

**R. GURNAY**

FOURNITURES POUR TAILLEURS

VERVIERS

TÉLÉPHONE 1192

Compte Chèques Postaux 9885

VERVIERS, LE 7th. February 1922

61, Rue aux Laines

Mr. Lee M. F O R D

Great Falls

Dear Sir,

I am duly in receipt of your favour of the 14th. ult. and must say that I am not in the least surprised to hear that you are pleased with the last birds sent. I was certain about it before I sent them along, and I may add that, when the 1st. prize Noyon is fully developed, you will probably like him more than the others. My birds must be two years old before showing to their full advantage, and this particular cock will be two years' old only this summer.

You may rely upon him as much as on any of the others, and the future will show you that I am right.

Re the big hen, I am sorry that, having now paired up, I have no spare hen to let you have, but I shall certainly send one on along with the first consignment of birds which will be sent to your country.

Moreover, to send one single pigeon would be far too expensive, and that bird would be too lonely for too long a time on the journey.

I do not know what you mean when you mention a sale of my birds in Brussels, as never did I either sell or even announce a sale in Belgium.

I am every year in sore needs of birds if I were to satisfy all the fanciers who apply for birds, and I am very careful, as long as I deserve and retain the confidence of my friends abroad, not to sell my strain in this country. When I had made the selection of my birds last December, the whole surplus was sent to my friend Mr. Fred Shaw, at Manchester, and any talk in your papers about a sale in Belgium is a lie which I give you full authority to deny most emphatically.

I beg to enclose herewith the bill for all expenses relating to the consignment of 6 birds which you have received, and also to the photos which have been made and are being sent to-day to your address. I trust these photos will meet with your approval. They were made in England as we have no photographer here who could do as well. My friend Mr. Fred Shaw attended to this and that is how the birds were sent from Liverpool and not from Antwerp as when they leave my lofts.

With very kindest regards, I beg to remain,

Dear Mr. Ford,

Yours very sincerely,

ROUR R. GURNAY

*R. Gurnay*



**R. GURNAY**

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6r, Rue aux Laines

Mr. Lee M. F O R D

Great FallsAccount

Expenses on 6 birds sent in December:

Basket and trough	£	1.19.	6
Consular certificate		13.	4
Carriage to Liverpool		4.	7
Shippers' charges		3.5.	6

Expenses re photos

Carriage of birds to the photographer's		5.	-
6 large photos		9.	-
6 small photos		18.	-
packing and carriage of photos		4.	-

Total		<u>16.9.11</u>	
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or Frs. 890.75 at the rate of frs. 54.- to the £ stg.

Fourcils  
ailleurs

**R. GURNAY**

VERVIERS

— ✂ —  
Spécialité de Satins

— ✂ —  
Téléphone 1192

— ✂ —  
Mr. Lee M. F O R D

P.O.Box 8

Etats-Unis d'Amérique

G R E A T \_ F A L L S

Montana

Rec 2/26/22  
advance on  
Int page Noyon

provisione Carl...  
Birds develop until  
end of 2nd year



**R. GURNAY**

FOURNITURES POUR TAILLEURS

VERVIERS

TÉLÉPHONE 1192

Compte Chèques Postaux 9885

VERVIERS, LE 14th. February 1922

61, Rue aux Laines

Mr. Lee M. F O R D

Great Falls

Dear Mr. Ford,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed letter of Jan. 27, with a cheque for Frs. 3700.- for which I am very much obliged and beg to thank you most sincerely.

As I have told you before, I left this matter entirely with you, as I had sent two birds too many, and I consider that you have been very fair indeed in the fashion you have settled it.

Of course, had I not been absolutely confident about these six birds, I should not have sent any of them. It would be too dishonest to ask a good price and then send poor birds, and that would never enter my head.

I am as pleased as any of my friends when I know that they are content with my birds and think that they have been handsomely treated.

One must pay the price for good stuff, but then it is but too natural to get it, is it not?

One thing I am certain is that the more you see those birds, the more you will like them, and you will judge for yourself when they commence breeding, for I know that they will be looked after very nicely and will want nothing.

If I may be of any help to you when it is a matter of mating or anything else, you just ask me and I shall advise you to the best of my ability.

With regards to the large hen which you wish to replace, I have told you in my previous letter that I was quite agreeable to send you another one with my first shipment to the States, and that will be borne in mind.

The best clock, to my mind, is the Plassehaert, which is in use in our club and has always given full satisfaction. As you probably know, it is a clock with a paper-band on which the exact time is printed when the lever is pulled at the time the ring-band is introduced into the clock.

I do not know whether they can supply any just now, for they have been exceedingly busy since the war is over. Anyway, I am going to enquire and let you know as soon as possible.

Perhaps you would be kind enough to drop me a p.c. as soon as possible and tell me how many you would require.

With kindest regards and renewed thanks, I beg to remain,

Dear Mr. Ford,

Your most sincerely,

POUR R. GURNAY

*The photos have been sent to-day.  
Mr Gurnay has gone away with a key & I  
couldn't get at them before his return  
this morning*

*Yadawojakoy*



Fournitures pour Tailleurs

R. GURNAY

VERVIERS

Spécialité de Satins

Téléphone 1192

Mr. Lee M. FORD

P.O. Box 8



Rec 3/7/22

3  
3/7/22

GREAT FALLS

Montana

ETATS-UNIS



**R. GURNAY**

FOURNITURES POUR TAILLEURS

VERVIERS

TÉLÉPHONE 1192

Compte Chèques Postaux 9885

VERVIERS, LE 2nd. May 1922

61, Rue aux Laines

Mr. Lee M. F O R D

Great Falls

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favour dated March 24. with a cheque for Frs. 890.75, in full settlement of your account, for which I am much obliged and beg to thank you most sincerely.

I am really delighted to hear that you are so pleased with the last birds sent. I was almost certain you would, but of course opinions may differ and although I knew it was the very type, and grand birds too, your likings might have been different to mine.

With regards to the hen, we may indeed settle that later on, when you like.

As for Plasschaert clocks, I am sorry I have been unable to get any, as the patent has been sold to a German concern, which in turn has heavy commitments with Holland, and can hardly cope with the demand of their Dutch customers. This is all owing to the rate of exchange which enables the Dutch to pay better prices in German money than most other countries on this continent. They get so many marks for their money nowadays.

However I have not given it up yet, and shall try again as soon as possible through my pre-war German friends, if I can get in touch with them again. As you may well imagine, I have "forgotten" them all ever since the war. They were part and parcel of Germany, and I had nothing whatever to do with them any longer. May be that they may now resent my long silence, but however I shall try and see.

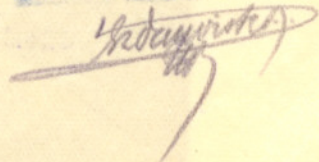
We have had our first race yesterday, and I scored 8 prizes, my first bird coming 21st. on the list. My misfortune was that I did not expect the bird so early in the morning, as we had had no wire about their release, owing to the first of May festivities. Five birds came unexpectedly, and certainly they would have scored the first five prizes on the list, had I been ready to catch them at once. When they fell, the lofts were shut up, and they went away flying again for a good two minutes.

Bad luck for the first race, but one shall try to do better next Sunday.

Wishing you the very best of luck for the season, and the championship in your district, and with kindest regards, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,

R. GURNAY





**R. GURNAY**

FOURNITURES POUR TAILLEURS

VERVIERS

TÉLÉPHONE 1192

Compte Chèques Postaux 9885

VERVIERS, LE 12th. July 1922

6r, Rue aux Laines

My dear Mr. Ford,

I am rather surprised not to have heard anything from you for quite a long time.

I am wondering how your birds have behaved themselves this season, also what the pigeons which I have sent you last time have produced.

For your guidance, one of them, the Tache, with a bronze hen, sister of my Favourite, (1st. prize Angoulême 1920), gave me last year three bronze cocks which have done wonderfully well this season.

One of the three has won me above Frs. 30000.

That pair which you now have is exceptionnally good, and you must take care of them, they are second to none as breeders.

As soon as the season is over, I shall let you have the results of all races to which I sent birds, and you will realize once more that I have the Champion again. In fact, I don't think I ever did any better, and they have won me quite a small fortune.

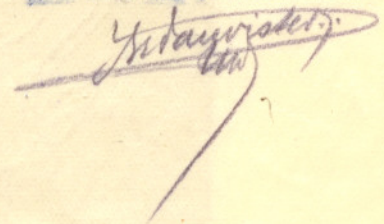
I have been doing so well that the Committee of my own Club requested me, at one time, to send my best birds to races organised by other clubs, as there was nothing doing against me, and many members would resign and join other clubs if I were to carry on as I had done up to then.

My friend Shaw has beaten all previous records in Lancashire too, and I should be very much surprised if you also had not done exceedingly well.

I should be immensely pleased to hear about your achievements, and trust that you will drop me a line as soon as possible.

Wishing you the best of luck for the young birds races, and with kindest regards, I remain, dear Mr. Ford.

Yours most sincerely,

**FOR R. GURNAY**




**R. GURNAY**

FOURNITURES POUR TAILLEURS

VERVIERS

TÉLÉPHONE 1192

Compte Chèques Postaux 9885

VERVIERS, LE 17th. October 1922

61, Rue aux Laines

Mr. Lee M. F O R D ,

Great Falls

Dear Mr. Ford,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your most welcome letter, and I was very sorry to hear about your accident.

I trust that it is all over by now, and that this will go and find you quite well again, which is my sincerest wish.

I was also delighted, though not surprised, at the news of your magnificent results with pigeon-racing, and to hear that, on the whole, you were pleased with the results obtained with my strain.

About the offspring of LA Tache with hen 54805, if I were you I should not get rid of those big youngsters, at least without having given them a change of showing what they are capable of. I myself have already been surprised at what they could do, however large they were and not to much to my liking by their appearance.

In 1911, for one single instance, I obtained results with my cock called the Gros, which name he got because of his abnormal size, which have never been equalled up to now by anybody in this country.

Just as it happens with you, I did not like that bird as a youngster because he was too big, and I had been ready to kill him. However I chanced it at the training tosses. From 20, 40 and 80 miles, he used to come back one hour, or even two, after the other birds. From Noyon, 145 miles, he homed one day after the others.

I don't really know how it happened that, one month after that toss, I sent him to a 280 miles race, and with strong tail-wind he came back and won first prize.

A fortnight later, Limoges, 385 miles, strong head wind, first prize again, then 1st. prize again, another fortnight afterwards from 465 miles and again three weeks after 1st prize from Chateauroux, 345 miles.

It does not follow, of course, that yours will prove good birds, but all the same, I should try them before killing them.

On the other hand, their mother is a good breeder, being herself the mother of Noyon, and as for the Tache, he is also an extra breeder; thus their offspring should be rather on the safe side.

As I told you, last year the Tache was mated to hen 26191, and they gave me three young bronze cocks, unbeatable. Hen 26191 is a daughter of Bon bleu, sister of the famous Angoulême 1920.

That pair is priceless for breeding purposes, and were they in our neighbourhood, they would have to be mine, whatever be their price.

I should thus suggest you to pair them together next season, Tache and hen 26191.

Bon bleu, the hen's father, was sold last year to Mr. Shaw for 5000 francs, on the understanding that he would let me have a pair of his youngsters this year. At the time of sale, Bon bleu was 9 years old.

For other birds, this is what I should like you to have, as I know



R. GURNAY

(Suite)

that they could be in no better hands than yours:

Cock called my small Vierzon, first prize National race Vierzon, from Brussels, in 1920, Ring 40779-19- very broad-chested and very short bird.

Son of my Fred, extra racer and breeder.

and his hen, 40732-19, a beautiful hen in every respect.

The above pair gave me in 1920 a blue hen ring II58500. which last year went through a wonderful racing season winning eight prizes, and this year 9 prizes, 1st. from Dourdan, 225 miles,; 1st. from Orléans 270 miles and second prize from Limoges 385 miles, at the grand national race from Liège, subscription race. He won the famous Cup offered by the Gazette de Liège for the best result with two birds. As good might perhaps be found, but I don't think that any better exists.

The prize of the above pair, 40779-19 and 40732-19 would be 350 dollars for you.

As youngsters, I could let you have a bronze cock ring 2516029-22 off my Angoulême 1914, same kind of bird as the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Noyon which you have. I think that this cock could successfully be mated to your hen 54805.

Also a splendid young hen, blue, ring 302738-22, daughter of my Cigarette, himself brother of my Favourite.

At all events, I should like you to mate Tache with hen 26191 next year, and afterwards you could mate him with this young hen which I offer you, 302738.

The prize for these two youngsters would be 200 dollars.

I have written yesterday to Mr. Gibson as suggested, as I had not heard from him for quite a long time.

Another pair which I could let you have also for 350 dollars is:

Bronze cock 9590-19, called Derby, which has won all the prizes at all exhibitions where he has competed, being beaten for the Excellency prize by his own father, which is called my Excellence. He has not been racing this year, as I had kept him for breeding, but in 1921 and 1920 he won me some ten prizes.

It is a perfect type of long distance flyer.

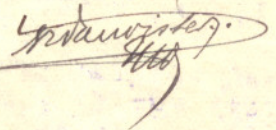
His hen is a bronze one, daughter of my Favourite, ring 418373-21.

This pair is also an extra one, which I can quite safely recommend.

Hoping to hear from you soon, and with all good wishes for your recovery, and also for a yet more successful season next year, believe me, dear Mr. Ford,

Yours most sincerely,

ROUR R. GURNAY



5x205-19



## R. GURNAY

FOURNITURES POUR TAILLEURS

VERVIERS

TÉLÉPHONE 1192

Compte Chèques Postaux 9885

VERVIERS, LE 21st. December 1922

6r, Rue aux Laines

Dear Mr. Ford,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed letters dated 29th. ult. and 1st. inst. the latter containing a cheque for 150 dollars for which I am much obliged.

I am unable to ship the birds before the 9th. prox. for the shipping Company have just informed me that their first sailing to Boston was scheduled for the above date.

I first of all must point out to you a mistake which you make when you say that Mr. Shaw advertises my Angoulême as being his since last year.

As a matter of fact, he bought off me last year two birds, the Vierzon and the Angoulême, who are brothers, but both these birds were born in 1912

Their ring-bands are 218 and 224-1912, and they got the name they bear because one had won the 1st. prize at Vierzon and the other the first prize at Angoulême in 1914.

But at the present time, my Favourite has also taken the name Angoulême because he won the 1st. prize at the National race Angoulême in 1920, as you know, and his ring band is 26162/18.

As for Vierzon, which I am sending on to you, his ring is 40779/19. I enclose herein the prize-list, so as to show you that it all is correct, and would be much obliged if you would kindly send same back after perusal.

At that race, I won some 40000 francs including the winnings at the doublages.

You may thus realize how I am serving you, and with such proofs, I suppose you may have full confidence in what I mean to do for you. It is a sin, really, to sell such birds, but I have taken it to my heart that you should become the Champion in your district, and possibly even in your Country.

I shall not send you the young bronze cock 2516029/22, for while flying that bird went into the telegraph wires and dropped into a neighbouring garden, whence it was brought back severely damaged. I shall send you something of my own selection, for your crossings, and you will surely be pleased with my choice.

For your guidance, the Vierzon is not only an excellent racer, but a good breeder too, his son has won this season the Liège Cup at the Limoges race, about 385 miles.

At the time of shipping the birds, I shall give you my ideas about your matings with the birds which you already have.

Re settlement of account, I leave it with you to appreciate whether the price of 550 dollars for the two pairs is too high; when you will have seen the birds you will settle that account, less the 150 dollars which I already have received on account.

Kindly send your cheque direct on to me, and I shall settle matters myself with Mr. Gibson. As for the expenses, Mr. Gibson will tell you how much your share of same amounts to, and you will kindly settle that item with him, as I shall forward your birds to him along with some for himself.

I have sent you yesterday a Liège newspaper relating the successes won at a show, against hot competition, by my friend Mr. Body who has nothing but Gurnays. You will see that my strain is good not only in the races but



R. GURNAY

(Suite)

Mr. L.M.F.

just as much in the show-pens, and that they come at the top of the list.

Mr. Body is a friend of mine, and came along with me as a judge in England in November 1921 for the Leeds show.

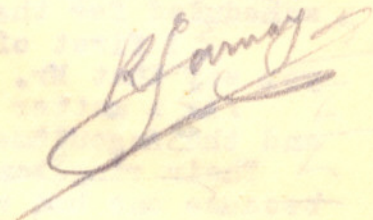
Being myself hors-concours here, I no longer can exhibit my birds myself.

I am really anxious to hear that you have got the birds which I shall send you next month, and to know your appreciation about same. I am confident that you will agree with me that the price asked for is very low indeed for such birds.

Herein enclosed my old letter with its translation.

With kindest regards, and the very best wishes for a happy and prosperous New-Year, believe me, dear Mr. Ford,

Ever yours very sincerely,





# Sport Colombophile

VERVIÉTOIS



Verviers, le ..... 192

1922

Pris remportés par Monsieur R. Gurnay  
aux concours organisés par le "Sport Colom-  
bophile Verviétois.

Avril 30	Noyon	22; 40; 48; 70. 84. 87. 99. 111. =
Mai 7	S. Denis	1; 35; 48. =
" 14	Noyon	2; 3; 4; 6; 10, 12, 20, 21, 25, 29, 31. =
" 21	Verviers	4; 14; 23; 25; 35, 36, 78, 80, 93, 118, 133
" 28	Arternay	1; 10;
Jun 4	Verviers	12; 13; 15, 17, 35, 73,
" 11	Fontainebleau	1; 2; 62, 63,
" 18	Courcy	16;
Juillet 2	Noyon	31; 123;
" 9	Bretigny	45;
Federation Verviers		
Mai 14	Orléans	15; 17; 42; 45; 56;
" 28	Corbeil	69; 179;
Jun 4	Salbris	10; 20;
" 18	Corbeil	8; 22; 24; 156;
" 25	Dourdan	1; 3; 57; 62; =
Federation de Dison		
	Orléans	1; 34;
Concours Provinciaux de l'Union		
	Orléans	8; 9; 37; 40; 57; 87;
	Chateaudun	6; 13; 15; 41; 46; 62;
	La Couronne	3;
	Cinoyes	3; 60;

Orléans, Coll. 74  
" Exp. 24

A. s. v. p.



Pigeonneaux

Spit Colombophile  
VERVIËTOIS

- 3 Clout Noyon 57, 24, 113, 119, 140, 156, 186, 257, 260, 271  
 10 " Compiègne 31, 93, 95, 118, 132.

Il m'a été impossible de retrouver le palmarès  
 du concours de Chateauroux, ~~ainsi que de Cha-~~  
~~teauvieux~~

à Liège

28

- 1094 ~~annulé~~  
 9 Julien Jumeau Hamouille 66 — 103 francs  
 23 " Berdram 76 — 230 francs  
 16 " Luvoyes 84 — 1<sup>er</sup> pour la série  
 16 " Den 221 — 218. Mammelle  
 28 Henri Hleum 11. 24-39-90 — 2600  
 Tuzon Jumeau 1<sup>er</sup> prix