

This envelope containing a note and a French 1822 5 franc coin were found in a box of papers in my father's basement. The box belonged to my grandfather John E. Lux. I believe the note was written by John Philip Lux, grandson of Philip Barbier. I believe that John Philip's middle name was in honor of Philip Barbier as well as the name of his grandson Joseph Philip Lux, Dad's brother. The text of the note isn't completely accurate. Philip Barbier died on August 9th 1841 when the Steamship Erie caught fire on Lake Erie just offshore of Silver Creek, NY. Silver Creek is less than halfway to the Port of Erie and so the burning ship was not visible from Buffalo. Philip's body was recovered a few days after the sinking and was returned to Buffalo but his burial place is unknown.

This coin has been in the family since found on the body of Philip Barbier Feb'y 1842 who drowned in Lake Erie in sight of the shores of Buffalo N.Y. when the ship was destroyed by fire.

Philip Barbier was the father of Mary Barbier who married Joseph Lux and ~~was~~ the mother of John Phis born in Buffalo N.Y Feb'y 13th 1863.



Family record and coin found on body of Philip Barbier Grandfather of J. Phis

More modern research shows that more than 350 people died in this disaster.

