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### PASSENGER LISTS OF VESSELS ARRIVING AT PHILADELPHIA, 1800-1882

On the 108 rolls of this microfilm publication are reproduced passenger lists of vessels arriving at the port of Philadelphia from foreign ports, 1800-82. The documents for the years 1800-19 are inward cargo manifests that include names of passengers. Most of the documents for the period 1820-82 are original passenger lists submitted by masters of vessels to the collector of customs at Philadelphia; several lists for the period 1820-54 are copies that were inserted as substitutes for missing or illegible original documents.

The lists are arranged in chronological order by arrival date of vessel. When the documents were prepared for filming by the National Archives, they were numbered consecutively within each calendar year of arrival. This number is not a passenger-list or manifest number.

Most of the passenger lists reproduced in this microfilm publication were prepared in compliance with an act of March 2, 1819 (3 Stat. 489), which provided that effective January 1, 1820, the captain or master of a vessel arriving at a port in the United States or in any of its territories from a foreign country was to submit a list of the passengers to the collector of the district in which the vessel arrived. The act also provided that every collector of customs submit quarterly returns consisting of copies of passenger lists to the Secretary of State, who was required to report on the returns at each session of Congress. The Secretary's reports were later published in the form of congressional documents. An act of May 7, 1874, (18 Stat. 42) repealed the provisions of the 1819 law and of later legislation that required collectors to send copies of passenger lists to the Secretary of State. Thereafter, collectors of customs were to send statistical reports on passenger arrivals to the Department of the Treasury only.

The lists for the years before 1820 are normally entered at the bottom of the cargo manifests and show only the passenger's name and the quantity of baggage. The lists for the period 1820-82 normally give the name of the vessel, its master, the port of embarkation, the date of arrival, and information about each passenger as follows: name, age, sex, occupation, the country to which he belonged, the country of which he intended to become an inhabitant, and, if he died enroute, the date and circumstances of his death. The act of 1819 also required that the lists be sworn to by the master of the vessel in the presence of the collector.

In the National Archives are two alphabetical card indexes to the names on the passenger lists of vessels arriving at Philadelphia. The indexes were prepared in the 1930's under the sponsorship of the Immigration and Naturalization Service by the National Youth Administration and the Work Projects Administration. These finding aids, which are reproduced on microfilm, consist of an index to arrivals at the port of Philadelphia, 1800-1906 (M360) and an incomplete index to arrivals at Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports, 1820-74 (M334).

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication and the indexes cited above are part of Records of the Bureau of Customs, Record Group 36, in the National Archives.

In the same record group are records of vessel arrivals and abstracts of tonnage duties collected at Philadelphia that serve as finding aids to names of vessels and the dates of their arrivals for most of the period 1800-82.

Also in Record Group 36 is a series of eight bound volumes of quarterly transcripts of lists of names of passengers arriving at most Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports, September 1819-December 1832, which includes names of passengers arriving at Philadelphia for the years 1820-22, 1824-27, and 1829. The volumes apparently were prepared in the Office of the Secretary of State from copies of lists or from quarterly abstracts submitted by the collectors of customs. There were originally nine volumes, but volume 2 is missing.

Related records in General Records of the Department of the Treasury Record Group 56, include copies of correspondence of the Secretary of the Treasury with the Collector of Customs at Philadelphia, 1790-1833 (rolls 20-23 of M178); letters received by the Secretary from the Collector at Philadelphia, 1833-69 (part of M174); and copies of letters sent by the Secretary to the Collector at Philadelphia, 1833-47 (part of M175), and others for the period 1847-1909. In the same record group are correspondence registers and indexes, 1878-1902, that includes entries for letters to Federal immigration authorities at Philadelphia.

Among Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Record Group 85, is correspondence that contains some information relating to immigration through the port of Philadelphia, 1882-1903. In the same record group and available on microfilm are copies of passenger manifests from 1883 through 1945 that were submitted to Federal immigration authorities at Philadelphia in compliance with legislation enacted in 1882 and in later years (T840). Manifests less than 50 years old are not available for reference purposes.

Related published sources of information are reports of passenger arrivals submitted by the Secretary of State to Congress, 1820-70. His reports, published as Congressional documents, indicate by port of arrival the number of passengers, their nationality, occupation, and sometimes age and sex. Only those for 1820, however, report the names of passengers. Some of the reports are based on calendar years, but others are for report years ending September 30.

Comparable statements or reports, prepared and published by the Treasury Department, Bureau of Statistics, begin in 1867 and extend through Fiscal Year 1894. The statements for 1867-69 are included in the Annual Report of the Treasury Department for Fiscal Year 1869. These reports, published as Congressional documents, indicate by district of arrival the summary statistics on age, sex, nationality, and occupation of passengers. The details in the later reports are usually more complete.

Statistics on immigration from 1820 to 1910 have been published in volume 3 of the *Reports of the Immigration Commission* (S. Doc. 756, 61st Cong., 3d sess., Serial No. 5373, Washington, 1911).

These introductory remarks were prepared by William M. Maury.

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