







Why Minard?

- · Study breadth and depth of his work
 - How related to work in his time?
 - How related to modern statistical graphics?
 - How related to his personal history?



The Past, Present and Future of Statistical Graphics

album

Flow maps as visual tools

- Movement of people and goods was a consistent theme of most of Minard's work
- Data represented both visually and numerically
- Extensive legends, describing how the information should be understood and interpreted
- Visual engineer for France: the dawn of globalization, emergence of the modern French state.





 \blacksquare cf. Water in Walkerton: Outbreak of E. coli contamination (May 16–22, 2000) \rightarrow 6 died, > 2000 ill.

- Source: undetermined until Jan. 2001
- No one thought to make a map!



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golden

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"The Best Statistical Graphic Ever Produced"

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- E-J Marey (1878): "defies the pen of the historian by its brutal eloquence".
- Funkhouser (1937): Minard, the Playfair of France.
- Tufte (1983): "multivariate complexity integrated so gently that viewers are hardly aware that they are looking into a world of six dimensions ... the best statistical graphic ever produced."

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Summary and conclusions	
This leads to interesting problems in statistical historiography	
What counts as a "milestone?"	
How to organize, represent, and analyze historical data? What tools are needed?	
 What were they thinking? — Understanding through reproduction 	n
How to visualize a history?	
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