

Mining the Treasures in Newspapers

Virtual Spring Stay At Home 2023

Rhonda R. McClure, Genealogist



American Ancestors
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

1

Why Use Newspapers?

- Newspapers record the fine print of our daily lives.
- Start search locally; expand to larger cities, counties, state, regional and finally national levels

2



Quantico
Message to All Marines To Aid The M.C. League

Barbette, Planning Writing Career, Enters San Quentin

Gilbert Flagler died in San Francisco

3

What Can You Find?

- Births, marriages, deaths
- Anniversaries, obituaries, memorials
- Legal notices, court notices, police blotter
- Gossip, society news, social events
- Biographical and historical pieces
- Church, fraternal, ethnic group news
- ANYTHING!

4

Vital Record Alternative

5

Vital Record Alternative

- Newspapers may supply you with news of births, marriages and deaths when vital records were not recorded.
- Wedding anniversaries, obituaries, memorials, and funeral notices may give you more about an individual and other family members.

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Hatched

HAPPY CONDUCTORS.

Mr. D. A. Cole and Mr. William Wene, the former a passenger and the latter a freight conductor, on the Henderson Division of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, returned home about the same time yesterday morning. Mr. Cole found that a son and heir was born to him since he left home, and Mr. Wene found his wife had borne him a daughter. To complete the concatenation of events the gentlemen live next door to each other in East Nashville, and they are both celebrating the births of their first borns.

The Daily American, Nashville, Tennessee 7 December 1884

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Not What You Expected

**CHILD BORN TO HYDES
BUT IT DIES IN HOUR**

Doctor in Prison Convicted of Murder When Child Is Born.

Kansas City, Mo., September 1.—The long-expected birth of a child to Mrs. B. Clarke Hyde, whose husband is under life sentence in prison for the murder by poisoning of Thomas B. Swopes, occurred at 2:50 o'clock this morning. The child died this afternoon. Dr. Hyde was not at the bedside when the child, a boy, was born, but arrived at the Hyde home at 2516 Forest avenue two hours later, escorted by deputy marshals.

- Discovering that the father was incarcerated for murder and that the baby died just after birth.

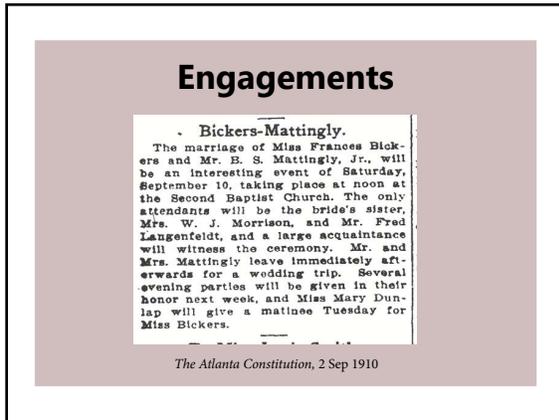
The Atlanta Constitution, 2 Sep 1910

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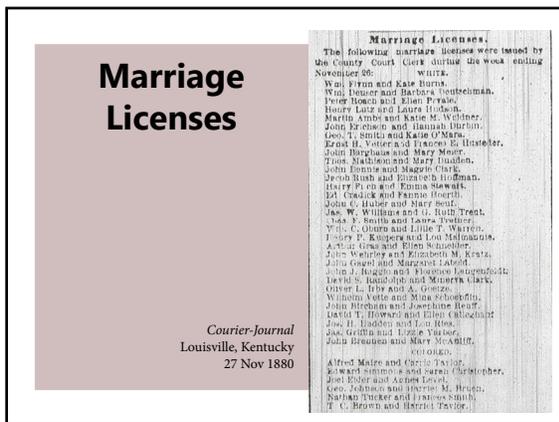
Matched

- Marriages Announcements
- Marriage License Applications
- Engagements
- Wedding Anniversaries
- 25th and 50th anniversaries often list children, their spouses and where they live

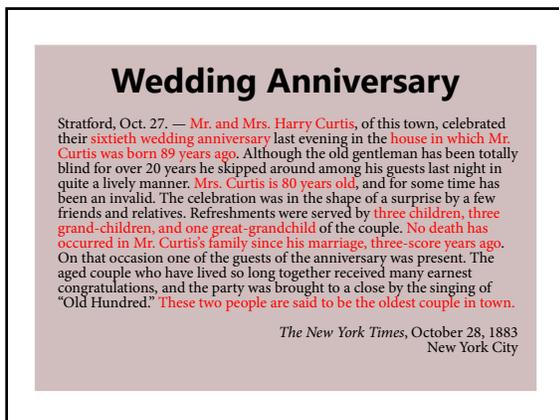
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10



11



12

Dispatched

- **Obituaries:** Name, date of death, age and biography of deceased, family information and where they then resided
- **Funeral Notices:** Brief. Name, date of death, funeral home and burial information
- Traditional death notices.
- Lists of dead
- Health reports

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Death Notice

- Place of birth mentioned, along with when he came to San Francisco

Gilbert Flaglor died in San Francisco on the 8th, aged 100 years and 7 month. Flaglor was born in St. Johns, N. B., but had resided in San Francisco for more than 20 years. Until recently he had been in good health. At 98 he married again, his wife survived him.

The Weekly Standard, Portland, Oregon 17 June 1881

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Memoriam

In Memoriam

Death of Mr. Edward P. Rudd.

The brother of sleep, as the ancients termed death, has suddenly taken from us a young man of great energy of character, of wide and extended influence, and what is still more important in these days of private and public profligacy, a truly good, honest and Christian man. We allude to Edward P. Rudd, the late head of the well-known publishing house of Rudd & Carleton. Having known Mr. R. intimately, I desire to pay a passing tribute to his memory. He was the son of Rev. Mr. Rudd, of Lyons, in this State. At the early age of 15 he entered the book-house of J.C. Derby, at Auburn, where he remained three years. Thinking New-York offered a wider sphere for him, he came here at 18 with strong letters to A. S. Barnes & Co. . . .

The New York Times, 28 Nov 1861

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Legal Notices

- In addition to legal notices, court notices and police blotters, you may also find mention tax lists, jury lists and more.
- Some of the items will be news stories, whereas others may appear as recurring columns.

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Divorce



COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE.
STATE of Indiana, Cass County.—In the Cass Circuit Court, April Term, 1868.
 Israel S. Smith
vs.
 Margaretta Jane Smith,
Compt' for Divorce.

It appearing by the affidavit of a disinterested person that the said defendant is a non-resident of the State of Indiana, notice is therefore hereby given her that she be and appear before the Judge of said Court at the next term thereof, to be held at the Court House, in Logansport, on Monday the 19th day of April, 1868, then and there to answer to said action or the same will be heard and determined in her absence.

NOAH S. LA ROSE, Clerk.
 H. P. BIDDLE, Att'y for Plff.
 Logansport, Feb. 2, 1868. 707

*The Democratic Pharos, 24 Feb 1858
 Logansport, Indiana*

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Voter Lists and Tax Lists

- May help you in determining when your ancestor came of age.
- May help you in determining when your ancestor might have died or moved.

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TAX LIST.

11,334-1818-2014, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 22 1/2 ft. e of Tenth st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,335-2015-2016, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Chestnut st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,336-2017-2018, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,337-2019-2020, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,338-2021-2022, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,339-2023-2024, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,340-2025-2026, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,341-2027-2028, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,342-2029-2030, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,343-2031-2032, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,344-2033-2034, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,345-2035-2036, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,346-2037-2038, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,347-2039-2040, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,348-2041-2042, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,349-2043-2044, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,350-2045-2046, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,351-2047-2048, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,352-2049-2050, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,353-2051-2052, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,354-2053-2054, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,355-2055-2056, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,356-2057-2058, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,357-2059-2060, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,358-2061-2062, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,359-2063-2064, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,360-2065-2066, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,361-2067-2068, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,362-2069-2070, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,363-2071-2072, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,364-2073-2074, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,365-2075-2076, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,366-2077-2078, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,367-2079-2080, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,368-2081-2082, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,369-2083-2084, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,370-2085-2086, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,371-2087-2088, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,372-2089-2090, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,373-2091-2092, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,374-2093-2094, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,375-2095-2096, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,376-2097-2098, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

11,377-2099-2100, **THOMAS, THOMAS**, 20 1/2 ft. s of Center st. and Imps. \$10.75

Courier-Journal,
16 Dec 1880
Louisville, Kentucky

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Sheriff's Notice

Sheriff's Sales.

IN pursuance of sundry Writs of Venditioni et Alias Venditioni Exponas, issuing out of the Court of Common Pleas of Adams county; and to me directed, will be exposed to Public Sale, on *Saturday the 24th day of March next*, at the Court-house in the borough of Gettysburg, the following Real Estates, viz.

A certain three-story Brick Dwelling-house,
and half Lot of Ground, situate in said borough, fronting on Baltimore-street, south of the Court-house.— Seized and taken in Execution as the Estate of *Thomas Draper*.—ALSO,

At the same time and place,
A certain two-story Brick Dwelling-house, Stable, and
half Lot of Ground, situate in the borough of Gettysburg, fronting on the Chambersburg Turnpike Road, west of the Court-house.— Seized and taken in Execution as the Estate of *Ralph Lashelle*.—ALSO,

Gettysburg Compiler,
21 Mar 1821
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Courier-Journal,
16 Dec 1880
Louisville, Kentucky

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Legal Notices: Estates

Administrator's Notice

Parties indebted to the estate of D.H. Mapother, or Hart & Mapother, are requested to come forward and settle at once; and parties to whom the estate is indebted are requested to have their claims properly proven and presented to

Thos. O'Mara, Administrator
The Courier-Journal, 3 Sep 1874
Louisville, Kentucky

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Gossip and Society News

- Never know what you will find in these news items.
- In the case of gossip, you may want to follow up in other records if possible to verify accuracy.

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Social Events and Society News

- Don't assume that your ancestor wasn't mentioned in these sections because he wasn't affluent enough.
- Social news may indicate where other family members live, as many items about the comings and goings of the town's residents.

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Meetings and Organizations

- Help to identify which organizations were active
- In the case of fraternal groups, just which local group existed, which may help you in finding other records
- Give insight into the times, especially for things like temperance, women's suffrage, etc.

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Meetings

Meetings To-night.

Tuscarora Tribe, No. 20, I. O. R.M., meet at Penn building, Third and Market streets, at 7.30 P. M.

Larkin Lodge, No. 78, K. of P., meet at Dyer's building, Third and Market streets, at 7.30 P. M.

The Chester City Association, No. 57, Philoatheans, meets at 7.30 o'clock in Penn Buildings, Third and Market street.

Christian Home Lodge, No. 1369, I. O. of G. T., meets in hall over Conwell's drug store, on Third street, at 7.30 o'clock.

Good Intent Circle, No. 75, Brotherhood of the Union, meets in Penn Building, at 7.30 o'clock.

Crystal Point Division, No. 20 S. of T., meets every Monday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Dickinson Hall, No. 504 Market street.

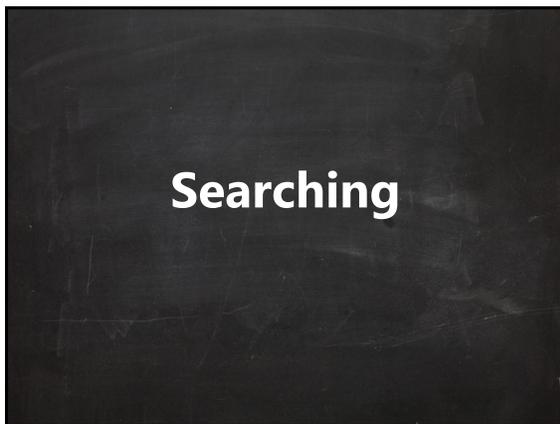
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Types of Newspapers

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Effective Newspaper Search

- Look in the “gossip” portion of the paper for death notices and obits, which might be only 1 or 2 lines in small type.
- Know the township where your ancestor resided as some newspapers published news by township, suburb or community.
- Towns often had more than one newspaper.
- Check 10, 20, 25, 50 years after an event for reprints of earlier issues

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Effective Newspaper Search

- Some papers published several editions; especially in large cities
- Look for: Notices of ship arrivals, passengers, naturalizations, hotel guests, unclaimed letters at the post office, tax lists, jurors, crimes, moves and relocations, orphan trains.
- Letters to the editor and classified ads were used to seek information on missing relatives and friends or tell about former residents.

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Identifying Newspapers

- Union lists and bibliographies
- Newspapers on microfilm
- Early American Newspapers Project
- The Internet

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Clarence S. Brigham's *History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820*

[Boston] *Weekly Rehearsal*, 1731-1735.

Weekly. Established Sept. 27, 1731, with the title of "The Weekly Rehearsal" and "printed by [John] Draper for the Author." Isaiah Thomas states ("History of Printing," 1874 ed., vol. 1, p. 185, and vol. 2, p. 42) that the paper was established by Jeremiah Gridley and that it "was carried on at the expense of some gentlemen who formed themselves into a political or literary club, and wrote for it. At the head of this club was the late celebrated Jeremy (Jeremiah) Gridley, Esq., who was the real editor of the paper." With the issue of Aug. 21, 1732, the paper was printed by Thomas Fleet. This issue, moreover, was the first to have a number, although the number given to it, 47, was an error, as forty-seven issues had already been published, and the issue of Aug. 21, 1732, should have been numbered 48. With the issue of Apr. 2, 1733, Gridley retired and Thomas Fleet became sole proprietor and publisher. The last issue of "The Weekly Rehearsal" was that of Aug. 11, 1735, no. 302, and upon Aug. 18, 1735, it was replaced by "The Boston Evening-Post," which see.

Am. Antiq. Soc. has Oct. 4, 1731-Aug. 11, 1735, lacking Sept. 27, 1731; Apr. 24, 1732; May 7, Nov. 26, 1733; June 3, Sept. 16, 1734.

Mass. Hist. Soc. has Sept. 27-Dec. 27, 1731; Jan. 3-May 8, 22, June 5-Sept. 18, Dec. 11, 1732; Feb. 5, May 28, 1733; Jan. 7, Apr. 5, Aug. 19, Dec. 22, 1734; Mar. 17, 1735.

Boston Pub. Lib. has June 29, 1732; Feb. 5, 1733; Feb. 18, 1734; Aug. 4, 1735.

Lib. Congress has May 1, 8, July 3, Sept. 4, Dec. 25, 1732.

Univ. of Mich. (Clements) has Feb. 5, 1733.

British Public Record Office has May 13, 1734.

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• *Newspapers in Microform* gives researchers information about what repositories have which newspapers in microform versions.

Courier-Journal. N S, 1868-	d
Title varies: Louisville courier-journal, 1868.	
Absorbed Louisville daily Democrat.	
Continues Louisville daily courier, and Louisville daily Journal, 1833-1868.	
AAP s 1963-	KyLo m s 1868-
AB s 1971-	KyLo s 1953-
CU s 1970-	KyLoU s 1953-
CL-Riv t 1963-	KyHoreU s 1868-
EDW s 1870-	KyMurT s 1868-1966
DLC s 1868-	KyU s 1868-
FU s 1868-1869;	MH s 1965-
1876; 1892; 1917	MU s 1971-
GEU s 1868-1900	McA m 1868-
ICRL s 1966-1975	McP m 1868-
ICU s 1868-	Metu s 1842-
IEN s Ja 1972-	MoU s 1868-
IU s 1868-1888;	MathU s 1952-
1912-	Net s 1869-
IsU s 1870-1873	RU s 1868-
In s 1940-1952;	SchwW s 1972-
1960-1964	UPB s Ap 1945;
InFw s 1868-1900	J 1951
InU-Sb s 1972-1974	WHI s 1868-
KyBB s 1953-	
KyBgW s 1937-1938;	
1949-	

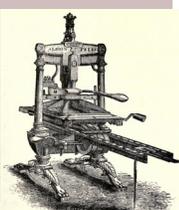
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Finding Newspapers

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Where to find newspapers

- Libraries: public and academic
- State Archives or Libraries
- State or local historical societies
- Newspaper Morgues
- Online
- Printed Sources



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Early American Newspaper Project

- Readex Corporation worked to make all newspapers mentioned in Brigham's volume available on microfilm
- Check with local (larger) library to see if the project is available to you
- Ask about pre-1820 newspapers that are available on microfilm rather
- Now available online through Newsbank.com

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NEHGS Resources

← Boston Transcript Obits

Columbian Centinel →

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NEHGS Resources

- AmericanAncestors.org
- 19th Century U.S. Newspapers (remote access)
- *Boston Globe* (on-site access)
- Missing Friends (database)
- Microfilm:
 - *Boston Pilot*
 - *Boston Transcript*
 - *Columbian Centinel*
- JHC has digitized the *Jewish Times*

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Digitized Newspapers

- Ancestry.com
- Cyndi's List www.cyndislist.com/newspapers
- GenealogyBank.com
- Google News news.google.com/newspapers
- Newspapers.com
- Published resources
 - Claudia C. Breland's *Searching for Your Ancestors in Historic Newspapers*
 - Ernest Thode's *Historic German Newspapers Online*

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Newspapers

View sample images and collection details

www.ancestry.com/search/categories/np_newspapers/

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Newspapers

Find your ancestors in our newspaper collections.

Where did your ancestor live?

cyndislist.com/newspapers

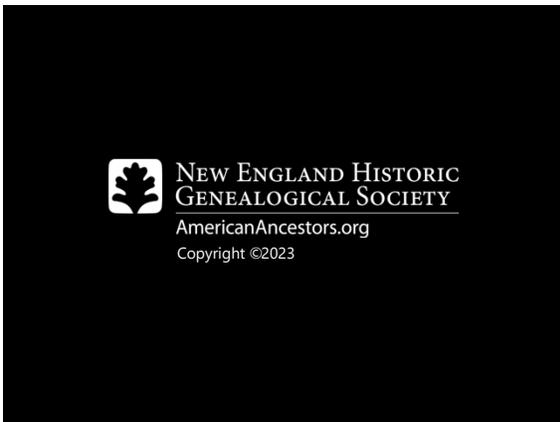
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