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# Louise Michel

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Daughter of a servant and certainly the son of the chatelains for whom her mother works, Louise Michel was born at the castle of Vroncourt-la-Côte in the East of France (Haute-Marne). She grows up with her mother, pampered by « her grandparents », receiving a liberal



education and good education. In 1852, she obtained the necessary diploma to become a teacher and opened a free school. After a few years of teaching in Haute-Marne, Louise Michel decided to settle in Paris where she found a job as a teacher in a boarding school.



In 1865, she sold her property to buy an externship in the XVIII<sup>e</sup> arr. of Paris (North-West). She teaches there, while having charitable activities.



From 1869, she followed the courses of popular instruction organized by republicans and thus began her political and militant commitment. In besieged Paris (september 1870), Louise Michel attended the Republican committee of vigilance of the XVIII<sup>e</sup> arr. She participates, until the end, in all the actions of the Commune.



Incarcerated at Versailles, Louise Michel was very dignified and courageous during her trial during which she was sentenced to deportation to a fortified enclosure. After two years in prison and four months by boat, Louise Michel arrived on the coast of New Caledonia in December 1873, East of Australia.

