Quick Facts

The largest collection of fully searchable 18th- and 19th-century Caribbean newspapers

The evolution of the region across two centuries chronicled within more than 140 titles from 22 islands

Essential for research on colonial history, the Atlantic slave trade, international commerce, New World slavery and related topics

“…promises to transform scholarship on the 18th and 19th-century West Indies….a real game changer.”

— Eliga Gould, Chair of the History Department and Professor of History, University of New Hampshire

Overview

Caribbean Newspapers, 1718-1876—the largest online collection of 18th- and 19th-century newspapers published in this region—will provide a comprehensive primary resource for studying the development of Western society and international relations within this important group of islands. This unique resource will prove essential for researching colonial history, the Atlantic slave trade, international commerce, New World slavery and U.S. relations with the region as far back as the early 18th century.

Created in cooperation with the American Antiquarian Society—one of the world’s largest and most important newspaper repositories—this collection will provide students and scholars with easy access to more than 150 years of Caribbean and Atlantic history, cultures and daily life. Featuring more than 140 newspapers from 22 islands, this resource will chronicle the region’s evolution across two centuries through eyewitness reporting, editorials, legislative information, letters, poetry, advertisements, obituaries and other news items.

Most of these newspapers were published in the English language, but a number of Spanish-, French-, and Danish-language titles are also provided. Countries represented include Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guadalupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Nevis, Puerto Rico, St. Bartholomew, St. Christopher, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, and the Virgin Islands. Also found within this resource are newspapers from Bermuda, an island not technically part of the Caribbean, but situated on shipping routes between Europe and this region and integrally related to this region.

New research and teaching opportunities

This fully searchable collection of Caribbean newspapers opens up a new world of research materials for scholars and students in such departments as history, international relations, regional studies and African American studies, in particular the African Diaspora. Caribbean Newspapers is fully integrated into America’s Historical Newspapers and the World Newspaper Archive for seamless searching with Early American Newspapers, 1690-1922; Hispanic American Newspapers, 1808-1980; and Latin American Newspapers, 1805-1922.

About the American Antiquarian Society

The American Antiquarian Society (AAS) is both a learned society and a major independent research library. The AAS library houses the largest and most accessible collection of books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, periodicals, sheet music and graphic arts material printed from the colonial period through 1876 in what is now the United States, Canada and the West Indies. The Society’s holdings of American printed materials dating from 1821 through 1876 are among the most comprehensive in existence.

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