From the *Atlas de l’Europe* by Philippe Vandermaelen (1828–1833) to the Weiss Map by Thomas Best Jervis (1854). The Role of the Établissement géographique de Bruxelles in the Map Production of European Turkey¹

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**Abstract:** This paper discusses the role of Philippe Vandermaelen (1795-1869) and his *Établissement géographique de Bruxelles* in the mapping of Turkey in Europe in the 19th century. After a short presentation of the Brussels Institute up to the 1850s, and of its connection with the family of Thomas Best Jervis (1797-1857), first director of the British Topographical and Statistical Department, the paper first addresses the context of the publication of the *Atlas de l’Europe* by the Belgian cartographer, in particular its first instalment dedicated to European Turkey (1829), and offers an overview of later publications on the subject. After this it focuses on Franz von Weiss’s map of the area (1829-1830), Jervis’s reproduction of the Weiss map (1854), and Vandermaelen’s role in the latter’s production.

**Keywords:** Philippe Vandermaelen, Thomas Best Jervis, Franz von Weiss, Crimean War, European Turkey, History of cartography

Vandermaelen’s *Établissement géographique de Bruxelles and the Jervis family*

In the first half of 1830, only months before the revolution which would lead to the creation of Belgium, Philippe Vandermaelen (1795-1869), autodidact geographer, founded his *Établissement géographique de Bruxelles* (Silvestre 2016). By then the Brussels trader in dyes, herbs and colours was already well introduced to the scientific milieus in Belgium and abroad, basically thanks to one major cartographic enterprise. From 1825 to 1827 he had published his *Atlas universel de la Géographie physique, politique, statistique et minéralogique de toutes les parties du monde*. In two years and three months no less than 400 sheets in 40 instalments came off the lithographic presses in rue du Boulet where Vandermaelen had installed his printing business. All sheets had the same scale, and could be assembled so as to form one gigantic globe of 7,75 m diameter. This publication was eagerly followed and commented on by the major scientists of the time; from the start the criticisms were fairly positive and they remained so. In 1825, on Conrad Malte-Brun’s proposal, Vandermaelen and his lithographer Hippolyte Ode were elected member of the young *Société de géographie* in Paris. Malte-Brun (1775-1826) was the Society’s first general secretary and himself the author of a *Précis de géographie universelle ou Description de toutes les parties du monde* in 7 volumes (1810-1829). Vandermaelen’s *Atlas* was not only a scientific but also a commercial success. Less than two years after the publication of the last instalment, over 800 copies were sold all over Europe.

About a decennium later the United States discovered the Atlas. After this first success, and in response to some criticisms arguing the scale he had used for his *Atlas universel* was too small to represent all geographical information known about Europe, he decided to publish a second atlas, on a larger scale and limited to the Old Continent (Silvestre 2016, p. 54-58). The printing of the 165 sheets for this second atlas, together with other cartographic projects, asked for more space than the property in rue du Boulet could offer and Vandermaelen looked for a new location for his presses. By the end of 1829 the decision to build a whole new institute on the outskirts of Brussels, in Sint-Joost ten Node, had taken form. Eventually, when the *Établissement* opened its doors in 1830, it comprised, besides the printing atelier and engraving shop, an ethnographic museum, a school, a library and a reading room, a national history gallery, a documentation centre and a botanic garden. The Institute quickly became the nerve centre of an international network for the study of geography in its largest sense. For Vandermaelen, following the example of Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859), considered geography to be the mother of all natural sciences, and cartography was but one expression of it (Silvestre 2016, p. 410-412). The Établissement, open to all interested in the progress of natural sciences, became an obligatory stop for the intellectual elite of the time. Visitors left their signature in the Institute’s visitors’ book. Some of them did even more; they donated all kinds of objects to the Institute. From 1839 onwards all donations, from visitors, but also from

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colleagues, friends and scholars, were inventoried in a manuscript register kept by Vandermaelen’s son Joseph: [Joseph Vandermaelen], Catalogue de l’ethnographie commencé en juillet 1839, [1839-1889] (Collection Gilbert de Cauwer). The visitors’ book and the catalogue are part of the rare sources which remain from the Institute’s archives. To these privately kept sources we can add the so-called mappothèque, i.e. the Institute’s collection of cartographic sources Vandermaelen used to make his maps, and the impressive card index, both in large part preserved in the Map Room of the Royal Library of Belgium. They shed light on the Institute’s central position in scientific and, more generally, intellectual life in the 19th century. Unfortunately, hardly anything has been preserved of Vandermaelen’s correspondence, which must have been enormous, as it formed the solid base of his international network (Meisser 1831). Only five years after its creation the administrative almanac of Brussels describes Vandermaelen’s Institute as follows:

L’établissement Géographique de Bruxelles, fondé en 1830 par Ph. Vandermaelen, a rassemblé, à l’aide d’une correspondance ramifiée sur tous les points du globe, une foule de matériaux qui représentent ce que les hommes les plus instruits ont fait jusqu’ici d’inédit pour les sciences, l’industrie, le commerce, etc. : en un mot la prospérité publique qui ne vit que de faits bien constatés et d’expériences irréfragables. La propagation de ces vérités utiles, tel est le but unique de l’établissement géographique de Bruxelles.

(Almanach administratif 1835, p. 153)

By 1835 Vandermaelen had definitely abandoned all his other professional activities to focus himself entirely on the Institute’s mission. The following decade his cartographic production concentrated on the mapping of Belgium. In 1851 he presented one of his major achievements, the topographical map of Belgium on a scale of 1 to 80,000, at the World exposition of London, the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations at Hyde Park.

In the second half of the 1850s the Jervis family visited the Institute and remained in contact with its director afterwards. In the Institute’s archives we find the visiting cards of Thomas Best Jervis, his wife Anne Paget, and both their children, Annie and William. The children also made donations to the ethnographic museum. Some of the donated objects related to the Crimean War (1853-1856). All members of the family shared a common interest in natural sciences and have each in their own way contributed to their development. Thomas Best Jervis came from a family of engineers who served in the Indies. His military career was dedicated to the survey of the Bombay presidency. Retired in 1841 he mounted his own lithographic press in London and from 1846 onwards lobbied with the British government for the creation of a map depot after the French example. But it was the Crimean War that would mark a turning point in his endeavours to establish such a depot (Bracke 2021). During a visit to Belgium in 1854, he came across two maps he found to be very useful for the military campaign in the Crimea: a Russian map of the Crimean peninsula by General Mukhin (1817) and an Austrian map of Turkey in Greece by Franz von Weiss (1829-1831). For the Secretary of State for War he made at his own expenses an English version in colour lithography of the first map and an anastatic print of the second. Their production was decisive in convincing the government of the necessity of creating a map department within the War Office and in 1855 Jervis was appointed director of the newly founded Topographical and Statistical Department. As for Vandermaelen, Jervis attributed to the study of geography a large, humanitarian, scope. His wife, Anne Sarah Paget (1801-1886), was a gifted water colour painter and several botanical pictures from her hand are recorded as having been sent by her daughter in the early 20th century to different botanical societies, amongst which The Torrey Botanical Society and The Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh (Berry 1905, p. 14 ; Noltie 2016). At the age of 21, Annie Eliza Scott Jervis (1834-1915) translated Layard’s narrative of the first Crimean campaign : Austen Henry Layard, La première campagne de Crimée (Bruxelles 1855) into French. In the preface to her book on the early death of her son she writes she inherited from her mother ‘a great love of natural scenery and of art’ (Jervis 1882); she is mentioned in The Naturalists’ Directory of 1892, p. 109, as is her brother William. William was a graduate from the Royal School of Mines in London ; in 1862 he became Director of the Royal Industrial Museum of Torino. He is mentioned on his father’s map of the Crimea of 1854 for his contribution to the geological map of the area which was published as an inset on the map. In 1857, after Thomas Best’s demise, the family moved to Brussels for some time where William continued his geological studies. At the Établissement he classified a collection of animal fossils (Silvestre 2016, p. 310).

Thomas Best Jervis’s short-lived career as director of the Topographical and Statistical Department, from 1855 to 1857, is intimately related to the Crimean War. Most of his maps can be traced to Vandermaelen’s mappothèque, where some have received the vignette ‘Jervis’ (inv. nos. Royal Library of Belgium (henceforward KBR) III 9.635-9.636, 12.689, 12.719, 14.053, 14.261, 14.600, 14.792). Vandermaelen even used one of Jervis’s facsimile (KBR, III 12.689) for his own Copie des deux cartes annexes au protocole du 6 janvier 1857 indiquant la future frontière de la Russie, des principautés et de la Turquie (KBR, III 14.235) (Fig. 1).

Vandermaelen’s Atlas de l’Europe

Like his Atlas universel, Vandermaelen published the Atlas of Europe by instalments and the first of these contained a map of South-East Europe, that is Turkey in
Europe. It bears the date of 1829 but was already finished by the end of 1828 (Silvestre 2012). The choice of opening the series of maps for his Atlas with a map of European Turkey was determined by the ongoing Russo-Turkish War (1828-1829), as is evidenced in a first prospectus, published the same year (Bracke 2021). That war found its origin in the Greek War of Independence which had started in 1821. In April and May 1828 the Russian army had occupied the Romanian Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia and in June of the same year it had advanced in the Dobruja region. On 29 September it captured the Bulgarian city of Varna, while the sieges of two other cities, Shumla and Silistra, were unsuccessful. Through the publication of his map Vandermaelen wanted to offer the public the possibility of following the march of the armies, in particular of visualising mountain passages in the Balkan and other mountains (Atlas de l’Europe 1828, p. 2). The map’s main source was the 1822 map of European Turkey by Pierre Lapie (1777-1850) : Carte générale de la Turquie d’Europe en XV feuilles dressée sur les matériaux recueillis par Mr le lieutenant-général comte Guilleminot directeur général du Dépôt de la Guerre et Mr le maréchal de camp baron de Tromelin inspecteur général d’Infanterie : par le chev. Lapie officier sup. au Corps royal des ingén. géographes : gravé par Flahaut et sous sa direction Place de l’Estrapade, N°14 : la topographie gravée par Leroux, Paris : chez Ch. Picquet géographe ordinaire du Roi, Quai Conti N°17, 1822. Other sources were the works of François Pouqueville (1770-1838), in particular his Voyage de la Grèce (1820-1822 ; II ed. 1826-1827), already used by Lapie, and Malte-Brun’s Précis de la Géographie universelle. Vandermaelen’s copy of Lapie’s map is now kept in the Map room of the Royal Library of Belgium (inv. no. III 12 872). It still shows the grid, in pencil, used for copying the map. A trace of Vandermaelen’s attentive reading of his sources can be found on Lapie’s sheet 7 where a red note relative to the Benta river (today Bence in Albania) refers to “Pouqueville Tome I p. 289”, i.e. the second edition of Pouqueville’s Voyage de la Grèce (Fig. 2). Apparently, this particular reading had no incidence on the production of sheet 95 of Vandermaelen’s Atlas. Lapie’s sources are mainly French. Armand Charles Guilleminot (1774-1840), in the 1820s director general of the Dépôt de la Guerre, had served as a topographical engineer in the Ulm and Austerlitz Campaign (1805) and had been member of the General Staff during the Russian Campaign (1812) (Six 1934, I, pp. 544-545). He was ambassador to the Sublime Porte in Constantinople from 1824 to 1831 and as such was one of the signatories of the Protocol of the Conference of Poros relative to the insular and continental boundaries of Greece (12 December 1828) (Hertslet 1875, no. 141). General Jacques Jean-Marie François Boudin de Tromelin (1771-1842) (Six 1934, II, pp. 513-514) is the author of Observations sur les routes qui conduisent du Danube à Constantinople à travers le Balcan ou mont Hoemus, suivies de quelques réflexions sur la nécessité de l’intervention des puissances du midi de l’Europe dans les affaires de la Grèce, Paris, Pélicier et Chatet, 1828. On the volume’s back cover publicity is made for the maps of Greece and Turkey in Europe by Lapie as ‘the only maps that will allow to follow the war’s events in a satisfactory way’. Besides the names of Guilleminot, de Tromelin, and Pouqueville, other sources are mentioned for Lapie’s maps, in particular the itineraries by the Duke of Ragusa, generals Axo (!), Andreossi (!) and Foy, and colonels Fabvier, Boutin and Trézel, as well as the journeys of Dodwell and Gell.

Figure 1. Vandermaelen’s Copie des deux cartes annexes au protocole du 6 janvier 1857 (KBR, III 14.235) and one of its models by T.B. Jervis (KBR, III 12.689)
Auguste de Marmont, Duke of Ragusa (1774-1852) was ambassador to tsar Nicholas I in 1826 (Six 1934, II, pp. 158-159). Charles Fabvier (1782-1855) had served under Marmont and took an active part in the Greek War of Independence. With Camille Trézel (1780-1816) he participated in the Morea expedition in 1828 (Debidour 1904). Vincent-Yves Boutin (1772-1815) had been in Constantinople in 1806 where he was in charge of the palace’s defences. The latter would be improved a year later by François Nicolas Haxo (1774-1838), military engineer and General Inspector of frontier fortifications (Six 1934, I, pp. 565-566). In 1807 Maximilien Foy (1775-1825) was also in Constantinople to teach European tactics to the Turks; he had served under Marmont (Six 1934, I, pp. 463-464). Antoine-François Andréossy (1761-1828) had been ambassador to the Porte from 1812 to 1814 where he collected material from hydrographic and hydrostatic measurements (Six 1934, I, pp. 15-16). He is the author of two hydrographical studies related to the Black Sea and the Bosphorus, *Voyage à l’embouchure de la Mer-Noire, ou Essai sur le Bosphore et la partie du Delta de Thrace comprenant le système des eaux qui abreuvent Constantinople; précédé de considérations générales sur la géographie-physique; avec un atlas composé d’une carte nouvelle du Bosphore et du canal de la Mer-Noire, et de plusieurs autres nouveaux dessins*, A Paris, chez Planche, 1818, and *Constantinople et le Bosphore de Thrace, pendant les années 1812, 1813 et 1814, et pendant l’année 1826, avec un Atlas*, Paris, Théophile Barrois et Benjamin Duprat 1828. There is a map of the Bosphorus made under his direction: *Carte topographique du Bosphore de Thrace et des environs de Constantinople levée par MM. Thomassin et Vincent Capitaines du génie et de Moreton-Chabrillant Capitaine de l’Artillerie. Sous la direction de Mr le Lieutenant Général Comte Andréossy, pendant son ambassade près la Sublime Porte en 1812, 1813 et 1814*, Paris, Chez Picquet, 1828 (Bibliothèque nationale de France (henceforward BnF), GE C-9087). The archaeologist and writer Edward Dodwell (1767-1832) had travelled in Greece from 1801 to 1806 of which he published an account in 1819 under the title *A Classical and Topographical Tour through Greece, during the years 1801, 1805, and 1806*, London, Rodwell and Martin, 1819.
His fellow traveller in 1801, the archaeologist, topographer and cartographer William Gell (1777-1836) travelled through Greece, in particular Argolis, and Asia Minor in the footsteps of Pausanias, from 1804 to 1806, and again in 1811. These travels formed the basis for his Itinerary of Greece, with a Commentary on Pausanias and Strabo and an account of the Monuments of Antiquity at present existing in that country, compiled in the years 1801, 2, 5, 6 etc., London, 1810 and Itinerary of the Morea being a description of the routes of that peninsula (London, Rodwell and Martin, 1817) (Speake 2003, p. 511). The latter was translated into French by aforementioned de Tromelin in 1828 (Paris, Anselin).

In 1826 Lapie edited the same map but on a scale of 1 to 400,000: *Carte physique, historique et routière de la Grèce dressée... d'après les matériaux recueillis par Mr le Lieut.-Général Comte Guilleminot Ambassadeur à Constantinople et Mr le Lieut.-Général Comte de Tromelin, Inspecteur Général d'infanterie ainsi que d'après les voyages, mémoires et itinéraires de MM. Pouqueville, Gell, Dodwell et appuyée sur les observations astronomiques et les relevés de MM. les Capitaines de Vaisseau Gauttier et Smith, Paris, Charles Picquet, 1826. Although on a larger scale, Lapie’s sources remain the same, except for Gauttier and Smyth. In 1819-1820 Pierre-Henri Gauttier-Duparc (1772-1850) made a triangulation based on astronomical measurements from the principal summits of the isles of the Aegean archipelago (*Connaissances 1828, p. 91*) (Taillemite 2002, pp. 206-207). In 1827 two maps of the archipelago were published on the basis of these observations (now in the Archives et bibliothèques Pau Béarn Pyrénées). He is also the author of maps of the Black Sea in the early 1820s (also in the Archives et bibliothèques Pau Béarn Pyrénées). In the 1810s William Henry Smyth (1788-1865) had been responsible for hydrographic surveys in the Mediterranean, in particular of the Adriatic Sea (Slukan Alić 2015). These measurements might explain the differences between Lapie’s maps in the representation of the coastline observed by Livieratos and his collaborators (Ploutoglou, Boutoura, Livieratos, Pazarli 2011). In 1829, when at the request of the Dépôt de la Guerre topographic studies of the Morea were organized under the direction of Trézel, the latter instructed that the geodesy could rely on the work by Gauttier and Smyth (Berthaut 1902, II, p. 466).

Some of Lapie’s sources were available on the market, but others must have been military memoirs and reports that had remained in manuscript form, like Gauttier’s *Liste de quelques points déterminés en 1820 dans la mer Noire* (BnF, GE DD-3400 (2,9)). Lapie as a colonel in the French army, working in the corps of topographical engineers, had privileged access to these sources. Furthermore, Charles Picquet (1771-1827), the printer of Lapie’s maps, was *géographe ordinaire* of Napoleon, Louis XVIII and Charles X, engraver, editor and map dealer, who, since 1798, had been official supplier of the Dépôt de la Guerre (Berthaut 1902, I, p. 158 and passim). He was also a member of the Société géographique de Paris, as was Vandermaelen. Vandermaelen’s choice for a map by Lapie must have come quite naturally.

The year in which Vandermaelen’s map of Turkey in Europe was diffused, the Austrian General Staff started the publication of a similar map, the *Carte der Europäischen Turkey nebst einem Theile von Kleinasien* by Oberstleutnant Franz von Weiss (1791-1858) in 21 sheets, on a scale of 1 to 576,000. It is an enhanced and updated version of another map of the area by the same Weiss of 1821, in 17 sheets and bearing the title *Geografische Karte des Osmanischen Reiches*. It is known from a single manuscript copy in the Kriegsarchiv in Vienna (Ploutoglou, Boutoura, Livieratos, Pazarli 2011).

If we may believe Jervis in his introduction to his reproduction of the Weiss map of 1854, Weiss based his map on preparatory work by Russian and Austrian officers from the time of the Austrian field marshal Charles Philip, Prince of Schwarzenberg (1771-1820). The latter had been commander of the Austrian auxiliary troops in Napoleon’s Russian Campaign of 1812 and according to Jervis had urged the Austrian government to complete the cartographic material assembled by the Russians regarding the Ottoman Empire in Europe which was then still in manuscript form. Jervis considers three Russian maps in particular, whose printed version was published in the first half of the century : the first of these, published only in 1833, was the administrative map of Moldavia on scale 1 to 420,000 by Count Pavel Dmitrievich Kiselev (1788-1872), commander in chief of the Russian troops invading Wallachia and Moldavia in 1828 and from 1829 to 1834 governor of these principalities. Jervis published a facsimile of the map in 1855 (National Library of Australia, MAP RM 357). The two other maps that according to Jervis served as sources to von Weiss, are older : the map of Bessarabia, Moldavia, Wallachia and the Territories adjacent composed at the Military Topographical Depot, Saint-Petersburg, 1817-1820 (KBR, III 14.796), and the Special Topographical Map of the Russian Empire in Europe, printed under the direction of General F.F. Shubert (1789-1865) in 1826-1840 (KBR, III 14.846). All these maps only concern the northern part of the Weiss map. The sources concerning the southern part of the map are not addressed by Jervis. These regions were of course of less importance in the ongoing war of the 1850s, which concerned, besides the Crimean peninsula, the north-western part of the Black Sea region, i.e. the Danube principalities. Livieratos and his collaborators have studied the map’s southern part in relation to the history of Greek independence. They have shown its similarity with the map published by Pierre Lapie in 1826, although the Weiss map gives more detailed military information relative to the coastline (bathymetry) and terrain reconnaissance (Ploutoglou, Boutoura, Livieratos, Pazarli 2011).
The Weiss map was published from 1829 to 1830 in three instalments that largely follow the ongoing War’s sequence: the first series includes the principalities of Moldavia and Walachia, as well as the Dobruja region; the second series relates to the area that would remain Turkish, including the several options for Greece’s new northern frontier, the line going from the Gulf of Arta to the Gulf of Volos, the one based on the Isthmus of Corinth, or yet the line going from Delvino (Delvine in today Albania) to Lamia (Zeitoun on the Weiss map). On sheet 14, which represents the area between Larissa and Lamia, the first letters of the name Griechenland are printed. The last series basically shows Asia Minor and the Peloponnesus with the islands in the Aegean Sea.

Vandermaelen was in possession of the Weiss map by 1835 at the latest (Drapiez 1835, p. 13). Still he doesn’t seem to have used it for his own production.

In 1840 he published a small-scale map of Turkey in Europe and Asia with the title Carte physique et politique de la Turquie d’Europe et d’Asie comprenant la Syrie, une partie d’Egypte etc. a d’après Lapie, Brû et les derniers documents. The publication by Vandermaelen must be seen in the framework of the second Egyptian-Ottoman War (1839-1841) and the control over Syria. The Egyptian occupation of Syria was a threat to Constantinople and the political equilibrium in the Eastern Mediterranean. Britain, Austria and Russia supported the Ottoman Empire against Egypt, France and Spain.

In 1822 Adrien-Hubert Brûé (1786-1832), mentioned by Vandermaelen in his map’s title, had published a map of the region: Carte générale de l'Asie-Mineure, de l'Arménie, de la Syrie, de la Mésopotamie, du Caucase &c. par A.H. Brûé, Géographe de S.A.R. Monsieur. A Paris, Chez l’Auteur, rue des Macons-Sorbonne, no. 9, et chez les principaux marchands de géographie (scale 1 to 1,540,000), pl. 6 of his Atlas universel de géographie physique, politique, ancienne & moderne. Contenant les cartes générales et particulières de toutes les parties du monde (Paris, 1822), and pl. 7 in the second enlarged edition of that atlas published by Charles Piquet in 1835. Vandermaelen most probably refers to this map which he may have used for the Asian part, while for the Greek part...
and Turkey in Europe he probably relied on Lapie’s maps (Fig. 3AB).

After finishing his *Atlas de l’Europe* (1833), Vandermaelen’s cartographic projects basically focused on maps of Belgium. But Vandermaelen remained interested in the cartographic output of other countries and continued to enrich his *mappothèque* as well as his library. He even occasionally produced maps of other countries. On the basis of what is preserved of his production, it seems that he did so because of commercial and didactic, rather than scientific reasons. Indeed, as the map of Turkey of 1840 already well illustrates, he published maps in response to the public’s request or need for information related to ongoing wars. Elsewhere, I have mentioned maps he published at the beginning of the Crimean war (Bracke 2021); to these maps others can be added related to the Siege of Sevastopol (KBR, III 14.241, 14.245) or the frontiers of the Danube principalities (KBR, III 12.681, 14.236). In 1859-60 in the framework of the Second Italian War of Independence, which was directed against the Austrian occupying forces, he published maps of Italy, indicating its different states (KBR, III 9.869, 10.310).

All through his career as publisher of cartographic material Vandermaelen remained very responsive to contemporary events, in Belgium and abroad, and was able to react quickly to the market’s demand thanks to the use of lithography (Silvestre 2016, pp. 108-109). Also, he could fall back on his collection of lithographic stones to compose new maps for the occasion. For instance, his undated map of Moldavia is a composition of his stones for sheets 68 and 69 of his *Atlas de l’Europe* (Fig. 4). In 1832 he republished the four sheets of the same atlas concerning Greece adding a title and a date, an index sheet, the map’s legend and scales on sheet 3, which corresponds to sheet 99 of the *Atlas de l’Europe* (KBR, III 9.230).

Let us now go back to the early years of the 1850s and the relationship between Vandermaelen and Thomas Best Jervis. I have argued elsewhere that in 1854, when Jervis came to Belgium, he must have visited Vandermaelen’s *Établissement* and discovered the Russian map of the Crimea by Muhkin and the Austrian map of Turkey in Europe by von Weiss there (Bracke 2021). At the time Vandermaelen was surely very interested in the Crimea as his own map production abundantly illustrates. He was...
less so in Greece. Internationally, that country was not a hot topic at the time, and as far as the country’s mapping was concerned, Lapie’s maps, very similar to the Weiss map for that part, were excellent. The Weiss map was different though in its use of Russian sources for the representation of the Danubian principalities. And that was precisely what interested Jervis. Vandermaelen, just like he had helped the Russians some decades before in their mapping of the Muhu archipelago, contributed in the reproduction of the Weiss map by Jervis (Silvestre 2007). He not only gave him the map from his mappothèque, he also had the technical know-how to copy the map. Moreover, from the late 1830s scientists and officials from abroad had come to the Établissement to have their own maps engraved and printed by Vandermaelen (Silvestre 2016, pp. 183-186).

Copies of both maps by Jervis, of the Crimea as well as of Turkey in Greece, now in the Map Room of the Royal Library of Belgium, are proof of Vandermaelen’s implication in their production (Fig. 5). Vandermaelen owned an early state of Jervis’s 1854 map of the Crimea, which hasn’t been recorded elsewhere so far (Bracke 2021). It has annotations in French, basically toponyms on the west coast of the Crimea related to the preparation of the Siege of Sevastopol. Some of these toponyms we find in the map’s 1855 edition by Jervis (Fig. 6).

The Royal Library holds Jervis’s dedication sheet of his anastatic print of the Weiss map, bearing Vandermaelen’s vignette, with a blank verso (KBR, III 14.487) and a second copy of the same sheet with the original title page, in German, of the Weiss map as its verso (KBR, III 12.877; Fig. 7). All copies of the Weiss map in the Royal Library - original or facsimile is difficult to tell - unlike other recorded copies, are not pasted on cloth. All this points to a work in progress, of which Vandermaelen must have been at least a privileged observer.

Figure 4. Vandermaelen’s map of Moldavia (KBR, III 9711) composed with lithographic stones of sheets 68 and 69 of his Atlas de l’Europe (see detail for traces of the join)
Figure 5A. Jervis’s 1854 copy of the map of Crimea (KBR, III 14.799)

Figure 5B. Jervis’s 1854 copy of the Weiss map with the original title page (KBR, III 12.877)
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Noltie H (2016) Anne Sarah Jervis (1801-1886) : a new swagger print by and unrecorded artist working in India (stories.rbge.org.uk)

Figure 6. Sheet 7 (detail) of Jervis’s 1854 map of the Crimea (KBR, III 14.799) with pencil annotations in French and the same detail on his 1855 map (inset) (KBR, III 14.792)

Figure 7. Dedication sheet of Jervis’s copy of the Weiss map (KBR, III 12.877)


