taken from her cell to answer a summon from Mr. de Fleury and was charged with sitting for Edouard Briouse. She revealed the name of a male model she had sat with

for “polkas”, one Louis Félix Fricaud, who also happened to be Briouse’s brother-in-law (he had married Briouse’s sister, Louise Stéphanie, on 7 September 1854). Alexandrine was tried a third time on 24 October and since she was a repeating offender was fined sixteen francs again and sentenced to two months in prison. She did her time from the day of the end of her previous sentence, 9 November 1860, to 8 January 1861. Alexandrine apparently put an end to her modelling career and on 19 January 1865 married painter Jules Collard at the mairie of the 5th arrondissement, at Lyon, Rhône. Jules Collard was the son of Auguste Collard and Joséphine Albertine Baillon, and brother to famous photographic artist Hippolyte Augustin Collard. He was born at Paris on 19 September 1839 and by the time he got married his mother was dead (she passed away on 28 January 1862) and his father had not been heard of for the past twenty years. Jules Collard had been married once before, to one Joséphine Péletan, who died on 26 May 1860 in the 19th arrondissement. Two photographers, Victor Mezer and Claude Morel, were witnesses at the wedding, as well as two painters, André Bauré et René Sallé. Alexandrine’s marriage to Jules Collard was, however, short-lived. Her husband died on 29 January 1867 at Boulogne-Billancourt. He is described as a photographer in his death certificate, as is Alexandrine herself. We know Alexandrine kept in close touch with the Collard family since her nephew François Albert, son to Hippolyte Auguste Collard and also a photographer, was one of the witnesses at her sister Maria Augustine Armandine’s wedding on 4 December 1879. Alexandrine married again on 27 May 1889 at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement but this time no photographer signed as a witness. Her second husband, François Isidore Louis Wemans, was a merchant from Holland, who was living at 22, rue de l’Entrepôt, in the 10th arrondissement.

SOLON Elise Joséphine, was born at Wazemmes, Nord, on or around 28 August 1843 (the birth certificates for that period have been destroyed) to Emile Jean Baptiste Solon, and his wife Catherine. She became a florist and was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 19 July 1860 after she sat for Philippe Dubourja. She was tried on 22 August and sentenced to eight days in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 9 to 17 October 1860 and does not seem to have modelled again after her release.

GAREY Elise, known as Annette, was born on 9 October 1840 or 1841 (sources differ) either in Moselle or in Prussia, to Hippolyte Garey and his wife Suzanne Schneider. She was also a florist and was arrested a first time in June 1858 after sitting in the nude for Alphonse Chuchu. She was tried on 5 August, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 4 September. On 19 July 1860 she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury for sitting for Bronn, Chevalier and Philippe Dubourjal. Her second trial took place on 22 August. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 29 August to 10 September for having insulted the policemen who arrested her and from 9 December 1860 to 8 February 1861 for indecency. She does not seem to have modelled again after her release.

HUREL Amélie Ernestine, calling herself Amélie Adélaïde or Marie Amélie, was born at Paris, on 25 November 1840 to Jacques Hurel and his wife Olympe Adélaïde Dujardin and was baptised at Saint-Nicolas-des-Champs on 10 January 1841. She became a florist and started modelling for Philippe Dubourjal, Eugène Lamy and François Benjamin Lamiche. She was summoned before judge Rohault de Fleury on 19 July and on 3 September 1860 and tried on 10 October by the sixth chamber. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 3 to 11 September and again from 10 October to 9 November. She appeared before a court again on 17 September 1861 but was acquitted, along with the other young persons who sat in the dock with her, the photos that incriminated them having been taken prior to their first judgment and having escaped seizure and destruction. Amélie did not stop modelling in the nude, however, and on 21 September 1861 she was summoned again to appear before Mr. De Fleury after she sat for Vincent Craveri. She was tried on 16 October, fined 16 francs and sentenced to two months at Saint-Lazare. She is not mentioned again in the police records after her release.

COURTAULT Louise Victorine Françoise was born at Paris on 25 April 1843 to Louis Jean Claude Courtault and his wife Victorine Adélaïde Demaison, and was baptised at Saint-Eustache on the following day. On 20 July 1860 she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting in the nude for Philippe Dubourjal. She was tried on 22 August and sentenced to two month’s imprisonment. She appeared again before Mr. De Fleury on 3 September 1860 after it became apparent she had also sat for Lamiche and Lamy. Her second trial took place on 10 October. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to another month behind bars. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare for a total of three months that started on 22 August, the day of her first trial, and ended on 20 November. Louise Victorine never married and died, a domestic servant, in the 13th arrondissement of Paris, on 8 November 1890. She was buried three days later at Ivry-sur-Seine.

LÉCURIEUX Joséphine Eutrèpe, was born at Fère-en-Tardenois, Aisne, on 6 January 1841 to Joseph Lécurier, a tailor, and his wife Honorine Frasine Desprez. On 20 July 1860 she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Philippe Dubourjal. Her summon was served at Saint-Lazare where she was incarcerated for a previous offence. She was tried on 22 August and sentenced to two weeks’ imprisonment but she was actually incarcerated from the day of her trial to 18 September. She was tried again on 9 April 1861, this time for theft, and sentenced to one month behind bars which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 7 May. By then she was registered as a prostitute.

LEVIELLE Elisa Clara, was born at Boulogne-sur-Mer, Pas-de-Calais, on 14 July 1838 to Jean François Levielle, a tailor, and his wife Geneviève Françoise Vacossant. She was first tried in 1856 for theft and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. When asked during her trial what occupation she had, she said she was a photographer’s model. She was only sixteen then. She had become a “giletière” (making waistcoats) when she was first summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 24 July 1860 for sitting for Philippe Dubourjal. It then appeared she had also sat in her birthday suit for François

Benjamin Lamiche and for one Jacques, photographer, rue Cadet. She was tried on 22 August 1860 and again on 10 October. She was sentenced to 8 days in prison the first time and a month the second time, to which was added a fine of sixteen francs. Elisa was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 3 to 18 September 1860. Banns for her wedding to one Jean Baptiste Gros, were published on 19 October 1873 but, for some unknown reason, the wedding does not seem to have taken place.

DESPLANTES Pierrette, née Noblet, was born at Cousance, Jura, on 6 June 1839 to Jean Noblet, a mason, and his wife Marie Bontemps. She was a waistcoat-maker and a married woman when she was first summomed, on 24 July 1860, to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury for sitting for Philippe Dubourjal and at the Gouin studio. She was tried on 22 August 1860 and sentenced to a week at Saint-Lazare where she stayed from 24 August to 4 September. She was tried again on 10 October and this time she had to pay a fine of sixteen francs and spend a month behind bars.

BELLETTTE Euphrasie Caroline, was born at Paris on 16 November 1839 to Joseph Bellette and his wife Victorine Delphine Dubroc and baptised eight days later. She was a polisher on gold and made some extra money by sitting for Philippe Dubourjal, which is why she was summoned, on 26 Juy 1860, to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury. She was tried on 22 August 1860 and sentenced to a week in prison. She stayed at Saint-Lazare from 3 to 11 September and does not appear in the police records again. On 22 October 1864, Euphrasie married one Pierre Toutain, a mason, at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement. Her marriage was short-lived, however, as her husband died less than five years later, on 4 August 1869. He was only twenty-seven.

ROUSSEAU Héloïse said she was born at Saint-Quentin, Aisne, around 1840, to Charles Rousseau and his wife Clémentine Cambray, but there is nobody by that name in the birth certificates of the period. She modelled for Edme Alphonse Chuchu and was tried on 5 August 1858 by the sixth chamber. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to

4 September but remained under lock and key in an institution at the request of her father. I have not yet found out what became of her after she was released.



DEHM Joséphine, known as Berthe Marie Joséphine Dehm was born in Paris on 18 July 1839 to Joseph Philippe Dehm (1804-1878) and his wife Virginie Harlin (1810-before 1878). Of her childhood and early years, nothing is known apart from the fact that she was christened some six months after her birth in the church of Saint Bernard de la Chapelle, on 18 January 1840. Reports disagree as to what job she had when she was first arrested in August 1860. The police report that mentions her name in the B B/3 register has her as a flower-girl, but the account of her trial as well as the prison register mention that she was working in the jewellery business as a travelling saleswoman. The strange thing about Joséphine is that even her real name is somewhat of a mystery. Though Dehm is not a very common name in France, it was often misread so that she is sometimes referred to as Joséphine Dehen (Christening certificate) or even Dehin (newspaper article reporting her trial).

Like many of the girls whose identities have been kept for posterity to stare at in the infamous B B/3 register, Joséphine was probably hardly making both ends meet with her job. Since she had regular features, a pleasant face lit up by lovely blue eyes, and a certain natural grace, she decided or was persuaded at one point to make extra money by modelling for artists. It is very difficult to determine exactly when she began sitting for photographers but since she is quite easily recognizable and never hides her face (something she probably later regretted) she can be spotted in quite a few photos by Pierre Henri Amand Lefort (1804-1880) in which she is in turn a shop assistant, a washerwoman, a hat-maker, a young woman at a ball, a country girl in a smithy, and many more. She can also be found in stereocards made and published by Léon Constant Lamiche (1833-1877) and his partner and brother-in-law Louis Honoré Joseph Augé (1827-1893). It may well be while posing for them that she was first convinced to display more skin than she ever had before as there are a few nudes

of her (both as stereocards and stereo daguerreotypes) which can be attributed to them without a doubt. Was it pride in her young curves, the photographers' power of persuasion or the extra money they were willing to give her that made her flaunt her face and expose her young body in front of the camera ? We will never know for sure but the fact remains that she did pose in the nude or semi-nude for quite a few photographs. Luckily for her, she escaped detection this time although Lamiche and Augé were eventually arrested and sentenced for making and selling indecent pictures.

One day, however, the path of the 21 year-old girl met that of 31 year-old photographer Pierre Eleonore Ernest Lamy (1828-1900) who may have seen some of Lamiche and Augé's work and convinced the young woman to sit for him. Some of Lamy's photographs were sold in the street by Jules Edouard Auguste Quesnel, known as Getting (1836-1901), another photographer, who could not possibly have guessed that one of the gentlemen who showed an interest in his ware was none other than police inspector Remise from the French "police des mœurs" (vice squad).

Jules Getting was arrested and questioned. In order to cut a deal with the judge, he told the police who he had got the photos from. Lamy's premises were searched on 26 August 1860 and the police seized a pretty number of what they termed "indecent" photographs. Lamy was consequently arrested too and, in turn, gave the names of the models who had sat for him. That's how Felicité Petot, 23, Caroline Gally, 18, Amélie Hurel, 19, Joséphine Dedarche, 19, Marie Eulalie Fauquet, 19, Constance Deshayes, 21, and Joséphine Dehm, 21, found themselves in front of Judge Bonnefoy des Aunay on 10 October 1860.

The journalist who reported the trial in the columns of the October eleventh issue of La Gazette des Tribunaux (The Courts' Gazette) noticed that while some of the models were smirking throughout the debates one, Joséphine Dehm, cried all the time. He even referred to her at one point as "the one who is always crying". Was Josephine a simple naive girl who was genuinely sorry for what she had done or a crafty one who used her tears to soften her judges ? When she was asked by Mr. Bonnefoy des Aunay how she had met Lamy she answered that a woman she was acquainted with brought her there to

have her portrait taken and that she went for that purpose. The judge then remarked that people who have their portrait taken do NOT usually strip off their clothes and that they pay the photographer instead of being paid by him. We don't know what Joséphine responded to that pertinent statement but her tears, real or feigned, apparently impressed on the judge that she was feeling some remorse which may explain why though her companions were all sentenced to one month's imprisonment, she got away with two weeks. Lamy, the photographer, was sentenced to four months but only served three, while his employee, Getting was acquitted.

It has often been said in the press of the time that the girls who sat for photographers in the nude had loose morals and perverted minds. There may have been a handful of them who fitted that description but for most of the sitters it was just a way of paying the rent and earning more money than they usually did. Models were usually paid 5 francs for a five-hour sitting, which was twice to three times as much as what they would earn by working ten to twelve hours in a shop or a workshop. Félicité Petot, who was in the dock with Joséphine, when asked why she had accepted to sit in the nude, simply answered that work was slack at the time and that when she saw a photographer's establishment she just went in and asked if there was modelling work for her. She was plainly aware of the danger of posing for risqué pictures since she had been sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment earlier that year, but this was apparently no deterrent and was a better option than prostitution or starvation.

Joséphine was incarcerated at the Saint-Lazare prison for women on 23 October 1860 and was released on 7 November. We learn from her description in the prison register that she was 1.60 m tall, had blue eyes, chestnut hair and eyebrows, a round chin and a "full" face. She was made to wear the plain uniform of the inmates of Saint-Lazare, a brown dress, an apron and a small bonnet called "béguin" (prostitutes were recognizable by their blue dress). We don't know for sure how she bore her imprisonment nor what changes it brought in her but for most women prison meant shame, the loss of their job, ostracism from their former peers and, more often than not, from their families and friends.

I would love to be able to write that after that ordeal Joséphine was able to forget and had a happily-ever-after kind of life. Unlike

some of her “sisters in sin” who eventually married and were able to start over a new life, Joséphine however remained single and did not prosper.

She and the other models employed by Lamy appeared before a judge again nearly one year later, on 17 September 1861, but it was proved by the counsel for the defence that the photos which incriminated them had been made from negatives that had escaped seizure and had therefore not been destroyed at the time of the first trial. They were therefore acquitted but this new confrontation with a judge must have brought back some terrible memories in Joséphine’s mind, memories she had probably been trying hard to forget. Since she never married, there are no other official records for the rest of her life. She may have continued modelling for some time after her trial but my guess is she must have made it a point to keep her clothes on as she no longer appeared in her birth suit on any more photographs. She most certainly lost her job in the jewellery business and even though she does not appear to have fallen into prostitution like so many of her “sisters,” she must have had a hard time of it, especially when her youthful bloom was gone.

Joséphine died in the Hospice des Incurables on 14 March 1876, at seven o’clock in the morning. She was then living at 29, Boulevard du Port Royal in the thirteenth arrondissement and was working as a costermonger. She was only thirty-seven. Hers must have been a very lonely passing. There was no-one to hold her hand, no one to say nice things to her or to hear her dying words. Her death certificate was not signed by friends or relatives but by two employees from the hospital.



Photograph by Lamiche, print by Block. Joséphine Dehm.



Pierre Henri Amand Lefort. Joséphine and another model.

DEDARCHE Joséphine, said she was born at Arlan-court, Belgium, in August 1841, to François Dedarche and his wife Marie-Jeanne Lecerf. She was a “lingère” and on 7 September 1860 she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Pierre Ernest Lamy. She was tried on 10 October, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from 22 October to 21 November. She does not feature in the police records after her release.

DESHAYE Lucie Constance was born at Paris, on 14 January 1839, the illegitimate child of eighteen year old Victoire Cyprienne Deshayes. She was a “lingère” too and also sat in the nude for photographer Eugène Lamy which led to her being summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury on 6 September 1860. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 10 October, fined sixteen francs and sent to Saint Lazare for one month. She stayed there from the day of her trial to 21 November. Constance never married and died on 15 May 1900 in the 18th arrondissement.

FAUQUET Marie Eulalie, was born at Marconnelle, Pas-de-Calais, on 14 February 1841 to Philippe Joseph Fauquet and his wife Catherine Prudence Marsille. Marie Eulalie was a “lingère” and when summoned on 5 September 1860 to the presence of judge Rohault de Fleury who wanted to see her



after it was made clear she had modelled for Bernard Ambroise Castaings, she acknowledged sitting also for François Benjamin Lamiche, Pierre Ernest Lamy and Félix Marie Chevalier. Although there is no trace of her trial in the B B/3 register, she was tried on 20 October 1860 and was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from 22 October to 21 November 1860. She appeared again before judge Rohault de Fleury on July 1861 and was tried a second time on 17 September but, like all the other models sitting in the dock on that day, she was acquitted when it was proved that the photographs that incriminated them had been taken prior to their first trial and that they had already been sentenced for them. Marie Eulalie marrried one Philippe Eugène Duchesne, a commercial clerk, on 11 January 1868 at the mairie of the 5th arrondissement.

RUCHE Léontine Françoise, said she was born at Paris in November 1839 to Hyacinthe Ruche and his wife Louise Marguerite Picard, but if so her birth certificate was never reconstructed. Her parents had married at Nancy, Meurthe, in 1828, and Léontine must have been the last of their several children as her father died in 1840, aged thirty-nine. She was working as a boot-sewer when she was summoned before Mr. Rohault de Fleury, charged with sitting for her lover, photographer Edouard Briouse. She acknowledge the facts and was tried on 24 October 1860 by the seventh chamber. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 23 November 1860. While there she gave birth to a child, Delphine Marie, who was born on 29 October and was officially abandoned by her mother on 3 November 1860. Léontine does not feature in the police records after her release and I do not know what became of her.

DEMELLEVILLE Louise Eugénie, said she was born at Paris on 21 June 1842 to Louis Pierre de Melleville and his wife, née Begand. Her birth certificate was never reconstructed so there is no way of checking whether she was telling the truth. Louise was summoned before Mr. Rohault de Fleury for modelling in the nude but the name of the photographer she was sitting for is not recorded in the police file. However, the report of her trial mentions Briouse, Veyrat and

Lamiche. Louis Eugénie was tried on 24 October, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of the trial to 23 December.

LEBŒUF Marguerite Amandine was born at Berck, Pas-de-Calais, on 25 October 1838, to Pierre François Lebœuf and his wife Marie-Anne Esther Pruvost. Amandine lost her mother on 23 October 1843, two days before she turned five, and her father re-married one Adélaïde Magnier a few months later, on 3 February 1844. Amandine was twenty-two and a domestic servant when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after posing for Jean-Pierre Veyrat. She was tried on 24 October, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 23 November. She does not appear in the police files after her release. I have yet to find out what became of her after that.

DORISSÉ Rose said she was born at Beaumont, Sarthe, on 25 June 1842, but there is nobody by that name in the birth certificates of the period. She was a florist and only seventeen and a half when she was summoned to appear before the police “commissaire” Mr. Demarquay on 11 December 1860 and was arrested by inspector Guillot. She acknowledged sitting in the nude for Jean-Pierre Budor with one Charles Emmanuel Pourtois and a chorister at the Opéra Comique called Constantin Denis Rémond and did not deny either convincing Amélie Césarine Rabeau and another girl named Luchet to model for the same Budor and taking them to his studio. Rose was tried on 16 January 1861 but it was found she and the other two girls were not responsible and that the blame laid on the photographer and the dealers who had commissioned the images. They were neither fined nor sentenced to imprisonment.

VÉRIOT Marie Julie was born on 28 January 1831 at Senones, Vosges, to Jean-Baptiste Viriot, an inn-keeper, and his wife Marie Jeanne Masson. She was a “lingère” and earned some extra money on the side by sitting for Jean-Pierre Budor. On 18 December 1860 she was summoned to appear before

Mr. Rohault de Fleury. Her premises were searched and the police officer in charge, Commissaire Demarquay found several obscene pictures of her in various poses. However, she was not convicted nor tried and her name is not mentioned in the police files again. On 19 July 1888 Julie, who was then living on her own means, married one Paul Pépin, also living on his own means, at the mairie of the 6th arrondissement.

RAVOUX Cœlina Esther, was born at Saint-Denis, near Paris, on 15 June 1843, to François Ravoux, a locksmith, and his wife Marie-Anne Nolleau. She was working as a laundry girl and was the mistress of one Pierre Joseph Briez, also a locksmith, when she was arrested after sitting in the nude for photographer Louis Grégoire Germain. It appeared, however, that she had done so at the request of her lover who wanted to have a portrait of her without any clothes on and who, when he had it, showed it around. She acknowledged sitting with another girl named Adèle Dédicourt (actually Adélaïde Louise Augustine Dédicourt) who confirmed the facts. Although the B B/3 police register does not mention any conviction, Esther was tried and sentenced to two weeks’ imprisonment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from 22 November to 13 December 1860. Her lover was sentenced to two weeks in prison on 17 December 1860 and to another two weeks on 3 January 1861. Briez was still alive and working as a locksmith in 1891 but I do not know what became of Esther after she was released from prison.

DÉDICOURT Adélaïde Louise Augustine, was born at Maffliers, Val d’Oise, on 30 May 1841 to Florentin Dédicourt and his wife Alexandrine Lebèque. She was arrested on 16 November 1861 after sitting for Louis Grégoire Germain with Esther Ravoux. Unfortunately, that is all I know about her, the entry in the police register being very short and not even mentioning whether she was prosecuted or not.

BLUM Sarah, was a seventeen and a half year old “lingère” when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury, charged with sitting for François Benjamin Lamiche. She was tried on 17 September 1861 but was acquitted. I have not been able to find any information about her. She said

she was born in Paris but if so her birth certificate was never reconstructed and since she does not appear again in the police file and was never sent to prison her paper trail is almost non-existent.

NIQUET Octavie Augustine, was Alexandrine Félicie Niquet’s sister. She was born at Paris on 11 February 1842. On 26 November 1859, she married one Jules Eugène Alexis Niquet, a painter. Depending on the sources she was either a seamstress or an umbrella-maker when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury in July 1861, charged with sitting for Lamiche. She was tried on 17 September and acquitted.

BRUNET Rebecca was a model for Lamiche too. Like the two previous young women she was summoned some time in July 1861 in the presence of Mr. Rohault de Fleury for unveiling in front of Lamiche’s lens. She was tried on 17 September 1861 and was also acquitted. I do not know anything more about her as her file in the police register does not even mention her age or her place of birth. If she was born at Paris her birth certificate was never reconstructed.

RABEAU Amélie Césarine, was born at Paris on 4 February 1843 to Alexis Rabeau, a shoe-maker, and his wife Anne Virginie Methivier. She became a florist and, on 5 August 1861, she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after modelling in the nude for Ferdinand Jean Rocheblanc. She was tried on 16 October by the seventh chamber, was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two month’s imprisonment which started on the day of her trial and ended on 15 December 1861. Amélie resumed modelling after her release and on 3 July 1863 she was summoned to appear before police “commissaire” Mr. Leclerc after sitting at Pierre Louis Courier’s. She was arrested at her premises, 64, Boulevard Rochechouard, and was tried by the sixth chamber on 7 August. She was sentenced to spend four months in prison and was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 6 December.

SCHMITT Marguerite said she was born at Pantin on 15 May 1841 to Mathieu or Mathias Schmitt and his wife Madeleine Hundzelle, but her birth certificate was never reconstructed. She was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 5 August 1851, charged with sitting for Ferdinand Jean Rocheblanc. She was tried on 16 October by the seventh chamber and sentenced to one month in prison which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 15 November. She was not arrested again.

TAMAGNE Clémence was born at Landrecies, Nord, on 8 April 1844, the illegitimate daughter of Coralie Tamagne. She was twenty-one and working as a prostitute when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Fleury on 12 September 1861 after sitting in the nude in a studio at Saint-Mandé. She was tried on 16 October 1861 by the seventh chamber, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 15 December.

PIERSON Marie Louise said she was born at Stenay, Meuse, on 7 April 1839, to Noël Pierson and his wife Thérèse Guerlan but the only child by that surname born at Stenay in 1839 was one Rose Pierson, born on 26 April, the illegitimate daughter of one Elisabeth Guerton. Marie Louise, an embroiderer by trade, was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 21 September 1861 after sitting for Vincent Craveri. She was tried by the seventh chamber on 16 October 1861, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 15 November.

BEDEL Marie Modeste was born at Paris on 3 June 1845, to Charles Bedel and his wife Marie Josèphe Fleury, and was baptised on the following day. She was only sixteen when, on September 1861, she was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury after sitting in rather graphic “polkas” for Vincent Craveri. She was tried on 16 October and was acquitted. On 29 August 1874, at the mairie of the 11th arrondissement, she married one François Vandenkieboom,

joiner. She was a seamstress then and both her parents were dead. Marie Modeste died on 14 June 1897 in the 12th arrondissement. At the time of her death she was a laundress and was separated from her husband. She was buried at Ivry-sur-Seine on 17 June 1897.

FRICHOT Victoire Robertine, known as Victoria, was born at Bougival, Seine-et-Oise, on 1 November 1837 to Jacques Nicolas Frichot and his second wife, Marie Madeleine Antin. Her mother died on 6 May 1849 and Victoire became a seamstress. She gave birth to an illegitimate son, named Charles Victor, on 22 October 1853. She was just sixteen. On 9 May 1862 she was summoned to the presence of commissaire Demarquay after posing in some graphic photographs for Henry Louis Colombier. She could not be found, however, and was tried in abstentia on 26 June 1862. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one year in prison. When she was eventually arrested she only spent one month at Saint-Lazare, from the day of her arrest on 2 October to 1 November 1862. Oddly, the page in the B B/3 register where her name, and possibly her photograph, appears to have been deliberately torn and half of it is missing. Victoire was still alive on 15 July 1876 and was still a seamstress when her son married one Marie Joséphine Rosalie Lhomme at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement. Victoire Robertine died in the same 10th arrondissement on 15 March 1886. She was still a seamstress and still unmarried.

JACQUINET Emilie Eugénie was born at Troyes, Aube, on 15 February 1845 to Pierre Nicolas Jacquinet and his wife Geneviève Thiédot. She was only seventeen and was working as an extra at the Théâtre des Délassements Comiques under the name stage name Valentine when she was summoned in the presence of police commissaire Demarquay after sitting for very graphic pictures for Henry Louis Colombier. Emilie Eugénie was tried on 26 June 1862 by the seventh chamber. She was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 25 October. The page where her name features in the B B/3 police register has been torn and only half of it is visible.

SAVARY Clélie Odine Josèphe, known as Odile Louise, was born under the name Malanquin at Banteux, Nord, on 6 October 1844, the illegitimate child of twenty-five year old embroiderer Clélie Louise Malaquin. Odile Louise was only seventeen and a “passementière” (tassel and fringe maker) when she was summoned to appear before police commissaire Demarquay after modelling in very graphic photographs for Henry Louis Colombier. Like Emilie Eugénie Jacquinet she was an extra at the Théâtre des Délassement Comiques when she sat for Colombier. She was tried on 26 June 1862, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months behind bars. She did her time at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 25 October. In the prison register she gives the name of her father as being Amédé Alexandre Savary and if no father is mentioned in her birth certificate it is because he and her mother married on 7 October 1851, seven years after Clélie Odine was born. On the day of their wedding they legitimised their two daughters, Clélie and Louise Josèphe, born on 23 August 1851.

LAMBERT Jeanne was apparently born at Liège, Belgium, on 24 February 1845. She was a seveteen and a half year old net-maker when she was summoned, on 14 October 1862, to appear before commissaire Demarquay after sitting for photographer Achille Vincent. She was tried on 5 December 1862 by the sixth chamber, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 4 April 1863.

MOURAUD Madeleine said she was born at Phalsbourg, Moselle, on 1 April 1833 to Henry Mouraud and his wife Madeleine Ladzar. She was a seller at the Paris Halles and a little older than most of her fellow models when she was summoned to the presence of Commissaire Demarquay on 14 October 1862 after modelling for Achille Vincent in rather graphic photographs. She was tried on 5 December 1862 by the sixth chamber, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months behind bars but actually spent five months at Saint-Lazare, from the day of her trial to 4 June 1863.

GRANDIN Céline was born in Fécamp, Seine Maritime, on 29 May 1843, to Eugène Grandin, a tailor, and his wife Rose Millet. She was a milliner when, on 2 November 1862, she was summoned to appear before judge Dobigny after sitting in her birthday suit for Achille Vincent and was arrested by police inspectors Clerc, Piel and Remise. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 December and although the police file says she was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months in prison she actually spent eight months at Saint-Lazare, from the day of her trial to 4 August 1863.

COSSART Sophie Joséphine was born at Amettes, Pas-de-Calais, on 18 March 1843, to Jean Baptiste Cossart, a blacksmith, and his wife Sophie Meniel. On 2 November 1862 she was summoned to appear before a judge after sitting for Achille Vincent but could not be found. She was tried in abstentia by the sixth chamber on 5 December, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. She was eventually arrested after her trial and served her time at Saint-Lazare from 13 December 1862 to 12 June 1863.

DUPARCQ Marguerite Elisabeth was born at Montreuil-aux-Lion, Aisne, on 19 July 1834, to Jean Pierre Duparcq and his wife Julie Appoline Ligon. She was already a prostitute when she was summoned before Mr. Leclerc, a police commissaire, on 2 July 1863, after sitting for Pierre Louis Courier. She was tried on 7 August and sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare on the day of her trial and remained there until 6 April 1864. Marguerite somehow managed to leave her former life behind and, on 22 June 1872, at the mairie of the 8th arrondissement, she married one Nicolas Gusse, a widower and a gardener specialising in flowers.

LEFÉBURE Désirée was born at Paris on 24 June 1848 to Louis Adolphe Lefébure, a decorator painter, and his wife Louise Joséphine Bertin. She became a seamstress and was only fifteen when, on 8 July 1863, she was arrested after modelling in the nude for Pierre Louis Courier. She was tried on 7 August and it was decided she would remain in a juvenile detention centre until she was twenty-one. On 1 February 1888, at Joinville-le-Pont, she eventually got married to one Jean Pierre René Chaigneau.

KRAFT Pauline Eléonore said she was born at Paris on 4 January 1845, the illegitimate daughter of Pauline Julie Kraft, but if so her birth certificate was never reconstructed so there is no way of checking whether she was telling the truth or not. She was a florist and only eighteen when, on 8 July 1863, she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting in her birthday suit for Pierre Louis Courier. She was tried on 7 August and sentenced to a month in prison which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 6 September.

LORET Marie Anathalie, known as Nathalie and calling herself Sarah, was born at Darnétal, Seine Maritime, on 9 May 1840, the daughter of Jacques Désiré Loret and of his wife Marie Thérèse Leroux. She was a seamstress and already at Saint-Lazare when, on 8 July 1863, she was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury afer modelling for Pierre Louis Courier. She was tried on 8 September by the Tribunal civil de Paris and sentenced to one month in prison which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 8 October.

CHARDON Pierrette Léopoldine was born at Tazilly, Nièvre, on 19 October 1840, to Paul Chardon and his wife Marie Chaussin. She became a milliner and on 22 January 1857, married one Pierre Thomas at the mairie of the former 8th arrondissement. On 28 August 1863 she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after modelling for Antoine Julien Lédion, known as Jules Lédion, and his wife Marie Joséphine Agnus. She was tried on 24 September and sent to Saint-Lazare for a month, from the day of her trial to 9 October.

LEPESANT Léontine Sophie was born at Vire, Calvados, on 13 August 1840, to Jean-Jacques Lepesant and his wife Louise Cailly. She became a seamstress and on 28 August 1863 was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury, after sitting in the nude for Jules Lédion and his wife. She was tried on 24 September and sentenced to two weeks’ imprisonment, which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 9 October. Léontine never married and died on 23 October 1897 in the 10th arrondissement.

MABIRE Célestine Adèle was born at Zurich, Switzerland, on 1 April 1841, to Louis Désiré Mabire, a former soldier and a knight of the Legion of Honour, and his wife Célestine Anastasie Joséphine Davoust. She was a florist when, on 2 September 1863, she was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury, after sitting in the nude for Jules Lédion and his wife. She was tried on 24 September and the reviewer of the trial described one of her incriminating photographs in the report he published in La Gazette des Tribunaux on the following day, without giving her name, though. Here is what he writes about the image:

“These young lingères, who had their full length portraits taken as cartes-de-visite, have not generally over-used linen or drapes. They say they were told that their photographic reproductions would be sent to far away countries and thus convinced that their fellow-citizens would never see them they accepted to lay their charms bare before the camera. They did not do any indecent poses but went for heroic ones, just like the ones they knew from paintings and engravings. One of them [this is Adèle] sat as a garde-national; another one [Hortense Sophie Cadout, see below] as a defender of oppressed Poland in a composition entitled Leaving for Poland. An army composed of such soldiers would not scare the cossacks, but would certainly offend modesty; the heroin is represented in the costume of the Romans from the time of the Rape of the Sabins, with the difference that she substituted to the helmet a sailor’s hat adorned with flowers and feathers, to the shield a travelling bag and to the spear an umbrella she is carrying under her arm; the rest of her uniform is identical to the one worn by Romulus’s warriors in the well-known engraving; we must not forget to mention that she is, however,



wearing a stiff collar, a tie, stockings and boots. This is the outfit she has chosen to fly to the rescue of the Polish people. One of the girls [Adèle], said one of the councils for the defence, sat in the more or less full uniform of a garde national; rather less than more actually, I must admit, but she at least tried to save her modesty by adding a vine leaf to the outfit. This small photograph may well be a joke in bad taste, but is it really an obscene image, a case for an idecency trial ? The court will appreciate.

We were shown that picture. The costume of the sitter is a mixture of the one worn by antique statues and by the early natives of the Marquesas islands; it consists of a cap, a belt, a knapsack, a stiff collar, a cravat, stockings and boots. That’s for the warlike part of the outfit; the antique part is represented by the aforementioned vine leaf; the attitude of the model is that of the sentinel on duty, one hand holding the barrel of her gun. On the whole, if such an outfit were to be adopted for the garde nationale, one would not see as many of those recalcitrants dragging their feet to do their duty under the false pretence that they cannot afford to get dressed properly.”

Adèle’s judges did not really appreciate the comicality of the scene and sentenced her to two weeks in prison. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 9 October. Adèle never married and died, single, on 2 July 1880 in the 11th arrondissement. She was buried at Ivry-sur-Seine, two days later.

CADOUT Hortense Sophie was born at Paris on 25 November 1842 to Jean Michel Cadout and his wife Françoise Maire. She was a “lingère” when, on 2 September 1863, she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Mr. and Mrs Jules Lédion. One of the photographs showing her naked, the one entitled Leaving for Poland, was commented upon in the report of her trial (see above). She was tried on 24 September and sentenced to two weeks in prison which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 9 October. On 29 January 1880, at the mairie of the 11th arrondissement, Hortense married one Aristide Désiré Lefebvre, a landowner. On 10 November 1904 the marriage ended in a divorce.

GÉNISSIEUX Marguerite Olympe Joséphine was born at Turin, Italy, on 8 August 1832 to Isidore and Rosine Génissieux. On 29 December 1853 she married one Jean Gustave Fournier at the mairie of the former 11th arrondissement. They had at least one son, Louis, born at Paris around 1857. On 18 May 1864, the thirty-two year old seamstress was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting in the nude for Louis Ferdinand Frelet. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 1 July 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 30 September. Olympe died in the 13th arrondissement on 29 March 1887 and was buried on the following day at Ivry-sur-Seine. Her son Louis signed her death certificate and though her husband was still alive then, they were apparently separated.

CHARLIER Louise Eléonore Elisabeth was born at Paris on 18 May 1826 to Thomas Louis Charlier and Jeanne Elisabeth Henriette Villers. On 16 October 1845, at the mairie of the former 12th arrondissement, she married one Aimé Florentin Chevantner, a locksmith. They had at least one son, born on 7 September 1846. Eléonore was a thirty-nine year old seamstress when, on 18 May 1864, she was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury after sitting in the nude for Louis Ferdinand Frelet. She was tried on 1 July 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months behind bars, which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 30 September. Louise Eléonore was still alive and a domestic servant when her son got married at the mairie of the 14th arrondissement on 29 September 1888 to one Marie Françoise Valérie Robardet.

SAVATON Rosalie Augustine was born at Paris on 3 December 1847 to Pierre Simon Savaton and his wife Pétronille Vielle. On 18 May 1864 she was summoned before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Louis Ferdinand Frelet. She was tried on 1 July, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 30 September. Rosalie never married and died in the 14th arrondissement on 4 December 1893. She was only forty-five.

JOLAS Anne Marie Joséphine was born at Evrange, Moselle, on 10 May 1847 to Nicolas Jolas and his wife Catherine Frumme. She was baptised on the same day. On 18 May 1864 she was summoned before judge Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Louis Ferdinand Frelet. She was tried on 1 July, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 30 September. In 1872 she opted out of Alsace-Lorraine, which had been annexed by the Prussians and chose to remain French. She was then living at Angers, Maine-et-Loire.

MOUTON Marie Virginie, known as RADIGUE Marie and nicknamed Pérolas, was born at Paris, on 8 September 1845, the illegitimate daughter of Catherine Mouton and of an unknown father whose first name is however given as Henri in her prison register. She was a nineteen year old “lingère” when she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 29 May 1864, charged with sitting in the nude for Louis Ferdinand Frelet. She was tried on 1 July 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month in prison which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 31 July.

NOGUES Marie, known as Joséphine, was born at Navarrenx, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, on 26 September 1845, the illegitimate daughter of Laurence Marie Nogues and of an unnamed father. She was a florist and aged twenty when, in June 1864, she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for sea captain and occasional photographer Eugène Alphonse Perrette. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 8 July 1864, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment, whereas the photographer only got two weeks. She was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 7 September. The journalist who reported her trial in the Gazette des Tribunaux on 9 July could not help noticing that she was “remarkably pretty”.

BERSOT Clarisse was born at Vesoul, Haute-Saône, on 8 June 1846 to Eloy Bersot, a tailor, and his wife Rosalie Adélaïde Forsart. She was a seamstress and aged eighteen when, in June 1864, she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after modelling in the nude for Eugène Alphonse Perrette. She was tried on 8 July, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months at Saint-Lazare where she was incarcerated from 19 September to 18 November.

RIEHL Marie Joséphine (wrongly called Richel in the B B/3 register) was born at Saint-Etienne-en-forêt, Loire, on 14 January 1846 to George Riehl, a farmer, and his wife Marie Joséphine Verneuil. She was an eighteen year old seamstress when, in June 1864 she was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after sitting for Eugène Alphonse Perrette. She was tried on 8 July, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to two months at Saint-Lazare where she was incarcerated from 9 July to 8 September. Strangely enough, another Marie Joséphine Riehl was born on 11 January 1848 at Saint-Julien -en-Jarez, also in the Loire département, to parents named Georges Riehl and Marie Joséphine Verneuil. It seems impossible the two girls could be sisters but the coincidence of names is rather baffling.

FAUCHEUR Louise Désirée was born at Paris on 4 January 1843 to Jean Baptiste Faucheur and Césarine Tissier. On 9 January 1865 the twenty-two year old laundress was summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet after sitting for Jean Baptiste Puissant. Like a lot of the previous young women she was apparently spotted at a public ball by Claude Bretagne who convinced her to sit for Puissant. She was then paid by one Ernest Baur. Bretagne escaped before he was arrested and since he was the master mind behind the operation he was tried in abstentia on 8 July 1864 and sentenced to one year’s imprisonment. Désirée’s trial took place on 4 February 1865. The sixth chamber fined her sixteen francs and sentenced her to three months’ imprisonment. On 27 March 1884 Louise Désirée married Louis Paul Hippolyte Le Brun, a landowner eleven years her junior, at the mairie of the 11th arrondissement.

FAIVRE Appoline Cécilia, commonly called Pauline and calling herself Lefèvre, was born at Rurey, Doubs, on 16 December 1844, to Augustin Faivre and his wife Françoise Durand. Pauline was already at Saint-Lazare, after being arrested for theft, when she was summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet on 28 January 1865, charged with sitting for photographer Auguste Pierre Speisser and his business partner Adolphe Félix Gentil-Descarrières. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 3 March 1865, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two weeks’ imprisonment. In the report of her trial, published in La Gazette des Tribunaux on 5 March 1865, she is called Charlotte Lefaivre and is described as a prostitute working in a brothel, which contradicts the entry devoted to her in the prison register where she is listed as a “culottière”, a seamstress specialising in making trousers. Pauline was back at Saint-Lazare from 18 March to 2 April. On 11 July 1865, she married Claude François Pescheux, a chimney sweep, at the mairie of the 11th arrondissement. The marriage ended in a divorce on 11 April 1889.

PROFIT Joséphine Henriette, was supposedly born at Paris around 1843 but if so her birth certificate was never reconstructed. She was a prostitute and was already incarcerated at Saint-Lazare for theft when, on 28 January 1865, Mr. de Gonet summoned her to appear before him, charged with sitting for Gentil-Descarrières and Speisser. She was tried by the sixth chamber on 3 March 1865, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. In the report of her trial she is called Agathe Proffit and is described as a florist and a prostitute.

BARTHÉLÉMY Emilie Marie said she was born at Metz, Moselle, in 1847 but there is nobody by that name in the birth certificates of the period. She was a mender of straw chairs and made some extra money on the side by sitting in the nude for Gentil-Descarrières and Speisser, which led to her arrest. She was tried on 3 March 1865, fined one hundred francs, and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. She is called Florine Barthélémy in the report of her trial.

ANDRÉ Marie Marguerite, known as Berthe, was born on 5 September 1841 at Chemiménil, Vosges, the daughter of Jean François André, a farmer, and his wife Marie Marguerite Dérose. Marie, a twenty-four year old passementière, sat for Gentil-Descarrières and Speisser and was consequently summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet on 31 January 1865. She was tried on 1 March, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months’s imprisonment which she spent at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 2 May.

GIRAULT Julie Alexandrine was supposedly born at Fontenelle, Aisne, on 20 July 1843. She sat for Gentil and Speisser and was arrested after being summoned to appear before judge de Gonet on 31 January 1865. She was tried on 3 March, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months at Saint-Lazare.

DUVILLE Jeanne was a twenty year old lingère, apparently born at Paris around 1845 but although her name features in the B B/3 police register she was not prosecuted and I have not found any information about her.

SCHWARTZ Marie Catherine was born at Paris on 13 March 1846 to Jean Schwartz and Marie Anne Morgenthaler. She was arrested after being summoned on 31 January 1865 to appear before Mr. de Gonet but was not prosecuted. Although her entry in the B B/3 register does not mention a trial, she was definitely tried on 5 March, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. She is described as a passementière and a prostitute in the report of her trial.

NOURRY (or NOURRIT) Agathe Appolonie was born in January 1837 at Avignon, Vaucluse. On 12 January 1865 she was summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet and was arrested in a café at the corner of the passage Laferrière. She acknowledged sitting in the nude for photographer Pierre Jean Delbarre. The police register does not mention whether she was prosecuted.

BATONNIER Léontine Esthelle was born at Breteuil, Oise, on 21 January 1836 to Jean-Baptiste Batonnier and his wife Marie Anne Lefranc. On 25 February 1854, she married shoemaker Joseph François Dufour at the mairie of the former 2nd arrondissement. She was working as a shop assistant when she was summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet on 12 January 1865. She was arrested in a “caboulot” (either a café of ill-repute or one for working-class people) at 10 rue de l’École de Médecine and acknowledged modelling for Pierre Jean Delbarre. The police register does not mention whether she was tried or not.

MARCHAIS Julie was a nineteen and a half year old seamstress when she was summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet on 1 July 1865 after modelling at Denis François Boucheret’s. Boucheret was a colorist, not a photographer, but his place was apparently used as a studio. He was sentenced twice to one year’s imprisonment but did not seem to have bothered too much since he is mentioned as selling obscene pictures inside the Sainte-Pélagie prison where he was incarcerated. I am afraid I do not know anything more about Julie, the entry devoted to her in the B B/3 register being very laconic.

PELLETIER Fanny was a milliner at the time she was summoned to appear before Mr. De Gonet after sitting at Boucheret’s. She was supposedly born at Bar-sur Aube, Aube, around 1835, but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers of the time, only one Françoise Honorine Pelletier, born on 22 February 1834 and one Anastasie Pelletier, born on 13 June 1835. She could be either of these two but since there is nothing else to go by it is difficult to tell.

MASCOT Josephine was twenty years old and a laundress when Mr. de Gonet issued a warrant for her arrest on 26 June 1866. She was charged with posing in the nude for some indecent photographs that were seized at the premises of one Mrs Latour. Joséphine was supposedly born at Cambrai, Nord, but there is nobody by that name in the birth certificates of the period.

BEREAUX Alexandrine Ismérie was a nineteen year old prostitute working in a brothel, 56, rue Taitbout, Paris. On 26 June 1866, she was summoned to appear before Mr. de Gonet after sitting in the nude for some photographs seized at the premises of the same Mrs. Latour. The police file does not mention any birth place.

Alexandrine Ismérie is the last female model whose name features in the B B/3 register.

PART TWO

PHOTOGRAPHERS

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE IN THE B B/3 POLICE REGISTER

THIÉBAULT Jean Pierre Eugène was born near Metz on 25 February 1826 to Pierre Thiébault and Madeleine Génot. His exact birth place is still something of a mystery. On 22 February 1851 he married a young waistcoat-maker, Alexandrine Yvoret, at the mairie of the former second arrondissement. He was a framer then and was living at 22, rue du Temple. Their only child, Désirée Eugénie Emma, was born in the former 7th arrondissement on 12 December 1851. Thiébault was already a photographer, operating from 3, rue Richer, when, on 25 October 1855 he was summoned to appear before Mr. Musse after one of his employees, Alphonse Courtois, was arrested selling indecent photographs. Courtois, Thiébault and his brother-in-law, Etienne Amable Yvoret, who was also involved in the making and the selling of the incriminating photographs were first tried on 8 December 1855 by the sixth chamber. Courtois and Yvoret were both fined 500 francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. Thiébault’s sentence was harsher as he was fined 1000 francs and sentenced to one year in prison. Both Yvoret and Thiébault appealed against their conviction and were tried again on 19 January 1856. Yvoret’s sentence was reduced to four months but he only spent three and a half at Sainte-Pélagie as he was pardoned on 31 May 1856 and was released on 2 June. Thiébault’s sentence was reduced from twelve ten months. He was incarcerated on 26 February 1856 and should have been released on Christmas Day but he was pardoned by Emperor Napoleon III on the occasion of his official birthday (15 August) and left Sainte-Pélagie on 28 August. Alphonse Courtois, who had not appealed the decision of the court, was not so lucky. He died in prison on 14 June 1856, leaving a widow and an orphan. One would have thought that after such an experience Thiébault would have kept to the straight and narrow but he did not. In September 1857 he attended the meeting of photographers organised by François Benjamin Lamiche the purpose of which was to write a petition to the Emperor protesting against the seizure and destruction of prints and negative of an indecent nature. A lot of photographers, all more or less involved in the production of nude photographs, signed the petition. It turned against them however, as the signees were subsequently under police surveillance and, each time one of them was arrested the mention “attended the meeting at Lamiche’s and signed the petition to the Emperor” was added to their police record. On 22 December 1857 Thiébault

was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury after he provided obscene images to one Miss Aubrée. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 15 January 1858, fined 500 francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. He appealed again but on 23 April the appeal court confirmed the judgment. Thiébault was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 25 May to 24 August. Thiébault appeared before a judge again in 1860 but this time because his wife, with the complicity of her brother, had thrown acid on the arms and face of his mistress, a piano teacher named miss Leblanc. Alexandrine and Pierre Amable Yvoret were not sent to prison but had to pay a pension to their victim. On 21 July 1865 Thiébault was tried again for making and selling indecent pictures. He was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one year behind bars. After that he seems to have aaked his sitters to keep more clothes on, or at least to be veiled. Thiébault died at Enghien-les-Bains on 24 March 1880. His long-suffering wife survived him by sixteen years and passed away, also at Enghien, on 28 December 1896.

COURRIER Pierre Louis was born at Châtelet-en-Brie, Marne, on 24 November 1821 to Jean-Pierre Courrier and his wife Cécile Legras. It is not clear from the police files whether he was a photographer or just a dealer in photographs but the mention “sat at Courrier’s” appears next to the names of several female models so we can assume that he was at least an occasional photographer or that his premises were used as a studio. Courrier was arrested a first time on 26 September 1859 while selling pornographic lithographs. He had a stall of photographs at the Bazar Bonne Nouvelle where he was selling for Eugène Thiébault and hid his illegal stock at the premises of one Mr. Mogront, a wine dealer whose shop was at 1, rue Mazagran. When the police searched the wine shop they found four pornographic lithographs and some licentious photographs, all belonging to Courrier. Courrier was tried by the sixth chamber on 21 October 1859, along with an accomplice, colorist and printseller Françoise Joséphine Finy at whose place where seized one thousand of those pornographic lithographs. Courrier was fined one hundred francs and sent to prison for six months. On 13 July 1860 he was summoned to appear before judge Rohault de Fleury after it was established he had provided one Auguste Isidore Coucharière with the obscene photographs that were found on his person.

The police found three hundred and seventy-eight obscene and licentious prints at Courier’s stall. He was tried again by the sixth chamber on 22 August 1860 and being a repeating offender was fined five hundred francs and sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment. On 2 July 1863 the Prefect of Police ordered Courier’s premises, at 49, rue Rochechouart, to be searched. The search was carried out by police commissaire Mr. Leclerc who found a number of obscene photographs. Courier was arrested on the spot along with two accomplices, Alfred Léon Boncourt, a broker, and Denis François Boucheret, a colorist. Brought to the Préfecture de Police Courier accepted to tell where he had concealed the negatives that had been used to make the incriminating images. The police seized one hundred of them at 42, rue Rochechouart. Courier’s third trial took place on 7 August 1863 and the sixth chamber sentenced him and his two accomplices to one year behind bars. They were incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from the day of their trial to 6 August 1864. Less than two weeks after his arrival at the prison, Courier married twenty-three year old Elisabeth Klélé at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement (in which the Sainte-Pélagie prison was located). Two photographers operating at 49, rue Rochechouart, Émile Xavier Rozé and Étienne Léon Cissay, signed the wedding certificate. Courier, Boncourt and Boucheret, were not idle during their imprisonment. All three are reported as selling pornographic material inside the prison ! Also during Courier’s incarceration his wife was tried on 14 April 1864 for selling licentious photographs and sentenced to one month at Saint-Lazare.

ROYER François Victor was born at Paris on 2 February 1827 to François Royer and his wife Angélique Lemarié. He was working as an operator for a photographer when, on 22 October 1855, he was summoned to appear before judge Treillard after two accomplices, Paul Vincent Delarue and Auguste Justice, were arrested selling indecent photographs he had made. Royer was tried by the sixth chamber on 1 December 1855, fined 100 francs and sentenced to one year in prison. He appealed the decision of the court and on 5 January 1856 the Appeal Court reduced his sentenced to six months. He did not stay in prison that long as he was pardoned on 19 May 1856 and was released. He does not seem to have had any further involvement in the production of indecent photographs.

RAUDNITZ Jules Julius was born in Dresden, Sax, on 23 August 1815 to Lazare and Caroline Raudnitz. He was a compositor in a printing firm when, on 23 May 1847 he married Eveline Oulmann (1825-1875). Of their union were born three children, Lucie Caroline in 1848, Ernest Lazare in 1850 and Claire in 1859. By his marriage Raudnitz became the brother-in-law of photographer Théodore Cremnitz. On 29 February 1856 judge Teillard issued a warrant to search the premises of Raudnitz, who by then had become a photographer, at 3, rue des Prouvaires. One hundred obscene photographs were seized. Jules Raudnitz was tried by the sixth chamber on 1 April 1856, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month in prison. In September 1857 he attended the meeting of photographers at Lamiche’s with his brother-in-law and signed the petition to the Emperor. A few days later, on 15 September, he was tried again for failing to copyright some of his photographs and was fined one thousand francs. On 13 May 1860 a wine merchant at 6, rue des Prouvaires, was questioned by police constable Carlier and stated that at certain times of the year Raudnitz would bring him large quantities of photographs to hide so that they would not be seized in case his studio was searched. In August of the same year Raudnitz was arrested and his studio searched. Nothing was found there but incriminating photographs made in his and Lamiche’s studios were seized at the premises of one Pierre Jeanninel, a broker in photographs and articles from Paris. Raudnitz’s premises were searched again in September 1861 but the search yielded nothing. Raudnitz was tried by the seventh chamber on 16 October 1861, for selling indecent photographs, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. When he was not photographing young women in their birthday suit, Raudnitz was an active stereo photographer, producing a fairly large quantity of genre scenes. In 1871 he photographed and published under the title Le Sabbat Rouge, Pierre Adolphe Hennetier’s clay tableaux showing some of the main events of the Paris Commune (18 March to 28 May 1871). None of Raudnitz’s children became photographers but his nephew Henri Arthur was operating from the same address.

Raudnitz’s wife died on 14 April 1875 in the 9th arrondissement. Raudnitz lived long enough to see his daughters Lucie Caroline and Claire get married (respectively on 9 September 1875 and 5 November 1878). He also witnessed the wed-

ding of his son Ernest Lazare (1881) at the mairie of the 2nd arrondissement and the death of his daughter Claire in 1888. He passed away on 26 May 1889 at Boulogne-Billancourt and was buried two days later at the Père-Lachaise cemetery.

LATREILLE Jean Baptiste was supposedly born at Marseille on 5 February 1820 but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers of the period. In the police report he is described as a writer and a photographer, a married man with two children. He was arrested in February 1856 for selling indecent images and was tried on 26 March. He was fined 100 francs and sentenced to one month in prison but he was pardoned on 30 April 1856. He found himself again in court two years later when he was tried for forgery and sentenced to three years’ imprisonment. I have not yet found what happened to him after his release.

BRIOUSE Édouard was born at Paris on 14 July 1831 to Joseph Hippolyte Briouse and his wife Louise Héloïse Flamant. On 2 May 1856 he was arrested while selling pornographic photographs in a street of Paris. However, he was not prosecuted then. On 15 January 1859, he married Joséphine Lisanbert and legitimised their two daughters, Marie Madeleine Nathalie and Jeanne Antoinette, born respectively on 14 March 1851 and 14 June 1855. On 5 October 1860 one Mr. Juillet signed a warrant for his arrest, which took place at the Belleville theatre where he was a musician. He was charged with making the obscene prints that had been seized on Antoine Lelong when he was arrested while trying to sell them. The police then searched Briouse’s premises at 26, rue des Prés Saint-Gervais and found eight obscene negatives. Briouse denied he was the author of the incriminating images but several female models, including his mistress, Léontine Françoise Ruche, confessed they had sat at his place. Briouse was tried by the seventh chamber on 24 October 1860, along with some other photographers, two male models – one of whom was his brother-in-law Louis Félix Fricaud – and nine female ones. He was fined eight hundred francs and sentenced to one year’s imprisonment. Briouse appealed the decision but it was confirmed by the Appeal Court. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 21 November 1860 to 20 November 1861.

LABOUGLIE Louis Filoxime was born at Auvillers -les-Forges, Ardennes, on 8 March 1820 to Louis Labouglie, a primary school teacher, and his wife Marie Emilie Moret. On 2 May 1856 he was summoned to appear before judge Musse and when he was arrested 5 packets of indecent photographs were seized. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 21 June 1856, fined one thousand francs and sentenced to one year in prison. He is described as a photographer and a married man with one child. He married Marie Stéphanie Ponsin, at La Cerleau, Ardennes, on 6 march 1848. He was a dry cleaner then. Two daughters were born at Aouste, Ardennes, on 23 January 1849 but died one day later. A son, Ulysse Léon was also born at Aouste, on 22 January 1851, and a daughter, Clémentine Marie, was born at Paris on 13 June 1859.

GIRARDOT Augustin was born at Joinville, Haute-Marne, on 20 June 1816, to Antoine Girardot and his wife Gabrielle Naslot. On 11 January 1844 he married Emilie Célestine Sabine Bruloy. By 1856 he and his wife were separated. He was a photographer operating from 28, rue du Buisson-Saint-Louis and sold indecent photographs to one Albert Lévy. On 10 December 1856 he was summoned to appear before judge Musse. He was under arrest at four in the afternoon on that very day and tried by the sixth chamber on 2 January 1857. He was fined two hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment.

SAULNIER Louis Eugène, was born at Paris on 18 April 1833 to Pierre Gervais Saulnier and his wife Pauline Justine Antoine. He was working as an operator for photographer Louis Antoine Maline when he was arrested by inspector Hamelin trying to sell three dozen of indecent photographs. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 13 June 1857, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month behind bars which he spent at Sainte-Pélagie from 15 July to 14 August. On 16 June 1860 he married a seamstress, Louise Henriette Gastebois, at the mairie of the 20th arrondissement.

MALINE Louis Antoine was born at Paris on 4 May 1809 to Aimé Maline and Marie Jeanne Maupier. On 6 February 1834 he married Laurence Joséphine Elisa Prévost. They had at least a daughter, Marie Louise (1835-1900) and a son, Gustave Jean, born in 1843. On 20 April 1857 this photographer who had been the “concierger” or caretaker of a block of flats at 2, rue des Vieilles Haudriettes for the past seventeen years, was summoned to appear before judge Musse after providing Saulnier with the indecent photographs he was peddling. He was tried on 13 June, fined five hundred francs and sentenced to six months in prison. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie on 26 September and should have been released on 25 March 1858 but he was pardoned and ended up leaving prison on 24 February. Six female models were tried with him: Louise-Virginie Dardenne, Alexandrine Maurice, Dominique Tardivel, Adolphine Buhl, and Adèle Berlet. They all got sentences ranging from one month to one year in prison but the two who got the heavier sentences, Tardivel and Berlet, could not be found and consequently never served their time. Louis Antoine Maline died at Courbevoie, Hauts-de-Seine, on 18 December 1880. His wife had been dead since 31 March 1869.

ROCHEBLANC Jean Ferdinand was born at Aix-en-Provence, Bouches-du-Rhône, on 19 June 1836, to Joseph Rocheblanc, an army captain, and his wife Marie Magdeleine Ollivier. Rocheblanc was first arrested on 14 August 1857 while selling pornographic playing cards, dolls, puppets and lithographs which were given to him by one Frédéric Gottschalk and were manufactured in Germany. Rocheblanc was tried by the sixth chamber on 15 September 1857, fined six hundred francs and sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 28 September 1857 to 27 May 1858. On 29 December 1860 Rocheblanc was summoned to appear before Mr. Demarquay after selling pornographic photographs to one Ambroise Auguste Berthome who, in turn sold them to one Alphonse Théodule Foucher on whom they were found when he was apprehended. Rocheblanc was not prosecuted then but was arrested by inspectors Malcuit and Villefroy on 2 August 1861 while selling pornographic photographic prints. On the following day the police searched his

premises but only found some insignificants prints and a number of negatives. Rocheblanc was tried by the seventh chamber on 16 October 1861 along with some female models who had confessed sitting for him in the nude. He was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one year and one month in prison. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from the day of his trial to 14 November 1862. Rocheblanc does not seem to have learnt his lesson however since he was arrested again in March 1864 for making unauthorised photographs known as “Charges Parisiennes”. His third trial took place on 12 April 1864. The sixth chamber fined him one hundred francs and sentenced him to one year in prison according to his police file, and one month according to the report of the trial. I have yet to find out what became of Rocheblanc after his third release from prison.

LAMICHE François Benjamin was born on 11 November 1808 near the little village of Basseville (Seine et Marne) to farmer Pierre Simon Lamiche and his wife Jeanne Cornet. He was only ten when his father died and in all likelihood he, as the eldest child, had to provide for his mother and his three surviving siblings. By the time of his wedding to Aimée Catherine Batz on 12 August 1830, Lamiche was living in Paris and working as a grocer. A daughter was born to the Lamiches in September 1831 and then disaster struck the following year when cholera spread in the capital, killing nearly 20,000 people. On account of the cholera and of the political unrest at the time Lamiche went bankrupt on 5 November 1832 and it took him 24 years to sort his affairs out and regain the legal rights his bankruptcy deprived him of. A first son, Léon Constant, was born in Montmorency on 8 February 1833. Soon after, for reasons which are still unclear but may have to do with Lamiche’s politics (all his life he was a believer in democracy and in the French republic) the growing family moved to Brussels where Lamiche became a bookseller and a publisher. Two more children were born there who, again for unknown reasons, were registered under the name of Barthes, to have their birth certificate corrected years later, when it was considered safe to do so. By 1839 Lamiche was back in Paris. He had a bookshop in Château-Thierry for a very short time but was soon in the capital again where he was in turn a publisher, a broker in subscriptions and a glass-silverer. His younger daughter Louise Luce married a tailor, Joseph Van-de-Gend, on 6 August 1853, around the time when Lamiche



started getting involved in photography. We know he teamed up with sculptor Salvator François Marchi (1820-1872) who, after the sudden death of artist James Pradier (1790-1852), had acquired the rights to sell photographic reproductions of his sculptures. The stereoscopic daguerreotypes they made of Pradier's statues are easily recognisable as they either bear the initials FBL (François Benjamin Lamiche) or the name S. Marchi, sometimes both. When the 1855 Paris exhibition opened its doors, Lamiche was already established as a photographer in rue du Pont Louis-Philippe, where he had moved with his family in 1854, and had sent to the Palais de l'Industrie five reproductions of plasters after Pradier, as well as some staged scenes for the stereoscope. There is a little confusion as to who actually took the photos of the plasters as the official report of the exhibition attributes them to Félix Moulin.

Lamiche's youngest son, who had left France in January 1855 to take part in the Crimean war as a sailor, died of typhus fever on 23 April. It must have taken weeks for the news of his death to reach the family but there is no doubt that his son's death increased the grudge Lamiche already had against the regime of Emperor Napoleon III and against the man himself, whom he considered a traitor to the Republic. This hatred of the Emperor eventually led to the publication of the Diableries (stereoscopic images of clay models representing life in Hell, with several references to the Emperor himself as the Devil) and of a series of stereocards after satirical lithographs by Paul Hadol, in which all the members and supporters of the regime are pictured as animals (the Emperor is a vulture, the Empress a crane, the young Imperial Prince a canary, etc.) and their main traits described in a few chosen words (Cowardice and Ferociousness for the Emperor, Affectedness and Stupidity for the Empress, etc.).

Lamiche's name first appears in the B B/3 register on 5 November 1856 when he is reported as using women to carry pornographic photographs under their crinoline skirts to be delivered to licensed brothels. He was then living at 14 rue du Pont Louis-Philippe, at a stone throw from the bridge that gave its name to the street, but he had his studio at the Pré-Saint-Gervais, a small village north-east of Paris which had not been annexed to the capital then. Soon after his name appeared in the BB3 police register for the first time, Lamiche was mentioned again, along with his clerk, a Mr. Serres, as dealing in obscene photographs. He was tried on 14 January 1857 for selling unauthorised images and sentenced

to one month in prison and a fine of 200 francs. Lamiche appealed against his conviction but when the appeal court examined the incriminated photographs they found them indecent so that Lamiche's sentence was upgraded to three months' imprisonment along with a fine of 500 francs.

On 3 September 1857, the police searched Lamiche's premises at Le Pré-Saint-Gervais. They seized 53 daguerreotypes and 11 negatives of a licentious or obscene nature. Lamiche said he had sold his studio to a Marie De Soye, who, in turn, stated that he was only Lamiche's partner.

An important event took place just before Lamiche's trial on September 15. Shortly after the search of their studio Lamiche and De Soye invited all of the Parisian photographers to a meeting so that they could draft a petition to the Ministre de l'Intérieur (Home Secretary) and to the Emperor himself to protest against the seizure and ultimate destruction of their photographs. The meeting was well attended but proved damaging to the participants as all their names were taken down by the police and used against them later on.

We know, from the B B/3 register that among those present were Serre (or Serres), Lamiche's clerk, Daguerreotypist Jean-Baptiste Sabatier Blot (1801-1881), Félix Marie Chevalier (1818-1882), Joseph Gougin (1793-1863), who is only known as the partner of photographer Eugène Darnay (1831-after 1860), Auguste Joseph Belloc (1805-1873), Alexandre Pierre Bertrand (1822-1892), Bernard Ambroise Castaings (1800-1876), Théodore Cremnitz (1813-1875), Antoine François Lepage (1836-1893), one of the Mitaine brothers, either Jean Baptiste Louis (1824-after 1891) or Julien Victor (1835-after 1891), Jules Malacrida (1817-1885), who, had been sentenced to one year in prison in 1851, Charles Henri Plaut (1819-after 1872), Jules Raudnitz (1815-1899), Léonard Rideau (1804-1878), Jules Duboscq's nephew, Jean-Baptiste François Soleil (1827-1878), and Jean Pierre Eugène Thiébault (1826-1880). All of the above – and there were others whose names were not taken down – signed the petition to the Emperor. Interestingly, a large portion of them had already been, or were soon to be, tried for making and selling indecent photographs. Their subsequent entries in the BB3 register invariably bear the mention “was present at the meeting at Lamiche's and signed the petition to the Emperor.”

Lamiche was tried on 15 September but was acquitted when his son-in-law Louis Honoré Joseph Augé, an upholsterer from Béziers who had just married his elder daughter Aimée Victoire, stated that the incriminating photos which had been seized belonged to him. The police did not really believe him and the policeman who filled in the entry for Lamiche in the BB3 register wrote that Augé had “claimed” the photos were his. However, Augé was sentenced to four months' imprisonment and was incarcerated at Sainte Pélagie from 22 October 1857 to 21 February 1858. Augé's sacrifice did not stop Lamiche from being incarcerated too, and he joined his son-in-law behind bars on 19 January 1858 to spend the three months he had been sentenced to by the Appeal Court. He was released on 16 April 1858 and kept a low profile for nearly two years, working on the Diableries, first with sculptor Pierre Adolphe Hennetier then with Louis Alfred Habert.

The female models who were photographed by Lamiche that time were neither tried nor sent to prison. They were all the luckier as very soon afterwards the first sitters appeared before a judge. The police register lists their names as Palmyre, rue Buci, Pauline, rue St. Martin, près St. Nicolas-des-Champs, Esther, rue Ste. Maure, Elisa, rue Montmartre, Geune, rue St. Pierre, Montmartre, and Amélia, rue Papillon. These young ladies being only familiar to us by their sitter's names it is difficult to know precisely who they were but we can make some educated guesses since a few of them were arrested several times. Fanny Decors was known as Palmyre, Julia Coutelas as Amélia or Camélia. Pauline is most certainly Pauline Sophie Lacroix who appears in photographs by Lamiche.

Lamiche and his family were to have several other contacts with the police and with the Sainte Pélagie prison.

François Benjamin Lamiche was tried again on 24 October 1860 for making and selling indecent pictures His son-in-law, Louis Augé, had been sentenced to two months' imprisonment a week before. Lamiche appeared before the judge with two other photographers, Jean-Pierre Veyrat and Edouard Briouse, as well as nine sitters : Alexandrine Cardot, Annette Garé, Amandine Leboeuf, Louise Eugénie Demelleville, Julia Cordani, Caroline Maire, Léontine Ruche, Fanny Decorps, and Delphine Herbet. The sitters were all sentenced to two months in prison, except the last three who were only given one month. Lamiche was sentenced to four months at Sainte-Pélagie where he stayed from

12 November 1860 to 11 March 1861. When he came out he must have decided it was the last time he would be incarcerated. He consequently retired from business, at least officially, and gave the running of his studio to his son Léon Constant and his son-in-law Louis Augé. His name disappears from the trade register in 1862 to be replaced by “Lamiche fils et Augé” but there is no doubt that Lamiche the elder was still pulling the strings and was letting his son and sons-in-law (the former tailor Van de Gend, his other son-in-law, was also involved in the making of indecent photographs before becoming an opera singer) be sentenced and serve time in his place. The actual running of the firm must have been done by Léon Constant Lamiche since Augé spent most of the following years in and out of prison. Meanwhile, Lamiche was having an affair with a younger woman who gave birth to a girl in April 1863 and whom he eventually married. Lamiche was the first publisher of the Diableries (1860) and of the several sets of cards released under the generic title “Les Théâtres de Paris” (1864). In 1866 he sold his business to publisher and photographer Adolphe Block but surfaced again as soon as the Franco-Prussian war and the Commune were over. Journalist and columnist Ernest Lacan mentions his presence among the very first photographers who resumed business after those dark days and started taking photos of the ruined buildings of Paris. Between October 19 and 30, Lamiche, who must have been delighted the Empire was over, copyrighted stereocards showing sculpted busts of some of the leaders of the Commune, and others of the key men of the former regime portrayed as animals. The latter series was directly derived from Paul Hadol's drawings published under the title La Ménagerie Impériale composée des ruminants, amphibies, carnivores, et autres budgetivores qui ont dévoré la France pendant 20 ans. Lamiche had 29 out of Hadol's 40 cartoons made into clay models.

True to the saying which has it that the Devil turns hermit as he grows old, Lamiche copyrighted several cartes-de-visite photographs of religious subjects in 1873 then vanished from the dépôt légal registers in 1874 after copyrighting the photo of a new gun invented by a Mr Tertenoit.

One year after the death of his estranged wife in 1885, the seventy-five-year-old former publisher married his long-time mistress Octavie Messenger, a midwife who later became a florist. He outlived his son Léon Constant, who died in 1875, and his two sons-in-law (Joseph Van-de-Gend died in 1885 and Louis Augé in 1893) and passed away on May 15, 1901 at the age of ninety-two. He was buried in the cemetery of Pantin but his grave has long gone.

LEPAGE François Antoine was born at Paris on 15 May 1836 to Louis Lepage and his wife Marie Françoise Deschamps. He was an optician and a photographer, with his studio at 40, rue du Four, when, on 12 August 1857, he was arrested while selling seventy-two indecent daguerreotypes. He was however left free while waiting for his trial, attended the meeting at Lamiche’s early in September and signed the petition to the Emperor. He was tried by the seventh chamber on 8 September, fined one thousand francs and sentenced to three months in prison. In the dock with him were his business partner Xavier André Merieux and eight female models: Augustine Guy, Christine Solari, Amélie Rolland, Fanny Decors, Antonia Gotte, Antoinette Prunel, Adèle Buffet and Pauline Sophie Lacroix. Lepage was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 21 October 1857 to 20 January 1858. On 27 January 1859 he married a twenty-one year old seamstress named Isabelle Batteau at the mairie of the former 10th arrondissement. His wife died on 27 March 1880 and Lepage married again on 11 August 1887. His second wife’s name was Marie Adèle Elisabeth Marcaux and she was thirty years his junior. Two of the witnesses at his second wedding were former opticians, Jean Baptiste Louis and Julien Victor Mitaine (see those names). Lepage died on 11 February 1893 in the 17th arrondissement.

MÉRIEUX Xavier André was born at Saint-Etienne, Loire, on 7 March 1832 to Pierre Mérieux, passementier, and his wife Marie Millet. On 29 January 1857, Mérieux married Louise Bluzet at the mairie of the 2nd arrondissement of Lyon. In August he was arrested with his associate Lepage and was tried by the seventh chamber on 8 September. Mérieux was fined five hundred francs and sentenced to two months’s imprisonment. In the birth certificate of his daughter Léonie Marie, born on 28 February 1860 in the 19th arrondissement of Paris, Mérieux is described as a photographer and his wife as a colorist. He was still a photographer, operating at 209, rue du Faubourg Saint-Denis, in a a studio called “Photographie des Bouffes du Nord”, when the same Léonie Marie, a photographer herself, married photographer Emile Ernest Numa Bassaget at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement of Paris on 22 February 1881. Léonie Marie died aged twenty-four, in the 20th arrondissement, on 21 January 1885, probably

in childbirth. André Xavier Merieux, photographer, died in the 10th arrondissement on 5 April 1888. His death certificate was signed by two photographers, his son-in-law Emile Ernest Bassaget and one Michel Wertheim.

LEYMARIE Mamès Charles was born at Lyon, Rhône, on 2 May 1829 to Antoine François Leymarie, a tailor, and his wife Louise Gilbert. His brother LEYMARIE Jean, or Joanny, was born in the same city on 7 December 1840. On 20 August 1851, at Lyon, Mamès Charles Leymarie, draughtsman, married Marie Difernet (1831-before 1876). Jean was apprenticed to his brother when he was arrested by inspectors Remise and Hamelin on 11 December 1857, the bearer of five indecent daguerreotypes he was taking to one Mrs Aubrée, a colorist. Mamès Charles was arrested the following day and gave the inspectors forty-four indecent prints and negatives. The two brothers were tried by the sixth chamber on 15 January 1858. Mamès Charles was fined five hundred francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. His younger brother received the same fine but was only sentenced to one month in prison. Charles Mamès and his wife were separated when the latter died on 15 October 1872 in the 13th arrondissement. Charles Mamès was still a photographer at the time of his death which took place at Nemours, Seine-et-Marne, on 1 February 1876.

Jean Leymarie said good bye to photography after his release from prison and became an accountant. On 10 October 1867, at the mairie of the 6th arrondissement of Paris, he married a piano teacher named Hyacinthe Marie Adam. In 1872, when their son Oreste Juvénal died, aged three months, Jean Leymarie was a commodity broker and was living at 28, rue de Bondy (now rue René Boulanger), in the 10th arrondissement.

CRÉPIN Alexandre was born at Ligny-les-Aires, Pas-de-Calais on the 12th Thermidor An XIII (31 July 1805) to Pierre Crépin, a farmer, and his wife Rosalie Defontaine. On 24 July 1833, Alexandre Crépin, a soldier who had just left his regiment, the seventh Dragons, married Véronique Adèle Collin at Épinal, Vosges. He was a courier at Limoges when his son Emile Alexandre was born on 10 March 1842. It is not clear when he moved to Paris and became a photographer but he was operating at 6, rue Marengo when, on 17 December

1857 he was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury after one of his models, Euphrosine Renaudin, told the judge he had made the photos in which she sat and which were seized on the person of a printseller named Hyacinthe Aimable Ledot (1833-1892). Crépin was tried by the sixth chamber on 16 January 1858, fined one thousand francs and sentenced to one year in prison. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie on 16 January 1858 and should have been released on 15 January 1859 but the Emperor signed his pardon on 2 August 1858 and Crépin left the prison three days later. Crépin was still a photographer when he died, in the 1st arrondissement, on 31 August 1869. His death certificate was signed by his son Emile Alexandre, also a photographer.

BERNARD Jules Ulysse, known as Lucas, was born around 1826 but his exact date and place of birth are still unknown. He was a colorist and sat with female model Euphrosine Renaudin at Crépin’s which led to his being summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury in December 1857. He was then working for photographer Félix Marie Chevalier. He was tried in abstentia on 16 January 1858, fined five hundred francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. He was arrested later and served his time. In August 1859 he was working as a photographic operator for photographer Philippe Dubourjal and processed all the indecent photos which the latter was tried for. He was still working for Dubourjal in July 1860 when his employer was arrested again for making and selling indecent photographs. I have yet to find out what became of him after 1860.

DARNAY Eugène was born at Joigny, Yonne, on 23 January 1831 to Eléonor Casimir Darnay, a surveyor, and his wife Louise Leclerc. On 19 June 1858, he sold “polkas” (graphic photographs representing a couple making love) to police inspector Remise. Judge Musse immediately signed a warrant for his arrest and his studio, located 6, rue des Solitaires at Belleville, was searched. Over one hundred and fifty daguerreotype plates were seized, all featuring naked women or couples and some of them showing his mistress at the time, Eugénie Ruff. The police also found an advertising board on which were pasted forty-photographs of women in various states of undress. Darnay was in partnership with engraver Joseph Gougin (1793-1863). The photographic equipment of the studio was auctioned off on 18

August 1858 and Darnay himself was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 August, along with five female models and two accomplices, his clerk Alexandre Fontaine and a painter-colorist named Augustin Madeleine Coanus. Darnay was fined fifty francs and sentenced to fifteen months behind bars. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 1 September 1858 to 17 August 1859. He should have been released on 30 November 1859 but was pardoned by the Emperor on 3 August 1859. His accomplices, Coanus and Fontaine, were imprisoned for six months and fined sixteen francs. Each of the five models was also fined sixteen francs and spent one month at Saint-Lazare. On 17 July 1860, Darnay married Marie Blanche Anna Breney at the mairie of the 5th arrondissement. Darnay was then living at Tours, Indre-et-Loire and is described as a painter in his wedding certificate. I have not yet found out what became of him after his wedding.

BRISSONNET Anatole Alexandre was born at Chauvigny, Vienne, on 26 April 1834, to Jean Charles Antoine Brissonnet, a royal notary, and his wife Angélique Virginie Rigollet Ardillaux. In 1857 Brissonnet was in partnership with one Mr. Marais to operate a photographic studio at 21, rue du Géo-rama, Montrouge. On 5 July 1858 he was arrested on the Faubourg Saint-Martin by inspector Godard while trying to sell indecent photographs. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 21 July 1858 and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. Brissonnet married Jeanne Appolline Hunion, a shop assistant, at the mairie of the 3rd arrondissement on 23 January 1864. His wedding certificate describes him as a rubber manufacturer. On the day of their wedding they legitimised their son, Edouard Anatole, born in the 4th arrondissement on 12 September 1861. Another son had been born on 29 January 1860 but he was dead by the time his parents got married. In the 1870s Brissonnet got interested in ballooning and became the owner of a French quarterly, Le Ballon, which listed all balloon flights that were taking place. He died in the 3rd arrondissement on 25 February 1900. His death certificate describes him as an aeronaut.

DOUBRÈRE Paul Abdon was supposedly born at Saint-Buis, Gers, on 29 July 1823 but there is nobody by that name in the birth registers of the period. He was arrested while peddling indecent photographs and put in the hands of the inspectors twelve negatives. He was tried on 26 August 1858, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. I am afraid that is all I know about this photographer.

PICOT Eugène was actually born Etienne Eugène Célerly Picot, at Saint-Nicolas de Sommaire, Orne, on 26 October 1824 to Jacques Alexandre Picot and his wife Marie Chemin. He later changed his first name Célerly to Sénery and it is under that name that, on 28 November 1857 Picot, a clerk, married Thérèse Bodeux, a cook, at the mairie of the former 8th arrondissement of Paris. On 21 December 1851 he sold six indecent photographs to a man who passed himself as a customer but was none other than inspector Remise of the Vice Squad and two days later he sold the same Remise two “polkas”. On 24 December Picot was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury. His flat at 6, rue Gabrielle, Montmartre and his shop of chemicals at 5 Cité Bergère were searched by commissaire Bellanger who seized a large number of indecent stereoscopic photographs and photographic reproductions of antique pornographic engravings. Some more of those images were discovered hidden in the flat of the caretaker. The police file mentions that Picot started as a clerk in the chemical shop of one Fontaine before opening his own business at the Hôtel de Russie, 1, rue Drouot, where he was commissioned by an unnamed Russian gentleman to make indecent pictures. Picot was tried on 5 February 1859, fined five hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from the day of his trial to 4 May 1859. I do not know what became of him after his release.

LEBORGNE Jacques Augustin was born at Dieppe, Seine Maritime, on 10 May 1816 to Augustin Paschal Louis Leborgne, a master gardener, and his wife Marie Anne Flahaut. He married Elise Félicité Victorine Bucquet (1821-1876) at Dieppe on 7 February 1839. His wedding certificate describes him as an artist, a painter. The couple had at least four children, but only three were still alive in 1858. On 23 Decembrer 1858 Leborgne sold for 26 francs seven photographic reproductions of pornographic engravings to a client he did not know was inspector Remise, from the Vice Squad. He was arrested on the following day and his premises were searched by police commissaire de Beauvais. Twelve monoscopic negatives, thirty-nine stereoscopic negatives and five paper prints were seized at his house, 21, rue du Cherche-Midi. He had another studio, rue de Buci, where he only took portraits, the search of which yielded nothing incriminating.

Leborgne was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 February 1859, fined five hundred francs and sentenced to three months in prison. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie on the day of his trial then sent to Mazas, another Paris prison, on 12 March until his release on 4 May 1859. He died at Constantinople on 23 November 1863, aged forty-seven. His eldest son, Auguste Victor, became a photographer too.

PEYRACHE Jean François was born at Tournon, Ardèche, on 28 December 1819 to François Peyrache, a café owner, and his wife Françoise Arnaud. He was a photographer and a married man living at 5, rue Royale, in Montmartre, when, on 10 January 1858 he was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury in connection with the Picot case. He was however released for lack of conclusive evidence and was not tried.

DEMESSE Marie Léopold was born at Roucy, Aisne, on 11 August 1824 to Joseph Théodore Demesse-Chartoz, a primary school teacher, and his wife Marie Louise Augustine Chartoz. He was a photographer at 19, Avenue de Saint-Ouen, Batignolles when, on 29 April 1859 he unsuspectedly sold 18 photographic reproductions of pornographic images to inspector Remise from the Vice Squad. On the same day he was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury who issued a warrant for the search of his premises. The police seized negatives of pornographic engravings from a book, prints for the stereoscope featuring naked women, a “polka” and the printing frame which was used to make the prints. Demesse was tried by the sixth chamber on 17 May, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. His appeal for pardon was favourably received, since he was the choirmaster and organist of the Batignolles church, but he was still incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie, from 22 August to 21 September 1859.

DERUAZ François was born at Saint-Maurice d’Annecy, Haute-Savoie, on 18 September 1828 to Gaspard Deruaz, a farmer, and his wife Péronne Marquet. On 18 August 1859, inspectors Remise and Granger arrested one Jacoud, a daguerrotype plate polisher, who was delivering three wood-



en boxes which, when opened, revealed a large quantity of indecent photographs. Jacoud revealed the boxes were picked up at the premises of one Mrs Mangeot, a colorist, 11, rue des Solitaires, Belleville, at the request of Deruaz, a photographer living at 111, Boulevard Beaumarchais but operating from 13, Boulevard Ménilmontant. Carrying an arrest warrant signed by judge Musse, the inspectors went to Mrs. Mangeot’s where they apprehended Deruaz and his mistress/model Eugénie Ruff. When the police entered the colorist’s premises Deruaz through out of the window many indecent prints which were however retrieved. Deruaz revealed the incriminating images had been commissioned by Joseph Lazare Metz, his elder brother, and Théophile Jehly, brokers. Joseph Metz also sat in some of the pictures. Deruaz was tried on 6 October 1859, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, while his commissioners were sentenced to one year in prison and his mistress/model to three months. After his release, Deruaz did not stop producing indecent photographs. He was arrested again on 20 May 1862, along with his former business partner Antoine Gros, for making obscene prints for the stereoscopes from negatives which were not taken by him. He was tried by the seventh chamber on 26 June 1862, fined twenty-five francs and sentenced to six months behind bars. While he was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare, he married his mistress/model Jeanne Marie Frédérique Ruff at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement, on 31 July 1862. They had at least three daughters and three sons and were both described as photographers when François Deruaz passed away on 15 January 1880 in the 3rd arrondissement.

DUBOURJAL Philippe was born at Les Villars sur Rhône, Haute-Savoie, on 28 October 1829 to Joseph Dubourjal and Mariza Durand. He was a wine dealer and a photographer, a married man and a father of three living at 1 rue de la Glacière, Bagnolet, when, on 31 August 1859 the Prefect of Police signed a warrant for his arrest. The police searched his premises but could only find one incriminating print, hidden in the oven of his stove. They then searched the shop of a Bagnolet butcher and found a trunk containing “polkas” and a dildo. Dubourjal was in partnership with Jean-Pierre Vayrat, known as Petit-Jean (Little John) for the making of indecent photographs but their partnership came to an end a few days before Dubourjal was arrested. He was tried by the

sixth chamber on 21 October, fined fifty francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. Sitting in the dock with him were his former partner Vayrat, two male models and eleven female sitters: Augustine Guy, Marie Depré, Caroline Gally, Berthe Bernier, Victorine Barré, Louise Rose Cotterel, Anna Hilbert, known as Souris, Julia Cordani, Caroline Maire, Radegonde Villain, and Hortense Samain. After his release Dubourjal moved to 23, rue des Bois, in Belleville, and resumed his activities. On 12 July 1860 he was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury. The search of his premises yielded one thousand seven hundred and forty-eight indecent photographs he was about to deliver to Pierre Louis Courier, as well as thirty-six daguerreotypes, sixty nine prints and ninety-seven collodion negatives of the same nature. On 22 August 1860 Dubourjal was tried a second time, also by the sixth chamber, along with his two accomplices, Pierre Louis Courier and Auguste Isidore Coucharière, and eleven sitters: Maria Roland, Alexandrine Cardot, Caroline Gally, Elisa Solon, Annette Garey, Amélie Murel, Louise Courloz, Joséphine Lescurieux, Elisa Levieille, Pierrette Noblet and Euphrasie Bellette. Since he was a repeating offender the court gave him a harsher sentence. He was fined five hundred francs and given eight months’ imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 22 August 1860 to 21 April 1861. After his release, he gave up photography and became a commodity broker. He moved to 8, rue Fontaine au Roi, in the 11th arrondissement, where he died on 24 January 1863, aged thirty-four. His wife, Marie Josephte Agnellet, survived him by eleven years and passed away at Saint-Jean-de-Sixt, Haute-Savoie, on 3 July 1874.

VAYRAT Jean Pierre was born at Thônes, Haute-Savoie, on 29 March 1829, to Claude Vayrat and his wife Denise Charvel. Vayrat was a photographer, the partner of Philippe Dubourjal, living first at 21 rue du Retrait, Charonne, and at 60, rue Fontaine-au-Roi, Paris. On 16 September 1859 judge Rohault de Fleury signed a warrant for his arrest. He was not found at once but was eventually arrested at 17, rue de Launay, in the village of Levallois, where he had been hiding with his mistress, Julia Cordani since he had heard of Dubourjal’s arrest. He was still selling indecent pictures from Levallois which were seized when the police searched his premises. Vayrat was tried by the sixth chamber on 21 Oc-

tober 1859, fined fifty francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. After his release Vayrat carried on taking indecent pictures and was again summoned before Mr. Rohault de Fleury on 9 October 1860. He acknowledged making and delivering “polkas” to passe-partout maker Jean Edouard Pointeau who, in turn, sold them to commodity broker Auguste Grimal. On 24 October 1860 Vayrat was tried by the seventh chamber and being a repeating offender was fined five hundred francs and sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment. He appealed the decision of the court. His fine was reduced to three hundred francs and his sentence to four months.

BÉNÉDICT Rose Frédéric was twenty-one years old when, on 20 November 1859, he was summoned to appear before judge Musse after his name was given to the police by Marius Moreaux, a commodity broker, who was arrested boulevard Saint-Martin, selling indecent photographs. Bénédict was arrested at the Wauxhall ball room and acknowledged being the author of the photographs seized on Marius Moreaux. He was at some point the partner of one Barbet Moreaux who had a studio at 2, rue Cadet but was not involved in the making of the indecent photographs. Bénédict told the police his studio was at Sarcelles, Val d’Oise, but refused to give the names and addresses of his female sitters. He recommended himself to the protection of his uncle, Mr. Hercule Dagnèse-Giro, a police commissaire. Bénédict was tried by the sixth chamber on 22 December 1859 and was sentenced to six months in prison. I do not know anything else about this elusive photographer.

QUINET Louis Emmanuel Alexandre was born at Paris on 3 September 1836, to Alexandre Marie Quinet (1807-1873), lithographer, photographer, inventor of the binocular camera known as the Quinétoscope, and his wife Anne Victoire Neveu. Like his father and his three brothers, Achille Léon, Victor Ponce, and Ernest Victor, Louis Emmanuel Alexandre became a photographer. He was living at 2, rue de la Gaîté, Montrouge, when, on 4 January 1860 he was arrested on the Boulevard Bonne-Nouvelle trying to sell eighteen photographic reproductions of pornographic engravings and an album containing twenty-eight other reproductions of the same nature. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 19

January, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. On 14 December 1861 police commissaire Ducheylard searched his premises and seized thirty-six negatives representing naked women. Quinet said he had got them from Lamiche. He does not seem to have been tried a second time. On 1 August 1872, at the mairie of the 18th arrondissement, Louis Emmanuel Alexandre Quinet, who was still a photographehr and was living at 42, Place Cadet in the 9th arrondissement, married Rose Léonie Constance Roussel, a seamstress. His mother was dead by then and his father, who was to die less than a year later, was living at Asnières. Quinet himself died at Colombes, Hauts-de-Seine, on 10 April 1900. His death certificate still describes him as a photographer.

BRISSON Charles François was born in the former 3rd arrondissement of Paris on 17 June 1815 to François Jacques Brisson and his wife Marie Françoise Bourgeois. He was a button maker when he married Jeanne Marie Goutelle on 26 May 1840. They had three children before she died. It is not clear when he became a photographer but by 1860 he was operating from 1, rue Neuve Saint-Augustin, where he was also living. On 27 February 1860 Brisson was arrested Place de la Bourse while trying to sell forty-eight indecent photographs. He put in the hands of the police a large quantity of negatives that were hidden at the premises of a tenor at the Paris Opera, Antoine-Aimé Renard (1825-1872), mostly remembered for composing in 1867 the music of the song Le Temps des Cerises with lyrics by Jean-Baptiste Clément. Brisson was tried by the sixth chamber on 15 March and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. In September 1861 Brisson’s premises at 1, rue Neuve Saint-Augustin were searched again at the request of judge Rohault de Fleury but the police could not find anything incriminating. On 8 August 1863, at the mairie of the 7th arrondissement, Brisson, who was still a photographer at the same address, married Madeleine Joséphine Barraud, a “lingère”. One of his sons, Louis, signed the wedding certificate as a witness.

PENNE Joseph was born at Monein, Pyérénées, on 2 February 1822, to François Penne and his wife Marguerite Rey Liusse. On 25 April 1860, this photographer who was operating from 8, rue Saint-Séverin, was arrested rue Saint-Denis while trying to sell twenty indecent photographs. A search of his studio

yielded twenty-one licentious prints and twenty-eight negatives of a similar nature. A search at 152, rue de Paris, Belleville, where Penne’s mistress colorist Alexandrine Morizet lived and worked, yielded 708 obscene photographs and 750 indecent ones all belonging to Penne. Alexandrine was arrested but the police file mentions that Penne was actually living at 13, rue Cadet with a second mistress. Penne, Alexandrine Morizet, male model Henri Mativat and six female models (Marie Anne Victoire Hilaire, Victorine Paul, Anastasie Amrhein, Louise Simon, Claudine David, and Louise Dohet) were all tried by the sixth chamber on 26 May 1860. Penne was fined 500 francs and sentenced to one year’s imprisonment. Soon after his release, he married his former mistress and accomplice Jeanne Alexandrine Morizet who had been sentenced to six months at Saint-Lazare. The marriage took place on 26 September at the mairie of the 19th arrondissement. When Jeanne Morizet died at Villejuif on 4 August 1855, her husband Joseph Penne was still alive but I have yet to find out when and where he passed away.

RIVEMALE Jules is a very elusive character and I do not know anything about him except that he was a photographer in a house called Au Souvenir de Béranger (To the Memory of Béranger) located on the Boulevard de Strasbourg and in partnership with GAUDRY Balthazar Pascal, a former carpet seller born on 14 April 1789. When the partnership came to an end Rivemale took away with him some indecent photographs they had made together and brought them to the widow Aimée Martin, née Lecoq, a colorist, to be hand tinted. When he found himself unable to pay her for her work the widow Martin put the incriminating photographs in the hands of the police who arrested Rivemale and Gaudry in July 1860. Rivemale was tried on 18 July 1860 along with his former partner Gaudry, the widow Martin and seven female models: Caroline Gally, Marie Détourbet, Félicité Alexandrine Niquet, Désiré Louise and Louise Rose Cotterel, Marie Dépré, and Lucie Radegonde Villain. During the trial there was a debate as to who was the employer and who the employee. Rivemale said he was only working for Gaudry but Gaudry told the court Rivemale was renting his premises and that he had no idea what kind of photos he was taking there. This was contradicted by the models who stated that Gaudry was the boss and Rivemale his employee. Rivemale was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment while Gaudry was fined five hundred francs and sentenced to six months in prison.

BERTRAND Alexandre Pierre was born at Paris, in the former 10th arrondissement, on 8 May 1822, to Alexandre Joseph Bertrand and his wife Denise Despréaux. Bertrand, who had been a portrait photographer for some time and had taken “academies” for the stereoscope attended the meeting of photographers at Lamiche’s in September 1857 and signed the petition to the Emperor. He produced hundreds of stereo cards of the Pyrenees, of the Château de Versailles, and of the Imperial Residences. He also photographed for the stereoscope military manoeuvres and produced what could be called a photographic documentary on the workers of the PLM (Paris-Lyon-Marseille) railway company. Some time in 1860 his studio at 34 rue Dauphine was searched by commissaire Blanchet who seized twenty-four nudes on daguerreotype plates, as well as thirty-two negatives and two hundred prints deemed licentious. However Bertrand was not tried. On 5 August 1865, at the mairie of the first arrondissement, he married Victoire Honorine Viguaise. She died at Avon, Seine et Marne, on 25 February 1882. Bertrand only survived her by two weeks and passed away, in the same location, on 11 March 1882.

PLAUT Charles Henri was born at Paris on 11 November 1819 to Jean Guillaume Plaut, a dealer in seeds, and his wife Marie Joséphine Roger. On 8 March 1856 Plaut, who was already a photographer, married Françoise Clémentine Pailleux at the mairie of the former 12th arrondissement. Their only child, Hélène Constance Joséphine Blanche, born out of wedlock sixteen years earlier, on 27 July 1840, was legitimised on that day. She married photographer Alexandre Ladrey, calling himself Ernest (1830-1889), on 10 December 1859. Plaut took hundreds of stereoscopic images of the 1855 International exhibition, of Portugal, France, Britain, Holland, Spain, Italy, and of some of the major statues of the Louvre Museum. He also took some nudes for the stereoscope and some time in 1860 his studio at 52, rue Vanneau, was searched by the police who found sixty-two negatives and five hundred prints of a licentious nature. Plaut, however was not tried. He was still alive in 1872 when he asked for his birth certificate to be reconstructed and was living then on rue Surger, in the sixth arrondissement. I lose track of him after that.

BELLOC Joseph Auguste was born at Montrabe, a small town in the south of France, on 7 October 1805. His father, Etienne, was a lawyer by profession and the mayor of Montrabe at the time of his son’s birth. His mother was one Louise Emmanuelle Cramaussel. It is probable Belloc studied at Toulouse where, on 21 May 1844, he married Marie Céleste Leroux. He was already thirty-eight then. Belloc was a painter of miniatures and watercolours before he turned to photography. His name appears in the Parisian trade register in 1852 where he describes himself as a painter, photographer and professor of photography both on metal and on paper. He was operating then from 5, boulevard Montmartre but moved to 16, rue de Lancry, probably in 1854. The 1855 trade register presents him as specialising in the teaching of the photographic processes and the production of studies for artists. He took part in the Paris 1855 exhibition where he got a second class medal. Belloc was as much a theoretician as a practitioner of the photographic art and he published several books on photographic processes. His most popular work remains *Les Quatre Branches de la Photographie* (1855), but he also wrote, among others, *Traité théorique et pratique de la Photographie sur Collodion* (1854), in which he boasts he has already had over 600 pupils from all over the world, *Le Catéchisme de l’opérateur photographe* (1857) *Code de l’opérateur photographe* (1860), and *Causeries Photographiques* (1861).

On 27 August 1857, a few days before the meeting at Lamiche’s, Belloc was tried for selling indecent images along with photographer Henri Plaut. The two men were lucky not to be sentenced to prison and were only fined 100 francs. Their trial on that date certainly explains their presence at the meeting that took place a few days later at Lamiche’s. Belloc stood before a judge again on 24 October 1860, hardly two weeks after the police raided his premises and found 1200 obscene photos mounted on cardboard, as well as a number of boxes that looked like books, were labelled *Œuvres complètes de Buffon* (The complete works of Buffon) and contained indecent stereoscopic images. Three thousand indecent photographic images on paper, 307 negatives that were used to print those images, four albums full of pictures of nude women, and 103 large photographs of women in licentious poses were also seized that day by the police.

Surprisingly enough, considering what had been found, Belloc was only sentenced to four months’s imprisonment and a fine of 400 francs. The models who sat for him, Fanny Decors, Augustine Guy, Radegonde Hory, née Villain, Amélie Rolland and Delphine Herbet, were all sentenced to one month in prison and a fine of 16 francs.

Belloc was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie on 3 November 1860. He should have been released on 2 March 1861 but thanks to the intervention of his cousin, General Victor Alphonse Norbert La Font de Villiers (1805-1873), he obtained a pardon from the Emperor on 4 February and was freed the following day. It seems that after his release from prison Belloc stopped taking objectionable photographs and concentrated on his teaching and writing. After 1861 his name no longer appears in the trade register under “Photographic Artists” but under “Accessories and Supplies”. It disappears after 1869. Belloc did not die in Paris in 1867 or 1868, as one can read in several histories of photography. He actually passed away at Nogent-sur-Marne on 6 January 1873.

JOUVIN Léon Pierre was born at Mesnil-Clinchamps, Calvados, on 18 December 1829 to Claude Michel Jouvin, a locksmith, and his wife Marie-Jeanne Marie. He was the brother of photographer Hippolyte Jouvin (1825-1889), best remembered for his instantaneous stereoscopic views of Paris. Léon was also a stereo photographer who took staged scenes, interiors of the Imperial palaces and residences, topographical views of Normandy, the South of France, Spain, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, etc., made a series of stereo photographs of naturalised animals and apparently some indecent photographs too. In December 1857 his premises at 296 rue Saint-Martin were searched and the police seized ten “academies” on paper, fifty-one sheets of prints and forty-one negatives. Jouvin was tried by the sixth chamber on 15 January 1858, fined five hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. He appealed the decision of the court which was however confirmed on 23 April. Jouvin paid his fine and presented himself at Sainte-Pélagie where he was incarcerated on 10 May. He should have stayed behind bars until 9 August but the Emperor pardoned him on 20 July and Jouvin was released three days later. On 6 July 1871, at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement, Léon Pierre Jouvin who

was still a photographer but was now living at 16 Boulevard de Magenta, married Louise Maria Macé, a thirty-year old woman living on her own means, from the same building. They had three children, Léon Paul, who was born at Mesnil-Clin-champs on 29 April 1872 and passed away, aged sixteen, on 17 August 1888, Jeanne Aline, born in the same village on 7 October 1873 and Louis Paul Henri, born in the 10th arrondissement of Paris on 5 March 1878. Jouvin and his wife, who had become flower sellers, had a tragic end. They were travelling by train with their two children on 26 August 1891 when there was a terrible accident near Saint-Mandé which killed forty-five people and wounded two hundred. Louis Paul Henri escaped unscathed but Mrs Jouvin was killed on the spot. Jeanne Aline lost a leg and Léon Pierre Jouvin had to be amputated too. He survived the first operation but died on 18 August when his second leg had to be cut off.

I have very little data about a female photographer, only known by her married surname of **Mrs Fronti** or **Fronty** who, being an abandoned child could not give any information about her birth and her parents. In December 1857 the police searched her studio after a man, who she said was her husband and who had very conveniently left for the United States, sold to Miss Hélène Stéphanie Aubrée, a dealer in photographic prints at 52, rue Richelieu, some indecent photographs. The search yielded twelve daguerreotypes, thirty-five paper prints and two negatives, all of an obscene nature. Mrs Fronti, who was the mistress of photographer Ferdinand Jean Rocheblanc and living with him at 6, rue Gabrielle, in Montmartre, was tried by the sixth chamber on 15 January 1858, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment.

LÉAUTTÉ Augustin Marcel and his brother Pierre Charles Célestin were both born at Briennon-sur-Armançon, Yonne, the former on 8 April 1823, the latter on 24 October 1825, to Pierre Augustin Léautté (1784-1867), a weaver, and his wife Joséphine Lancosme (1790-1873). On 13 August 1853, at the mairie of the former 3rd arrondissement, Charles Célestin married Victoire Cornet. In October 1857 Mr Rohault de Fleury issued a search warrant after it was established that the Léautté brothers had sold indecent photographs from negatives taken by Eugène Thiébault to Miss Stéphanie Aubrée. The police searched their premises at 18, rue Rambou-

teau and found one hundred and fifteen negatives, thirty-two glass slides, five daguerreotypes and twelve paper print, all of an indecent or obscene nature. They were tried on 15 January 1858, fined one hundred francs each and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. Their sentences were however reduced to one month by decision of the Emperor. They were both incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie but at different times. Augustin Marcelin was there from 22 March to 21 April, Charles Célestin from 26 April to 26 May. After their release the two brothers pursued their photographic careers for some time, but separately. On 12 February 1859, Augustin Marcel married Reine Louise Echalié at the mairie of the former 3rd arrondissement. He was still a photographer, operating from 10, rue Mandar, when he asked for the reconstruction of his wedding certificate in December 1873, but he died a maître d’hôtel or head waiter, in the 5th arrondissement of Paris, on 18 July 1888, six days after his daughter Berthe Louise got married. He was probably already poorly as he did not attend the wedding. Pierre Charles Célestin was still alive on 24 October 1885 when his daughter Marie Céлина got married at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement. He and his wife are listed as passementiers (trimming and fringe makers) in her wedding certificate. Pierre Charles Célestin died seven years later, on 4 December 1892 at 212 rue Saint-Maur, in the tenth arrondissement.

CHUCHU Edme Alphonse was born at Mélisey, Yonne, on 27 April 1828 to Louis Marcel Chuchu and his wife Angélique Hugot. On 24 June 1858 he was arrested by police commissaire Julley. His premises at 68, Chaussée Ménilmontant were searched and a large quantity of indecent photographs were seized. Chuchu was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 August 1858, along with an accomplice, Adolphe Léopold Bouchu, and eight female models: Clotilde Bazière, Joséphine Clouet, Julia Coutelas, Annette Garey, Eugénie Ruff, Denise Louis Journet, Reine Pagès and Héloïse Rousseau. Chuchu was fined 50 francs and sentenced to fifteen months’ imprisonment. Bouchu was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to six months behind bars. All the female models were also fined sixteen francs but got away with a month in prison. I do not know what became of Chuchu after his release. He seems to have completely disappeared.



QUESNEL Jules Auguste Edouard, known as GETTING, was born at Bruxelles, Belgium, on 30 September 1836, the illegitimate son of Marie Mélanie Quesnel and of an unnamed father. This photographer was arrested on 25 August 1860 by inspector Remise while trying to sell indecent photographs he said he had obtained from his employer, Pierre Eléonor Ernest Lamy. His premises at 21 rue des Petites-Ecuries, were searched on 26 August by police commissaire Rabu. Two negatives and several reproductions of obscene subjects were seized, all belonging to Lamy. Getting was tried on 10 August 1860, along with Lamy and the young women who had sat for him but he was not sentenced. On 21 May 1863, at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement, Getting married Isabelle Emmanuelle Ottman. In his wedding certificate he is still described as a photographer, living at 22, rue Le Peletier. He passed away at Saint-Mandé, Val-de-Marne, on 9 November 1901.

LAMY Pierre Eléonor Ernest was born at Triel-sur-Seine on 7 December 1828, to Pierre Eléonor Lamy, a baker, and his wife Catherine Emélie Saintard. On 26 August 1860, following the arrest of his employee Jules Auguste Edouard Quesnel on the previous day his studio at 3, rue Richer and his flat at 40, rue d’Enghien, were searched. Nothing was found in the studio but the police seized a large quantity of licentious and obscene negatives at his flat. They also searched the premises of his colorist, Clara Wuimort, née Debay, but could not find anything incriminating there. Lamy was tried by the sixth chamber on 10 October 1860, along with Quesnel and seven female models: Amélie Hurel, Constance Deshayes, Félicité Niquet, Caroline Gally, Joséphine Dedarche, Marie-Eulalie Fauquet and Josephine Dehm. Lamy was fined 800 francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. The models were fined sixteen francs and were all sentenced to one month at Saint-Lazare, with the exception of Joséphine who had shown some remorse during the trial and got away with two weeks. Lamy was incarcerated at Sainte Pélagie from 28 January to 27 March 1861. He should only have been released on 27 May but left prison order by order of the Imperial procuror. He was tried again for the same reasons but this time by the seventh chamber on 18 September 1861. He was sentenced to 15 months’s imprisonment and his appeal for pardon was rejected

on 6 April 1862. When he was not photographing women in various states of undress Lamy was a prolific stereo photographer who published series of topographical stereoscopic cards of the Pyrenees, Auvergne, Italy, Sapin, Switzerland and Savoy but also views of Paris and of the Imperial residences. Lamy married during the siege of Paris, on 24 November 1870, at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement. His wife was forty-four year old Marguerite Jeanne Françoise Lamotte, living on her own means. Their marriage seems to have been a happy one and they died less than two hours apart, at Courbevoie, Hauts-de-Seine, on 4 July 1900.

CASTAINGS Bernard Ambroise was born at Sainte-Marie-de-Gosse, Landes, around 1800, to Bernard Castaings and his wife Jeanne Bertrande Lesbaches. The birth registers for that period having been destroyed it is difficult to determine his exact date of birth which is however mentioned in a prison register as being 10 May 1800. On 10 September 1856 Castaings entered into a partnership with one Alexandre Eléonore Thierry for the exploitation of a photographic studio. On 6 August 1860 this photographer who was living at 67, rue du Faubourg Saint-Denis and operating from the same address unsuspectedly sold for fifty francs a dozen of indecent daguerreotypes to inspector Remise, from the Vice Squad. On 27 August his premises were searched by police commissaire Rabu who seized one hundred and fourteen licentious daguerreotypes. Castaings was tried by the sixth chamber on 10 October, fined 600 francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. Sitting in the dock with him were six of his female models: Rose Cotterel, Marie Détourbet, Louise Courtault, Alexandrine Cardot, Delphine Herbet and Marie Fauquet. Castaings was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 22 October 1860 to 21 February 1861. After his release from prison he seems to have turned over a new leaf and when he died on 13 February 1876 in the 10th arrondissement, he was a primary school teacher. Castaings was married to Thérèse Labbée but I do not know how long for.

KEN Alexandre was born at Warsaw, Poland, in 1830 or 1831 to Simon Ken and his wife Marie Medelsohn. On 6 October 1860 his premises at 10 Boulevard Montmartre were searched by police commissaire Demarquay after he sold to

Auguste Belloc two cartes-de-visite showing two women in licentious poses. The search only yielded two negatives and a few prints from them. Ken was not arrested nor tried. He never married and died in the 8th arrondissement on 9 February 1874 at the age of forty-three and two months.

BUDOR Jean Pierre was born at Paris on 12 June 1825 to Pierre Nicolas Budor (1797-1861) and his wife Jeanne Félicité Cochu (1805-1876). Budor married Marguerite Françoise Jozon (1824-1886) on 30 September 1843. They had seven children, two of which died in their early twenties. Budor was a photographer operating from 27, rue Montholon, in the 9th arrondissement. On 11 December 1860 he was summoned to appear before police commissaire Mr. Demarquay after Eugénie Luchet and Caroline Rabeau confessed sitting for him. His premises were searched but nothing was found there. The police then searched the flat of Alexandre and Alfred Agirony, commodity brokers, to whom Budor said he had given his negatives. Forty-five negatives of indecent subjects were seized there. The debates revealed firstly that Budor had been commissioned by Marie Julie Viriot to take several photos of her in her birthday suit and that she had bought fifteen prints from those negatives, secondly that to produce indecent photographs he had asked Eugénie Luchet, Caroline Rabeau and Rose Dorissé to sit for him naked, separately, together, and also with men, himself and his assistant included, thirdly that the drapes, props and indecent poses had been arranged by the Agirony brothers who had commissioned the images. The Agirony brothers were both fined fifty francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, Budor was sent to prison for one month, his assistant for two weeks, but the male and female models were released. Budor was still a photographer in 1865 but by 1868 he is described as a watchmaker in the death certificate of his son Ferdinand Joseph. He was killed during the Commune of Paris and died at the Infirmary of the Grand Orient de France, 16, rue Cadet, 9th arrondissement, on 17 May 1871. He was one of the rebels and the captain of the 1st batallion, 5th Company, of the Fédérés de la Seine. His wife survived him by fifteen years and passed away on 6 July 1886.

FRANÇOIS Marie Louis Suzanne, known as Charles, was born at Epernay, Marne, on 5 March 1834 to Charles Louis François, a tailor, and his wife Jacqueline Louise Clarisse Bruant. A photographer himself he was working as the assistant of Pierre Jean Budor and seems to have occasionally sat for him with young women in various states of undress. He was tried with Budor on 16 January 1861 and sentenced to two weeks behind bars. After his release Marie Louis Suzanne François gave up photography and became a house painter. On 9 January 1869, at the mairie of the 18th arrondissement he married Armantine Zoé Debrenne, a twenty-nine year old seamstress.

GERMAIN Louis Grégoire was born at Villedieu-le-Château, Loir-et-Cher, on 15 November 1818 to Julien Germain and his wife, née Hougé. On 16 November 1860 this photographer was summoned to appear before the police commissaire of Saint-Denis after Esther Ravaux, seventeen, confessed she had sat in the nude at his studio to satisfy her lover, Joseph Briez. She said she also sat with another girl, named Adèle Dédicourt, and thought that other girls had also modelled for him in the nude. Germain denied and was released. He had his studio at 5, rue de la Tannerie at Saint-Denis.

LACROIX Joseph was born at Arlay, Jura, on 24 October 1834, the sixth child of Jean Joseph Lacroix, an inn-keeper and a shoemaker, and his wife Jeanne Claudine Favier, who had nine. On 15 July 1861 Lacroix, who was living at 9, rue des Ecluses-St.-Martin, was arrested by police commissaire Mr. Lafontaine after one Mr. Coliche, a tailor, accused a young woman named Joséphine Sent of having taken his sixteen year old daughter to sit for Lacroix with her breasts exposed, her skirt lifted up to her waist and her legs slightly apart. Lacroix does not seem to have been prosecuted. On 17 September 1864 Lacroix, who, after being a marble worker was now a shoemaker, married his first cousin Marie Magdeleine Favier at the mairie of the 20th arrondissement. On the same day they legitimised two children, a girl and a boy, born respectively on 28 December 1861 and 14 March 1864. They had three more children after their wedding. In 1874 Lacroix was sentenced to five months’ imprisonment for theft. Four

years later he was charged with indecent assault, tried on 5 September and sentenced to twenty years hard labour followed by a surveillance of twenty more years. He was sent to a penal colony at Ducos, near Nouméa, Nouvelle Calédonie, where he arrived on 11 May 1879. He should have been released in 1898 but committed theft in 1882 and therefore stayed in the penal colony where he died on 22 February 1906.

BILORDEAUX Adolphe Jean Chrisostôme was born at Paris in 1807 to Nicolas François Bilordeaux and his wife Marie Adèle Gelin, but since his birth certificate was never reconstructed after it was destroyed during the Commune we cannot be sure of the exact date, although some electoral registers list him as being born on 25 April. On 7 May 1842 this artist and lithographer married Augustine Pauline Duchesne at the mairie of the former 2nd arrondissement. His wife gave him at least one son, Charles Marie Albert, born in 1846 who also became a photographer, but she died on 30 October 1848. Bilordeaux married again on 24 April 1852. His second wife was Marie Pauline Bachelet and she gave him two daughters, Marie Louise Anna, born in 1853 and Marie Charlotte, born the following year. On 24 May 1861 Mr. Rohault de Fleury signed a warrant for the seach of Bilordeaux’s premises, after one François Eugène Mailvert, carrying twenty-four obscene photographic prints on his person, was arrested on 21 May by inspector Remise and Piel and said he thought the negatives had been made by Bilordeaux. The search, carried out on the following day, yielded nothing and Bilordeaux, although tried by the sixth chamber on 21 June was not sentenced. Bilordeaux was still a photographer in 1864 when he filed a patent for a photographic albumen paper and the way to prepare it. That year he also copyrighted photographs of reproductions of statuettes of two fameux horses by sculptor Pierre Lenordez and of paintings by Rubens. Bilordeaux died in the 9th arrondissement on 24 January 1872. His wife survived him by six years and passed away on 28 May 1878.

CORDIER Alfred François, known as BILLON or BILLON-DAGUERRE, was born at Paris on 7 November 1815 to Antoine Benoit Joseph Cordier, a tailor, and his wife Marie Josèphe Sophie Victoire Nozo. On 18 December 1841, at the marie of the former 1st arrondissement and then

at Saint-Roch church, Cordier married Armandine Marie Eulalie Courtin, the daughter of Antoine Jean Baptiste Courtin and Marie Antoinette Eulalie Daguerre, sister of Jacques Louis Mandé Daguerre, the inventor of the photographic process known as the daguerreotype. On 11 May 1861, Cordier copyrighted thirty-three semi nude studies, eleven under the title Bacchantes and twenty-two entitled Baigneuses à l’étang (Bathers at the pond) for which Augustine Guy, among other models, sat. On 15 July of the same year, the prefect of police signed a warrant for the search of Cordier’s premises at 34, rue du Faubourg-Saint-Martin. The police seized a number of obscene photographic prints, mounted and ummounted, some positive glass slides and a packet of stereo photographs. They also found the negatives that had been used to make the prints. Cordier was tried by the seventh chamber on 17 September 1861, along with fourteen female models. Most of the latter were acquitted because it was made evident that they had already been tried for the photos in which they featured. Cordier was fined three hundred francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. In 1867 Cordier, who was now living at 13, rue des Récollets, went into partnership with one Ernest Moullé for the manufacturing of salt and albumen photographic papers. His name disappears from the trade directories after 1872. Cordier passed away in the 11th arrondissement on 22 March 1883. His wife survived him by six years. She died in the same arrondissement, on 27 September 1889.

CRAVERI Vincent Jean Baptiste François Antoine Marie was born at Bra, Italy, on 19 April 1832 to Louis Craveri and his wife Angèle Gallo. He was a photographer operating alternatively from 4, Avenue du Bel-Air, with Théophile Jhély, when, on 11 September 1861 he was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury charged with taking indecent photographs. He was tried by the seventh chamber on 16 October, along with Théophile Jhély, Ernest Largeot, Joseph Honoré Augé, Pierre Jeanninel, Jules Antoine Moreau, Ferdinand Jean Rocheblanc, two male models, Jules Luguet a soldier, and Charles Victor Picard, a florist, as well as six female sitters : Amélie Rabeau, Marguerit Schmitt, Rose Cotterel, Louise Pierson, Amélie Hurel, and Marie-Modeste Bedel. Craveri was fined sixteen francs and sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment. He was still a photographer when, on 6 October 1864, at the mairie of the 18th arrondissement, he married seventeen year old Louise Lainé.

LARGEOT Ernest Louis Frédéric was born at Arces-Dilo, Yonne, on 25 August 1834, to Charles Frédéric Largeot and his wife Cécile Nathalie Blanchet. He was already married to Pauline Souder and was living at 57, Chaussée Ménilmontant, when, on 14 September 1861, he was summoned to appear before Mr. Rohault de Fleury. His premises were searched by police commissaire Demarquay who found one indecent print and photographic reproductions of ancient pornographic prints. Largeot was tried by the seventh chamber on 16 October, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. Although he should have been released on 14 February 1862 he was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 16 October 1861 to 30 January 1862. Largeot’s name does not feature in the police files after his release. He died in the 12th arrondissement on 29 August 1887 but was then living at Fontenay-sous-bois.

SPEISSER Auguste was born at Pont-du-Château, Puy-de-Dôme, on 26 August 1836, to François Charles Speisser, a gendarme, and his wife Agathe Desjardin. His father died in Algeria before Speisser turned twenty and he being the only son of a widow he was therefore exempted when he had to be drafted. He was a mosaicist before becoming a photographer and is one of the few persons in the B B/3 register to have two different pages devoted to him (folios 150 and 204). In 1861 he was suspected of producing counterfeit stanhopes and following a search warrant signed on 29 August the police went through his premises at 27, rue Sainte-Appoline and his studio at 7, rue de Vaugirard. They found five photographic cards representing naked women photographed from life. Speisser denied being the author of the images and said that he had obtained them from one Barony, who was conveniently on the run, and was sure they came from the studio of Lamiche. He was not prosecuted then but on 23 September 1863 his flat was searched again after the police went through the premises of his mistress, Marie Joséphine Séverine Lainé. This time the police seized mounted and unmounted microscopic photographs of an obscene nature as well as seven negatives which had been used to produce them. Speisser was tried, along with his mistress, on 29 October 1863. He was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment and was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from the day of his trial to 28 January 1864. Speisser and

Lainé got married at the mairie of the third arrondissement on 30 December 1865 and legitimised a daughter, Camille Eugénie, born out of wedlock in the 2nd arrondissement on 3 March 1863. Photographer Félix Gentil Descarrières, with whom Speisser was in partnership at the time, was one of the witnesses at the wedding. On 22 January 1865 the police went to Speisser’s new lodgings at 69, rue Charlot, for a third search. They could not find anything incriminating but since they had found some eight hundred obscene stanhopes and twenty stereoscopic prints of a similar nature at the flat occupied in the same street at number 62 by his partner Gentil-Descarrières they arrested him. The police later seized three hundred obscene negatives which had been hidden by Gentil and Speisser in a house at Charonne. The two associates were tried by the sixth chamber on 3 March 1865 along with six female models: Charlotte Lefavre, Florine Barthélémy, Marie Schwartz, Agathe Proffit, Joséphine Giraud and Marguerite André. Gentil and all six models were sentenced to two months’ imprisonment, but Speisser being a repeating offender spent eight months behind bars. Speisser’s wife died on 9 January 1885 in the third arrondissement and their only daughter got married five months later. Speisser, who was then living 27, rue du Château d’Eau, is described as Director of the commercial and agricultural docks. He married a second time, at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement, on 17 April 1890. His wife, Louise Brondex, was a herbalist and their wedding certificate lists Speisser as a merchant. He was still alive in 1900 and was then living at Le Raincy, Seine Saint-Denis.

ROPRA Jules François was born at Paris on 27 November 1831 to Jacques Auguste Ropra, a jeweller, and his wife Elisabeth Barbe Bahu Robbiche. He was a photographer operating and living at 10, Grande-Rue, Gravelle, when, on 1 September 1861, Mr Ducheylard, signed a search warrant. Thirty-four glass sheets full of tiny photographs for stanhopes as well as twenty-five negatives were seized. Ropra said the negatives had been made by Jean Tongue, who denied. Ropra was tried on 9 October 1861 and sentenced to one month behind bars.

TONGUE Jean was born at Saint-Pierre-les-Calais on 18 December 1823, to William Tongue and his wife Catherine Dubout. He was a photographer operating from 55, rue Meslay when, following a search warrant signed by Mr. Ducheylard on 1 September 1861, the police went through his premises and seized twenty-four photographs of an indecent nature and ten negatives. He was arrested on the spot, tried on 9 October and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. That's about all that is known about this photographer who published some very nice stereo images of rural France in the late 1850s, although it is not clear whether he was the photographer or not as the images are similar, and sometimes identical, to ones published by Frédéric Viret and Frédéric Fraget.

LORINET Paul Eugène was born at Vinay, Marne, on 39 January 1842 to Bernard Lorinet, a blacksmith, and his wife Marie Louise Francine Augustine Leclerc. On 3 November 1861 he was arrested rue Dauphine by inspectors Piel, Ballender and Sebastiani while selling pornographic photographs and erotic drawing. His lodgings were searched by police commissaire Demarquay on the same day but nothing was found. However, a few negatives were seized at his studio, 57, rue de Verneuil. Lorinet was tried by the sixth chamber on 27 November 1861, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month in prison. Shortly after his release he emigrated to the United States and settled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he died on 13 November 1865, aged twenty-three. His death certificate describes him as a chemist. He was buried at the Lamb Tavern Road Cemetery on the following day.

LEBISSONNAIS Victor Nicolas was born at Bonne-maison, Calvados, on 5 March 1825 to Philippe Lebissonnais and his wife Marie Virginie Roucamps. He was a diamond cutter then a window glass merchand who turned photographer and was in partnership with a relative, Ernest Martial Roucamps, until October 1857, for the sale of window glass and articles of photography at 49, Rue Montmartre. Lebissonnais had a new studio at 109 rue du Bois, Levallois, when his premises were first searched on 31 October 1861. The police found a large quantity of prints and negatives of an immoral nature which he said had been commissioned by jeweller Pierre

Normandin. On 4 May 1862 police commissaire Demarquay searched his premises again but nothing was found. However, when Lebissonnais was tried by the seventh chamber on 26 June, it was established during the debates that in March he had gone to a village near Caen with some photographic equipment and had made there some fifty negatives of an obscene nature. The police heard about it but Lebissonnais managed to escape before they arrived and such was his haste that he did not even recover his luggage from the railway station. Lebissonnais was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. On 15 June 1865 Judge Gonet signed a warrant and the policed proceeded to Lebissonnais's new lodgings at 34, rue de Bretagne were they found some obscene stanhopes in the making. Lebissonnais was tried a second time, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

DIOT Claude Joseph was born at Arbois, Jura, on 10 July 1820 to Jean Philippe Diot and his wife Marguerite Gauthier, who died on 1 February 1823. On 19 May 1842 Diot, who, like his father was a wood turner then, married seventeen year old Anatoile Clavet at the mairie of his native town. A son, named Olympe Auguste, was born at Arbois on 9 September 1843. On 12 March 1861 Mr. Demarquay signed a warrant for the arrest of Diot, now a photographer at 25, Avenue Saint-Ouen, Paris. His premises were searched and the police seized three hundred and fifty-three photographs of an obscene nature as well as one hundred and twenty-four negatives which had been used to print them. Diot was tried by the seventh chamber on 4 May 1862, fined five hundred francs and sentenced to three months in prison which he spent at Sainte-Pélagie from 2 May to 2 August. On 24 August 1865 Diot's premises were searched again after judge Bérillon signed a warrant. The police could not find anything but Diot confessed delivering the eighty indecent photographic prints which photography broker Mameret Braisaz had concealed in one of his neighbours' flat. Diot was tried again on 13 November 1865 and being a repeating offender was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to six months in prison. I do not know what became of Diot after his release from prison but his son Olympe Auguste became a photographer in his turn and was still working as one when he died on 30 September 1906.



COLOMBIER Henry Louis was born at Troyes, Aube, on 12 June 1835 under the name of Candon. He was the illegitimate son of Marie Antoinette Candon and was not offically recognised by his father, Henry Colombier, until 20 February 1858. He was a photographer operating from 17, rue de la Paix, Batignolles when, on 3 May 1862 he was arrested rue Dauphine by inspectors Remise and Plumard. They found on his person eighty photographic prints of an indecent nature. He confessed having made some eight hundred negatives at his studio, 8, rue Richer, which he hid in a property located at La Varenne Saint-Maur but said he did not know the names of his sitters. Police commissaire Demarquay searched the property at La Varenne Saint-Maur where he found sixteen negatives and one print. A second search at the premises of Colombier’s former employer, Ernest Grinfeld, yielded fifty-three negatives and two albums which were probably used as sample ones for potential customers. A third search, made at the lodgings of one Martellini, a friend of Colombier’s, yielded some more indecent prints. Colombier was tried by the seventh chamber on 26 June 1862, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. After his release Colombier went to Belgium where he married Cécile Marie Penant at Bruxelles. His father and mother gave their consent to the wedding but the date of the marriage is absent from the document they drew up.

GRINFELD Ernest was born at Paris on 20 September 1841 to Auguste Nicolas Grinfeld and his wife Marie Victorine Ravilhac. He worked for Colombier and helped him make the indecent photographs for which he was sentenced. Grinfeld was tried with his employer and several female models. He was fined twenty-five francs and sentenced to two months in prison. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 26 June to 25 August 1862. After his release he gave up photography and became a florist. On 1 February 1868 he married another florist, Jeanne Laroute, at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement.

GUILLOT Jean Vidal, calling himself Edouard, was born at Issoire, Puy-de-Dôme, on 19 January 1820. On 9 May 1862 he was arrested by inspectors Piel, Remise and Martin while he was coming out a wine shop, 3, rue du Faubourg

Saint-Martin, where he had tried to sell photographic reproductions of indecent engravings. He told the police that he had studied painting and he had bought those prints for his studies but acknowledged he was trying to sell them. He was tried by the seventh chamber on 4 June, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment. He was living on rue des Cinq Moulins at La Chapellle.

GROS Antoine was born at Luzillat, Puy-de-Dôme, on 29 December 1835 to Antoine Gros, a blacksmith, and his wife Jeanne Valaude. On 4 August 1860, Antoine Gros, a blacksmith like his father, living at 9, rue Basfroï, married Thérèse Célestine Steger. Two years later he had become a photographer and was living at 33, rue Sedaine, when, on 19 May 1862 he was arrested by inspectors Remise and Martin while trying to sell indecent photographs. A search on his person yielded forty-three obscene prints for the stereoscope, thirteen microphotographs of a licentious or obscene nature and a small packet containing obscene stanhope photographs. Police commissaire Demarquay searched his studio at 111, Boulevard Beaumarchais and found several prints featuring naked women, thirteen obscene negatives, nine licentious ones, a fragment of a stereoscopic negative representing a woman in an obscene pose, a box containing stanhopes and another one containing stanhopes with two different subjects. Gros told the police the negatives belonged to Lebissonnais and that the prints had been made at the studio of his former partner François Deruaz. Antoine Gros was tried by the seventh chamber on 26 June 1862, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment which he spent at Sainte-Pélagie from the day of his trial to 25 December.

COUDRETTE Charles Auguste was born at Paris on 8 June 1836 to Amable Auguste Coudrette and his wife Marguerite Florange but he was baptised eight years later, on 29 February 1844, at Saint-Germain l’Auxerrois. He was a photographer at 18 rue St-Hyacinthe-St-Michel when his premises were searched by police commissaire Mr. Marseille after a photography broker by the name of Antoine François Victor Dariot was arrested and found carrying packs of obscene playing cards and indecent photographs. Nothing incriminating was found however and Coudrette was nei-

ther arrested nor tried. Coudrette then moved his studio first to 2, rue de Varennes, 4th arrondissement, then to 71, rue Notre-Dame-des-Champs. This latter place was called “À l’Immortel Daguerre” (to the immortal Daguerre). Coudrette had other studios over the next years, at 45 and 67, Boulevard Saint-Jacques, at 16, rue Montgolfier, and finally at 4, Passage Gourdon, in the early 1890s.

VINCENT Achille was born at Yves, Charente Maritime, on 17 December 1825 to Jean Vincent and his wife Marie Rose Audonnet. On 9 September 1862 this saddler and photographer living at 5, rue du Terrier aux Lapins with his wife Elisabeth Coudret, was arrested by inspectors Piel and Remise who had been watching him for some time. His premises were searched by commissaire Demarquay who, however, could not find anything incriminating. Vincent was released but arrested again by Piel and Remise on 14 October. This time they found on him some graphic photographs for the stereoscope, some of which featured him with female models. Vincent stated he had sold the negatives for one hundred francs. His premises were searched again but the police file does not mention whether anything was found that second time. Achille Vincent was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 December 1862 with eight male and female models who had sat for him, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one year’s imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 31 December 1862 to 30 December 1863.

MARÉCHAL Louis Jules was born in the former sixth arrondissement of Paris, on 3 September 1817, to Jean Baptiste Maréchal and Louise Geneviève Broquet. He lost his mother when he was barely four and became a watchmaker. He was arrested in October 1862 after it was established he had operated at Achille Vincent’s. On 4 December 1862 Maréchal married Célestine Bernard at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement and the newlyweds legitimised their daughter, Marie Louie Élodie, born at Belleville on 1 December 1858. Maréchal’s honeymoon was very short-lived since he was tried by the sixth chamber the day following his wedding, fined fifty francs and sentenced to one year’s imprisonment. He appealed the decision which was however confirmed by the court of. He was incarcerated on 31 December 1862 and stayed at Sainte-Pélagie until 30 December 1863.

DELTON Jean Louis and his operator DÉSARBRES were reported in December 1862 as photographing women in licentious poses. Searches at 8, rue de la Faisanderie, Delton’s premises, and at 5, rue Pigalle, where Désarbres lived, did not yield any result.

MOULLIN Zacharie Jean Baptiste, known as Zacharie Torbéchet, was born at Mayenne, Mayenne, on 18 July 1830, to Zacharie Thomas Moullin, Chevalier de Torbéchet, and his wife Félicité Anne Cheminant Duhaumont. On 2 January 1860, at the mairie of the 2nd arrondissement, Zacharie Moullin, who was living at Brest, Finistère, married Adèle Rosalie Carrier, a cashier. Adolphe Bilordeaux, a painter and photographer, was one of the witnesses who signed the wedding certificate. On 24 February 1863, Torbéchet, who had become a photographer filed a patent with his partner Prosper Denis Edouard Allain for improvements made to microscopic photographs. A few months later, on 27 August, Torbéchet, was summoned to appear before judge Roahult de Fleury after he sold to inspector Remise some obscene prints he had made. He was arrested on the following day after police commissaire Demarquay searched his premises at 44, rue St-Dominique-St-Germain, and found a fairly large number of cartes-de-visite representing obscene or licentious subjects, a quantity of obscene microphotographs, a large amount of unmounted indecent prints and negatives of the same nature. Torbéchet confessed printing the images but said the photographs had been made by Mrs Jules Lédion. Torbéchet was tried on 24 September 1863 and sentenced to one month in prison. On 27 December Tobéchet and Allain advertised photographs they had taken of the departure of Nadar’s balloon Le Géant from the Champ de Mars on 4 and 18 October. On 27 December 1864 the photographic company they had created on 24 November 1862 under the name Photographie de Saint-Thomas d’Aquin was declared bankrupt. Torbéchet gave up photography and when his wife died on 7 November 1877 he is described as living on his own means. He married again on 2 April 1878 at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement. His wedding certificate lists him as a commercial traveller.

AGNUS Marie Joséphine was born at Louhans, Saone-et-Loire, on 23 October 1824 to Félix Etienne Agnus and his wife Anne Bernerat. On 7 December 1843 she married Antoine Julien Lédion, known as Jules Lédion, an anatomy painter who was also born at Louhans, on 22 November 1825. The Lédions were photographers at 14 Boulevard Poissonnière, in a building known as Maison du Pont de Fer, where daguerreotypist and stereo photographer Elijah Warren Thompson (1814-1901) had his first studio. Following the arrest of Zacharie Torbéchet, who had sold indecent cartes-de-visite to inspector Remise, judge Rohault de Fleury authorised a search of the Lédion studio, search which was carried out by police commissaire Demarquay but yielded no incriminating images. The Lédions were tried on 24 September 1863 and it became clear in the debates that Mrs Lédion had taken the images in which featured female models Hortense Sophie Cadout, Adèle Célestine Mabire, Léontine Mabire and Léopoldine Chardon. Hortense sat for the composition Partant pour la Pologne (Leaving for Poland) and Adèle Célestine posed as a garde national in a very scant version of the uniform they wore. Both images are described in the first part of this book in the section devoted to Adèle Célestine Mabire. Marie Joséphine Lédion was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment and was incarcerated at Saint-Lazare from the day of her trial to 23 November 1863. Her husband, who apparently had not taken part in the making of the images, got away with two weeks in prison.

BERNARD Adolphe Désiré was, according to his police file, born at Paris on 31 August 1839. However his birth certficate does not seem to have been reconstructed which makes it difficult to confirm his exact date or place of birth. On 12 January 1864 this photographer was arrested and his premises at 21, Passage des Champs were searched. The police found some indecent stanhope photographs in the making and the tubes in which they were to be mounted. In Bernard’sfather’sflat, onthesamelanding, theyfoundanobscene negative in a camera used to reduce the images, as well as some indecent negatives and prints. Bernard confessed he made the prints but that the negatives had been provided by Théophile Jhély and Charles Victor Picard. Bernard was tried by the sixth chamber on 9 March 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months behind bars.

RADIGUET Joseph Louis was born around 1837 at La Chapelle du Bois, Switzerland. He was a photographer living at 228, rue de Rivoli when, on 30 January 1864 he was summoned to appear before police commissaire Mr. Blanchet. He was arrested at his flat and his premises were searched. In a room located close to the studio of one Cailliez the police found several obscene prints being processed and the negatives that had been used to make them. Radiguet acknowledged delivering some of the prints to Henri Gaubert, a broker, but said the negatives had been given to him by Jules Hippolite Casimir Capel, a dentist. Capel confirmed. Gaubert told the police the photos he was selling were coming from photographers Radiguet, and Albert Joseph Urbain Bucquet, from Jules Pierre Claude Chavot, a wine seller who imported obscenities from Switzerland, and from a waiter in a café named Alexis Louis Dodement. The latter told the police the prints had been given to him by Charles Victor Picard, a florist, who, in turn said he had received them from photographer Théophile Jhély who had supposedly been expelled from France but was actually incarcerated. Radiguet was tried by the sixth chamber on 5 March, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months in prison.

BUCQUET Albert Joseph Urbain was born at Paris on 18 June 1835. On 3 February 1864 Bucquet was arrested and questioned by the police after indecent photographs had been found on broker Henri Gaubert. He acknowledged having had them in his possession at some point but that they had been stolen by Gaubert. He was tried on 15 March 1864 but was acquitted. After that he gave up photography. On 5 April 1866 he married Marie Puissan at the mairie of the 9th arrondissement. The wedding certificate, signed by his brother Paul Jean Joseph, inspector general of the charitable institutions of the empire, a knight of the Legion of Honour, and by Edgar Sallanbier, a lawyer at the Imperial Court, describes Bucquet as a lawyer !

PETIT Pierre Lanith was born at Aups, Var, on 15 August 1831 to Jean Joseph André Petit, a weaver, and his wife Marie Françoise Baud. The 1846 census describes his father as a wig maker and Pierre Petit as an apprenticed joiner.

On 16 July 1851, at Tourtour, near Draguignan, Var, a twenty-year old and jobless Pierre Petit married thirty-six year old landowner Césarine Anne Jenny Roubaux, the widow of an army captain. The couple legitimised their son, Marie Auguste Joseph Petit, born at Montmartre just over two years earlier, on 14 March 1849. The bride must have been nearly eight months pregnant on her wedding day since a son was born at Tourtour on 31 August, who was named François Pierre. In 1855, Pierre Petit who was now living at Paris and working as a hairdresser, met photographer Adrien Tournarchon, Félix Nadar’s younger brother, and started working for him before opening his own studio. Petit was first in brief partnership with one Frédéric Richard, an insurance company agent, before becoming, also for a very short while, partners with photographer Antoine René Trinquart in 1859. Petit soon became one of the most famous portraitists of the time and in 1862 started using the slogan that was to be his trade mark : “Pierre Petit opère lui-même” (Pierre Petit operates himself). Some time in the first quarter of 1864 – there is no exact date in his police file – Pierre Petit was summoned before the imperial procuror, questioned and released. He had been reported as being on the look out for prostitutes to use as models and had made at least one photograph featuring a young woman who was working in a brothel. This photograph he gave to Alfred Berryer, a framer, who in turn gave it to photographer Joseph Louis Radiguet who sold it to broker Henri Gaubert. Gaubert, Berryer, and Radiguet were all tried, fined and sentenced but Pierre Petit’s fame and the fact that he knew so many famous and influential people probably protected him from being prosecuted. In 1867 Pierre Petit was the official photographer of the Paris International Exhibition that was held on the Champ de Mars. That same year, on 4 April, an illegitimate child was born from his liaison with opera singer Julie Hisson (1849-1876). His estranged wife died at London in 1881 shortly before Pierre Petit was made a knight of the Legion of Honour on 23 July. On 31 May 1882 Petit married Marie Anne Piotruszynska (1857-1927) with whom he had three children. The first of them was born just six months after the wedding. Petit, helped by his son François Pierre, carried on his photographic career until his death on 16 February 1909. He was buried two days later at the Batignolles cemetery but the Pierre Petit firm carried on well into the twentieth century, at rue Cadet and then at 122, rue Lafayette. The slogan that had made it famous was in use up to May 1940.

GAILLOT Adolphe Gustave was born at Falaise, Ardennes, in 1842. The birth register mentions the date 28 August but the birth certificate itself has been destroyed. Gaillot was described as a painter and a photographer when, on 15 February 1864, he was arrested by inspectors Piel and Remise while selling obscene photographs. The police found on him a large number of indecent photographic prints and two albums full of cartes-de-visite showing women in obscene poses. Gaillot told the inspectors the prints were given to him by Antoine Gardel, operator for a photographer called Maingot who had his studio at 8, Boulevard Saint-Martin. When the inspectors took him to his lodgings at 32, rue Grégoire de Tours, he put in their hands some prints that were concealed there as well as a framed pornographic lithograph called First Victory from which a negative had been made. Gaillot was tried by the sixth chamber on 11 March 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment.

GARDEL Antoine was born at Paulhenc, Cantal, on 23 February 1845 to Barthélémy Gardel, a blacksmith, and his wife Marguerite Cairon. On 16 February 1864 police commissaire Blanchet signed a warrant for his arrest after Gutave Gaillot had revealed where he got the obscene photos he was carrying on his person. Gardel’s premises were searched and the police seized a number of obscene prints. When they arrested Gardel he was carrying an album of pornographic lithographs from which the prints had been reproduced. Gardel was tried by the sixth chamber on 11 March 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month in prison.

MAXERET, whose first name is not given was a photographer who lived at 312, rue Saint Honoré in 1862. The police file mentions him as being born at Vervins, Aisne, but there is nobody by that name in the birth register of the period. He was denounced by one Levasseur who told the police that the obscene prints that he distributed to several persons were given to him by Maxeret. He was not found and that is all we know about him.

THOMASSIN Edouard was born at Paris on 28 March 1818 to Louis Colombeau Thomassin and his wife Barbe Catherine Adèle Thierry de Rembau. He was an engraver turned photographer who was living at 47, rue de la Ferme des Mathurins when, on 9 March 1864, his premises were searched by police commissaire Mr. Demarquay. Seven obscene and licentious prints were seized that matched the prints given to Levasseur by Maxeret. On 31 December 1866 Thomassin’s new studio at 39, Boulevard des Capucines was also searched. The police did not find any incriminating prints, only armchairs and curtains that featured in photographs found on one Pierre Ernest Minot who had been arrested the day before while selling obscene photographic images and who had told the police where the prints came from. When the police searched the studio it was occupied by another photographer, named Desroches, who had succeeded Thomassin and somehow knew the incriminating images had been made by the latter.

RIDEL Joseph Mélicourt was born at Pont-Audemer, Eure, on 14 June 1827 to Pierre François Ridel, a locksmith, and his wife Elise Normand. On 16 February 1864 inspector Remise and police commissaire Gaillard arrested Ridel in the shop of a printseller at 7, rue Vivienne while he was trying to hide obscene prints in the basement. The inspector found on his person photographs that had been given to him by Pierre Jean Delbarre. Ridel was tried by the sixth chamber on 1 April 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one month behind bars.

DELBARRE Pierre Jean was born at Paris on 25 January 1826 to Jean Denis Delbarre and his wife Louise Moulin. He married Marie Eugénie Harmand, on 8 August 1855, at Château Thierry, Aisne. He was a photographer living at 26, rue de Douai when on 18 February 1864 Mr. Rohault de Fleury signed a search warrant after Ridel confessed the photos that had been found on his person when he was arrested came from him. Police commissaire Mr. Blanchet searched Delbarre’s premise and seized a dozen photographic prints showing young women in lascivious poses. Delbarre was tried on 1 April 1864 and was acquitted. Delbarre was still alive,

separated from his wife and living at Poitiers, Vienne, when his daughter Marie Louise, born at Château Thierry in 1856 got married in 1891. Her wedding certificate describes him as a writer.

POUSSOT Charles Sébastien was born at Paris on 21 November 1811 to Pierre Jean Marie Poussot and his wife Louise Madeleine Boucherolle. He married Elisabeth Joséphine Grout on 23 January 1845. He was already a photographer when his daughter Blanche Adolphine was born in the 4th arrondissement on 29 June 1861. Some time in 1864, the date is not specified in the police file, his premises at 17, rue Chanoinesse, were searched by police commissaire Mr. Marseille. A large number of obscene photographs were found some of which Poussot acknowledged he had made. Poussot, however, was not arrested nor tried. He is described as an optician in 1873 when his birth and wedding certificates were reconstructed. His wife died on 17 August 1877 in the 19th arrondissement. Poussot survived her by less than two years and passed away, still an optician, in the same arrondissement on 20 April 1879.

OSMONT was a photographer operating at 66, rue de la Villette and was reported as making obscene photographs. That is all the information contained in the B B/3 register.

MOULIN Félix Jacques Antoine was born at Montreuil-sur-Mer, Pas-de-Calais on 18 August 1802 (30 Thermidor year X) to Jean Jacques Moulin and his wife Marie Antoinette Angélique Duquesnel. On 8 July 1828 he married Louise Elisabeth Detant at the mairie of Calais. He was then living at Paris, 19, rue des Moineaux and was a currier. In July 1851 Moulin was one of the first if not the very first photographer to be sentenced to prison for taking indecent images, so indecent apparently that, according to the report of his trial, reading aloud the titles of those daguerreotypes, constituted a crime in itself. He spent one month at Sainte-Pélagie from 10 November to 10 December 1851. The person who had commissioned the photographs, optician Jules Malacrida, was sentenced to one year’s imprisonment. After leaving prison Félix Moulin became a pioneer of stereoscopic



images which were either scenes that had been staged in his very small studio – so small that the window can generally be seen on the left half of the stereoscopic pair and the opposite wall on the right half of it – sculptures by Dantan jeune, or topographical views, especially a rather large series he took on a trip to Algeria. There are some stereoscopic nudes too but nothing indecent or obscene. On 27 April 1864, police commissaire Mr. Gaillard, the bearer of a search warrant, repaired to Moulin’s studio at 23, rue Richer but could only find pictures that had been authorised. Moulin, who had probably been watched by the police since his release from prison, was neither arrested nor tried. Moulin died in the 17th arrondissement of Paris on 1 October 1879. He was seventy-seven years old. His wife survived him by ten years and passed away in the same arrondissement on 2 July 1889



Félix Moulin. Self-portrait with his daughter in his studio.

CHARLET Pierre Jacques Paul François and **JACOTIN Louis Charles** feature in the B B/3 police register, not because they took photos of women in various states of undress or licentious poses but on account of their having photographed and printed 100 franc banknotes. These and the negatives that had been used to print them were seized by police commissaire Mr. Gaillard when he searched their premises on 27 April 1864. Charlet was born at Saint-Saulge, Nièvre, on 27 November 1826 and Jacotin at Ville-Issey, Meuse, on 23 July 1828. On 8 May 1850, Jacotin married Amélie Willaeyns at the mairie of the 7th arrondissement. She passed away on 14 February 1894 in the 10th arrondissement. He survived her by nearly three years and died in the same arrondissement on 11 December

1896. He was still a photographer then. Charlet married Alexandrine Boussard on 12 February 1863 at the mairie of the 12th arrondissement. Their marriage ended in a divorce on 15 July 1895 and Charlet, still a photographer too, passed away at Neuilly-sur-Seine, Hauts-de-Seine, on 4 August 1896.

JAUSSAN Joseph François Edouard was born at Béziers, Hérault, on 14 October 1825 to Dominique Jaussan, a glazier, and his wife Louise Françoise Lucie Fontenille. On 29 May 1864 this photographer who was living at 6, rue de la Dure, was summoned to appear before Mr. Rabut after some obscene photographs were found on Jean Baptiste Fournier and Louis Ferdinand Fournier. It soon transpired that Jaussan had escaped before the arrival of the police. He was tried in abstentia on 22 July 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to eight months in prison.

PERRETTE Eugène Alphonse was born at Paris on 10 March 1828 to Bernard Perrette and Joséphine Rosalie Allut. Perrette was a sea captain and an occasional photographer. He was commissioned to take photos for Mammert Stanislas Braissaz, a broker in photography, who was arrested on 14 April 1864 while carrying a number of obscene prints and drawings. Perrette was tried by the sixth chamber on 8 July 1864, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two weeks’ imprisonment. On 1 October 1868, at the mairie of the 18th arrondissement, he married Louise Françoise Mangin.

BRETAGNE Claude does not have a proper entry in the B B/3 police register for a very good reason: he ran away before he could be arrested. His name is however mentioned several times in connection with Perrette’s and his accomplices, brokers and models. We know that he was born at Clamecy, Nièvre, on 12 June 1824, the son of Daniel Bretagne and his wife Sophie Picq, that he married Jeanne Françoise Émélie Moreau (1825-1884) at Surgy, Nièvre, on 11 October 1843 and that he was a primary school teacher at the time. Bretagne was involved in the making of pornographic photographs and was tried in abstentia by the sixth chamber on 8 July 1864. He was fined one hundred francs and sentenced to one year in prison. He did not go to prison, however, and managed

to carry on being a photographer until his death, at Villejuif, Val-de-Marne, on 16 February 1892. His wife had passed away eight years earlier on 19 November 1884.

PUISSANT Jean Baptiste was born at Nomény, Meurthe, on 5 January 1831 to Jacques Louis Puissant, a butcher, and his wife Elisabeth Laviolle. On 11 October 1864 Puissant, a photographer living at 8, rue des Ciseaux, married Céline Louise Mabilie, a cap-maker. Just over two months later, on 22 December 1864 he was summoned to appear before police commissaire Mr. Crépy. His premises at 8, rue de l’Egoût and his studio in the rue de Rennes were searched and the police found a number of obscene prints which Puissant said had been made at his premises by Claude Bretagne. Puissant was tried by the sixth chamber on 4 February 1865, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Mazas from 3 February to 2 May.

GENTIL DES CARRIERES Adolphe Félix was born at Paris on 15 June 1827 to Augustin Antoine Gentil des Carrières and his wife Louise Angélique Mélanie Barbara. On 7 February 1850, Felix Adolphe, a wood engraver, married Emélie Alexandrine Balduc at the mairie of the 4th arrondissement. They had at least one daughter, Estelle, born in 1851, and one son, Adolphe, born in 1856. Gentil was for some time a foreman in a toy factory before starting selling photographs and stereoscopic views around 1855. In 1861 he settled as a photographer at 62, rue Charlot, specialising in the reproduction of bronze artefacts and art works. On 22 January 1865, Mr. Blanchet, a police commissaire, searched Gentil’s premises and found nearly eight hundred obscene stanhopes, twenty stereoscopic images of the same nature and three hundred obscene negatives which Gentil and his non official business partner Speisser had hidden in a house at Charonne. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 3 March 1865, along with Speisser, a broker named Moreau and six female models, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to two months’ imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 20 March to 19 May. After his release from prison he and Speisser made their partnership official but it was dissolved in 1872. On 22 February 1868 his wife died in the 3rd arrondissement. Félix Adolphe Gentil des Carrières married again, at Saint-Maur-

des-Fossés, on 7 August 1879. His second wife’s name was Benoite Cornet and their marriage lasted nearly seven years, up to 20 March 1886 when Gentil des Carrières, who was still a photographer then, passed away in the 14th arrondissement.

HIGNETTE Pierre Jacques Désiré was born at Mézidon, Calvados, on 27 February 1822 to Pierre Julien Hignette and his wife Euphrasie Doucet. On 5 December 1864, this photographer who had been under suspicion for some time for making indecent pictures was summoned to appear before police commissaire Mr. Rabut. His lodgings and studio were searched and the police found some licentious prints but no negatives. Hignette gave the inspectors the name of one Charlu who, he said, probably made indecent photographs. Hignette was tried but acquitted. On 3 January 1880 he married a widow, Victorine Désirée Ruau, at the mairie of Lisieux, Calvados. Their marriage was short-lived as she died less than two years later, on 14 October 1881. Hignette married a second time, at Durcet, Orne, on 8 July 1892. His second wife, who was thirty-five years his junior, was named Alphonsine Marteau.

WAGNER Emile Victor was born at Paris on 18 June 1844 to Alexandre Emmanuel Wagner, a painter, and his wife Marie Françoise Doussol. He was a photographer living at 21, rue Rochechouart when, on 21 December 1864 judge de Gonet signed a warrant for his arrest. He put in the hands of police commissaire Mr. Rabut a number of indecent negatives when the latter came to search his premises and told the policeman that everything came from the studio of Delbarre. Wagner was not tried. He was still a photographer in 1891 and was then living at 11, rue Doucelet.

FÉVRIER Pierre, known as FABRY, was born at Rilhac-Xaintrie, Corrèze, on 20 October 1833 to Jean Février and his wife Marianne Filleul. He was a peddler, an umbrella-maker and a photographer. On 9 February 1865 police commissaire Mr. Marseille issued a searched warrant which resulted in the seizure of a number of obscene microphotographs at his premises. Février was tried by the sixth chamber on 3 March and sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. He was incarcerated at Sainte-Pélagie from 22 March to 21 June. Février was married to Augustine Coucharière.

DÉCAMP Paul was actually born DESCOMPI Paulin Marie at Preignan, Gers, on 31 August 1834. On 23 May 1865 police commissaire Mr. Bérillon signed a search warrant and his policemen went to Décamp’s premises 42, rue de la Victoire, where they found some obscene prints. They then repaired to 53, rue Saint-Lazare, where his mistress was living, and seized some more prints there. The police file devoted to him does not mention whether he was prosecuted, tried and sentenced.

LOCHET Amédé Auguste was born at Châlons-sur-Marne, Marne, on 16 June 1841, to Charles Locket and his wife, Rose Michel Clémentine Tupin. Locket was working at Eugène Thiébault’s and was arrested on 26 May 1865 at the request of Auguste Adolphe Fatout, a dealer in photographs, after he tried to sell the latter at a very low price twenty-three photographic prints that Fatout recognised as counterfeit. Locket confessed he has just left his job with Thiébault and that he had taken the prints from his former working place. The police file does not say whether he was prosecuted and tried but Fatout, who had him arrested, features in the pages of the B B/3 register as having been fined two hundred francs and sentenced to one month’s imprisonment in April 1864 for selling unauthorised photographs known as “Charges parisiennes”, as well as cardboard dolls that could be undressed and exposed their genitals.

PONCET, without any first name, was tried in abstentia by the sixth chamber on 20 July 1865 and sentenced to six months’s imprisonment for introducing into France obscene photographs made at Carrouge, Switzerland, by one Mrs. Bouton, née Anne Adélaïde Belin. He was eventually arrested along with another photographer by the name of DROUIN who was selling obscene stanhopes from the same source. Drouin was tried by the sixth chamber on 15 January 1868, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to three months behind bars.

VALENTIN Auguste Carlos, was born at Paris on 9 January 1839, to Pierre François Valentin, a hairdresser, and his wife Madeleine Mangeot. He married Marie Braunschauen on 19 July 1859 at La Villette. On 22 August 1865 police commissaire Mr. Bérillon issued a warrant to search his premises at 86, rue

Saint-Denis. The police could not find anything but when pressed to reveal where he had hidden the incriminating negatives Valentin put them in the hands of the commissaire. He was tried by the sixth chamber on 29 June 1865, fined sixteen francs and sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment. When his daughter Eugénie Emilie was born in 1868, Valentin and his wife were florists. He was already dead when the same daughter got married in 1900.

WEYLER Charles was a photographer operating from 45, rue Laffitte when, on 20 April 1866, police commissaire Mr. Rabut searched his premises. He was suspected of having made the six obscene cartes-de-visite that were found on the person of artist Jules Adolphe Chauvet when he had been arrested a few hours previously. The search yielded nothing however and Weyler was not arrested nor tried.

MANGEON Adolphe Gaëtan was born at Nogent-sur-Seine, Aube, on 10 May 1818 to François Joseph Mangeon, a tax collector, and his wife Roze Josèphe Pasquet Chertier. Mangeon was a dealer in silk and wool then a dry cleaner who went bankrupt before he became a photographer. He was arrested on 27 June 1866 at the request of judge de Gonet but the police files do not mention what he was suspected of. He was then living at 123, rue de Paris, Belleville. Mangeon does not seem to have been tried or imprisoned. On 16 February 1869, at the mairie of the 20th arrondissement, he married a widow, Magdeleine Bordé and legitimised their daughter, Claire Louise Blanche, born at Paris on 21 December 1853. He was still a photographer then and was living at 29 rue Levert. According to his daughter’s wedding certificate, dated 23 April 1872, Mangeon passed away in Paris on 20 November 1870 in the tenth arrondissement but I could not find any trace of his death certificate in this arrondissement or in any of the nineteen other arrondissements. Paris was under siege then but there are thousands of death certificates from that period so it seems strange this one is missing.

BROCHARD César Etienne Marie was born at Landivy, Mayenne, on 15 April 1815. He was living at 30, rue des Tourelles when he he was arrested on 23 August 1866 by two constables at the request of one Mr. Vannier, a wine seller at 108 rue des



Amandiers. He had tried to sell Mr Vannier obscene photographs and insulted every person who refused to buy his pictures. On 9 January 1868 he married Gabrielle Merle at the mairie of the 20th arrondissement. He was no longer a photographer then and describes himself as a man of property. He was still living at 30, rue des Tourelles.

CADY DE SAINT-CYR Jacques Félix was born at Paris on 21 December 1818 to Jean Jacques Cady, a sugar manufacturer, and his wife Rose Félicité Nicol. On 23 October 1841 this young “ciseleur” (carver) married Marie Anne Françoise Prodhomme. By the time his first born child Marie Louise Caroline got married in 1861 Cady was already a photographer, living at 65, Faubourg du Temple. In October 1863 police commissaire Mr. Migneret searched his premises at 163, rue Saint-Maur but could not find anything incriminating. Cady however acknowledged printing six photographs representing a naked woman whom he knew under the name of Boudard and who was living at 18, Boulevard de Strasbourg. No one by that name was known at this address. Cady was neither prosecuted nor tried. He was still a photographer in the 1870s and one of his sons, Paul Félix (1850-1881) followed in his footsteps and became a photographer. Jacques Félix Cady de Saint-Cyr passed away at the Hôpital Saint-Louis, 40, rue de Bichat, on 14 March 1880. His wife, who survived him by nine years, died in the 20th arrondissement on 18 July 1889.

SÉGOFFIN Charles Denis was born at Paris on 28 May 1824 to Jean Denis Ségoffin and his wife Louise Pauline Clément. On 16 September 1843 He married Estelle Pétronille Salles who passed away on 23 July 1858. Ségoffin was a photographer who specialised for some time in the selling of stereo cards that were published under the name Centralisation de Photographies, accompanied by the initials C.S. He was operating from 91, Boulevard de Sébastopol. On 27 September 1866 Charles Ségoffin married Marthe Caroline Marie de Saint-Quentin at the mairie of the 10th arrondissement. Just over a month later, on 3 november, police commissaire Demarquay searched his premises in vain after it was established that he had sold to a commodity broker named Haruell some obscene photographs that were pasted in an album that was lent by Haruell’s clerk, Adolphe Ortel, to Henri Laborde, a commercial traveller, who in turn reproduced them

and gave the prints to a young prostitute named Rousseau where they were found by the police and seized. Ségoffin was neither prosecuted nor tried. His second marriage was short-lived, his second wife dying on 10 March 1866. Charles Ségoffin married a third time, on 10 June 1880, and tied the knot with Ernestine Lombard, at the mairie of the 8th arrondissement. He died on 27 June 1890 at Courbevoie and was buried two days later.

HANFSTAENGL Erwin was born in Dresden in 1838. He was a German photographer living at 4, rue Frochot, Paris. He was for a short time in partnership with photographer Léon Crémière and took part with him in the 1861 exhibition of the Société française de Photographie. On 29 December 1866 he was reported as dealing in licentious photographs. His police file only bears the mention “to investigate”, nothing else. Hanfstaengl later moved to Frankfurt and died in Munich on 14 January 1905.

JALABERT Armand was a photographer living at 51, avenue de Labourdonnay and 4, rue Neuve-des-Petits-Champs. On 29 August 1867 he was reported as making obscene photographs. The police commissaire of his neighbourhood searched his premises but could not find anything incriminating. It was later established, however, that since that time he had not had any sitters posing naked or even half naked in his studio. He was neither prosecuted nor tried.

ALFRED Joseph was a photographer living at 14, rue de Montgolfier when he was arrested on 15 May 1868 along with Henri Ernest Letestu, a printseller, who had sold indecent prints to one Mélanie Lemeunier. It was established the prints had been made by Joseph Alfred who was consequently tried by the sixth chamber on 19 June 1868, fined one hundred francs and sentenced to four months’ imprisonment. It is unfortunately all I know about this photographer since his police file does not give any detail as to his age or place of birth. He is the last photographer to feature in the B B/3 police register.





