Early American Newspapers, Series 15, 1822-1879: Immigrant Communities

A unique, on-the-scene history of America's ethnic cultures



Quick Facts

Rare newspapers from more than 50 U.S. cities and towns

Publications by and for former citizens of Germany, France, Ireland, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands, Norway, Scotland and more Important and influential 19th-century ethnic newspapers from the peak era of immigrant journalism

Overview

In 1830, America had approximately 200,000 foreign-born citizens; in 1880 there would be more than six million. Newspapers published by and for these newly arrived immigrants began in America's Eastern seaboard cities, but by the 1840s they had spread into the heartland. In some communities new immigrants were welcomed, but in others they fell victim—often violently—to ethnic or religious prejudice.

Evidence of both reactions are nowhere better found than in the local or regional general-interest newspapers that competed with the immigrant papers. *Early American Newspapers*, *Series 15, 1822-1879: Immigrant Communities*, is designed to provide a one-of-a-kind window into both sides of this uniquely American story.

Broad coverage of the immigrant experience

Early American Newspapers, Series 15 contains 160 immigrant and general-interest newspapers, the latter included for valuable context. The immigrant newspapers are the primary component and consist of more than 100 of the most noteworthy immigrant/ethnic newspapers that were published in dozens of American cities and towns that had large immigrant populations during the 19th century. Complementing these are traditional, general-interest newspapers published contemporaneously in those same cities or regions. This combination of newspapers provides researchers with a unique, on-the-scene history of America's immigrant communities during the peak era of ethnic journalism in the United States.

Many of the immigrant papers in *Series 15* are considered the most important 19th-century publications of this genre. Others became successful and politically influential, and some are so rare that only a few copies are known to exist. Publications by and for former citizens of Germany, France, Ireland, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Scotland are the most prevalent. Although a number were published in the native languages of the immigrant groups, many are bilingual.

To provide local historical context for the immigrant papers, more than 45 general-interest papers published during the same time period and in the same communities or regions are included.

A plethora of teaching and research applications

Early American Newspapers, Series 15, will be essential for researchers interested in Immigration History, Immigration Law, Ethnic Studies, Economic History, Labor History, Frontier History, Political Science, and Sociology.

Superior bibliographic control

Like other *Early American Newspapers* series, *Series 15* offers many significant titles listed in the authoritative bibliographies by Clarence S. Brigham and Winifred Gregory. A distinguished academic advisory board guided the selection process, and all of the newspapers were sourced at the American Antiquarian Society.



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