

First Things First...

Genealogy News You Can Use!

Database Updates!

• **ScotlandsPeople**, <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>, has added new 1881 census indexes and images, completing the

Scottish census records for 1841-1901. Old Parish Records (OPR), deaths and burials indexes and images have also been added from 1538 to 1854, as well as Coats of Arms 1672-1907.

• **ProQuest** (check your local library about possible access) has added two newspapers to their Historical Newspapers program: The Baltimore Sun (1837-1985) and St. Louis Post-Dispatch (1874-1922).

• **Ancestry.com** has added the Canadian censuses for 1851/2, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1906, 1911 and 1916, German Phone Directories 1915-1981 (Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Frankfurt am Main and Leipzig).

• **FindMyPast.com** now has Merchant Seamen Crew Index Lists of 270,000 merchant seafarers at sea in 1860-1913 and Australian records including convict arrivals in New South Wales (1788-1842), Cemetery Burials and Memorial Inscriptions for Victoria (1835-1997), Victoria funeral notices

(1981-97) and Names in Government Gazettes, Victoria (1858-1900).

• **FamilyRelatives.com** has added Britain's Victorian "Doomsday Book". A complete collection of fully searchable Landowner returns is available online for England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, and 200,000

Canadian Civil Service records for the period 1872-1918.

• **Cassini Maps**, <http://www.cassinimaps.co.uk/shop/tna1.asp>, in partnership with the UK's National Archives, has released a unique set of historical maps online. For the first time, digital versions of the original Registration District maps from the 1871 census are available to browse and download. The maps are based on the Ordnance Survey "Old Series", but were hand-annotated in 1870 to show the Registration Districts of England and Wales as they then existed.

• **Poland** has launched a database of more than two million victims of WWII fighting at <http://straty.pl>. Note that the website and data are entirely in Polish.



Immigration for the Nation

Immigration to the United States, 1789-1930, <http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration>, is a

web-based collection of selected historical materials from Harvard's libraries, archives and museums that documents voluntary immigration to the US from the signing of the Constitution to the onset of the Great Depression. Concentrating heavily on the 19th century, it includes approximately 1,800 books and pamphlets as well as 9,000 photographs, 200 maps and 13,000 pages from manuscript and archival collections.

Portuguese Daily News Online!

The Diário de Notícias, known as the **Portuguese Daily News** (a Portuguese-language newspaper published in Bedford and Fall River, Massachusetts), began as the **Alvorada (The Dawn)** on 25 January 1919 and in 1927, changed its name to **Diário de Notícias**. It ceased publication in 1973. The Ferreira-Mendes Portuguese-American Archives owns the only known run of the paper in its entirety. Available on microfilm for many years, it is now accessible, free of charge, online, <http://www.lib.umassd.edu/archives/paa/diario.html>.

Genealogical Sources of the Civil War Era

Though most genealogical records from the decade of the Civil War are related to the soldiers and regiments of the Union and Confederate military, there are numerous records relating to the general population as well. This new book by William Dollarhide identifies the places to look and documents to be found for

ancestors during the decade, 1861-1869, as well as post-war veterans. The book is organized first by nationwide name lists and then by state listings in alphabetical order. It is available from Family Roots Publishing, www.familyrootspublishing.com/store/product_view.php?id=283 for \$32.95 US (plus S&H).

Index of Oldest, Largest Cemetery in Hubbard County MN is Complete

Indexing of Park Rapids' Greenwood Cemetery's headstones — from 1892 to the present — is complete and online, at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnhubbar/Cemeteries.htm>. The Greenwood Cemetery's list includes nearly 4,800 deceased, most marked with headstones, but a few have only death certificates.

Items of Interest

• Looking for videos to help you get started? Findmypast.com (UK) has some great online video tutorials, http://content-static-cdn.findmypast.com/fmp_tutorials_hi/index.html, to help get you get started on your research project. Titles include "Getting started in family history"; "Beginning your family tree"; "Using the birth, marriage and death records"; "Ordering certificates" and "Using census records". Though focused on British records and records avail-

able on the the findmypast website, these are instructive for any beginner researcher.

• **World Digital Library Now Live!** This ambitious project is now online at <http://www.wdl.org/en/>. Each region of the world is represented with a summary of how many documents are digitally available online for each. The language options for the interface are Arabic, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Russian and Chinese.

Louisiana Biography and Obituary Index

Researching ancestors from New Orleans just got easier! The Louisiana Biography and Obituary Index, <http://neworleanspubliclibrary.org/obits/obits.htm>, references obituaries and death notices published in New Orleans newspapers from 1804-1972 and biographical information published in older Louisiana collective biographies. The original index, housed in the Louisiana Division of the New Orleans Public Library, is an alphabetical card file of more than 650,000 names.

California Digital Newspapers

California Digital Newspaper Collection, <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/>, offers over 200,000 pages of California newspapers spanning 1849-1911: the *Alta California*, 1849-91; the *San Francisco Call*, 1893-1910; the *Amador Ledger*, 1900-11; the *Imperial Valley Press*, 1901-11; the *Sacramento Record-Union*, 1859-90; and the *Los Angeles Herald*, 1905-07. Additional years are forthcoming, as are other early California newspapers: the *Californian*; the *California Star*; the *California Star and Californian*; the *Sacramento Transcript*; the *Placer Times*; and the *Pacific Rural Press*.

Luck O' the Irish to Ya!

• Limerick, Ireland — Various Limerick resources have now come online, <http://limerick.ie/DigitalArchives/PrivatePapersandBusinessCollections/>, to aid the Irish genealogist. Some of these collections include Limerick Chamber of Commerce 1807-1946, Bedford Row Lying-In Hospital, 1868-1971, Rentals and Particulars of Sale, 1808-1923, Devon Estate Rentals, 1774-1893, Fair Rent Tribunal, 1881-1916 and more.

Additionally, in another part of the Limerick archives, <http://limerick.ie/DigitalArchives/LimerickCityCouncilandLocalGovernmentCollections/>, you can also find the following: Limerick Corporation (Pre-Reform), 1719-1917; Limerick City Council Minute Books, 1841-1972; Commissioners for the Improvement of St. Michael's

Parish, 1810-1851; Limerick Union Board of Guardians Minute Books, 1842-1922; and Rate Valuation Books, 1893-1971. And if these weren't enough, burial records covering 1855-1961 for Mount Saint Lawrence (Limerick's largest cemetery) are accessible online at <http://limerick.ie/DigitalArchives/MountStLawrenceBurialRegisterBookOne1855-1896/>, <http://www.limerick.ie/DigitalArchives/MountStLawrenceBurialRegisterBookTwo1896-1935/> and <http://limerick.ie/DigitalArchives/MountStLawrenceBurialRegisterBookThree1935-1961/>.

• **Irish Family Research** — A comprehensive collection of rare and, in many cases, exclusive searchable databases, as well as other essential Irish Genealogy Resources can be found at <http://www.irishfamilyresearch.co.uk/>.

Quick Hits

• Flickr, www.flickr.com, has various photo streams from some prominent American institutions — The Library of Congress, http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_Congress and The Smithsonian Institute, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/smithsonian/>.

• **Historic Map Overlays in Google Maps** — this informative article by Kimberly Powell at About.com, <http://genealogy.about.com/b/2009/06/07/historic-map-overlays-in-google-maps.htm>, really caught my eye. It explores organizations and others, who are creating historic overlay maps for Google Earth — check it out!

Tracing Your Pauper Ancestors (UK)

This book by Robert Burlison gives a vivid account of poverty and the poor. Burlison identifies relevant records, indicates where they can be found, and offers essential advice on how this information can be used to piece together the lives of distant, and not so distant, relatives. This book is available for about \$28 US (plus S&H) from Global Genealogy, <http://globalgenealogy.com>, and several other UK-based outlets.

NARA Now on YouTube!

NARA has established a YouTube Channel, <http://www.youtube.com/USNationalArchives>, with some fascinating videos available on topics ranging from Presidential Libraries to the space race to WWII, documenting American life in the 1930s.

First Things First is compiled by Diane L. Richard. E-mail Diane at dianerichard@mosaicrpm.com if there's a genealogy resource you'd like included!

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