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COPIES OF LISTS OF PASSENGERS ARRIVING AT
MISCELLANEOUS PORTS ON THE ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTS
AND AT PORTS ON-THE GREAT LAKES, 1820-1873

On the 16 rolls of this microfilm publication are reproduced copies of original passenger lists or abstracts of passenger lists of vessels arriving at 63 ports on the Atlantic and gulf coasts and at two ports on the Great Lakes, 1820-73. For any port for which both kinds of lists are available, both are reproduced to furnish the most complete information available for that port.

The lists are arranged alphabetically by the name of the port at which the vessel entered and thereunder by the date of arrival. If more than one vessel entered a given port on the same day, the lists are arranged alphabetically by name of ship. When the documents were prepared for filming by the National Archives, they were numbered consecutively within each port.

The passenger lists were produced 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 submit a list of the passengers to the collector of the district in which the vessel arrived; and that every collector of customs submit quarterly returns consisting of copies of passenger lists to the Secretary of State. The act also required the latter to report on the returns at each session of Congress.

For most of the ports included in this microfilm publication, the original passenger lists are not in the National Archives. The copies of the passenger lists generally show name of vessel, port of embarkation, name of master, and date of arrival; and for each passenger: name, age, sex, occupation, country of which a citizen, and country of intended residence. The abstracts of passenger lists show the same passenger information. However, they usually show only the quarter year in which the vessel arrived rather than specific dates of arrival.

A few pages, including some that showed the date of the list or abstract, are missing from some of the documents that have been filmed. Abstracts and lists for which no accurate dates can be established are filmed at the end of the records for the port concerned.

There is an incomplete index to the names of passengers arriving at Atlantic and gulf coast ports, 1820-74 (reproduced as M334). This index was prepared in the 1930s by the Work projects the Administration under the sponsorship of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication and the related index are part of Records of the Bureau of Customs, Record Group 36.

In the same record group 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. The volumes were compiled in the Office of the Secretary of State from copies of lists or from quarterly abstracts submitted by 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 collectors of customs, 1789-1833 (M178); letters received by the Secretary from collectors of customs, 1833-69 (M174); and copies of letters sent by the Secretary to collectors of customs, 1789-1878 (~75).

Related published sources of information are the reports of passengers 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 5878).

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication were prepared for filming by William F. Sherman, who also wrote these introductory remarks and provided the other editorial material.

CONTENTS

| <u>Roll</u> | <u>Ports; Dates</u> |
|-------------|---|
| 1 | Alexandria, Va.; 1820-65 Annapolis, Md.; 1849 Bangor, Maine; 1848 Barnstable, Mass.; 1820-26 Bath, Maine; 1825-67 Beaufort, N.C.; 1865 Belfast, Maine; 1820-51 Bridgeport, Conn.; 1870 Bridgeton, NJ; 1828 Bristol and Warren, R.I.; 1820-71 Cape May, N.J.; 1828 |

- 2 Charleston, S.C.; 1820-28
 Darien, Ga.; 1823-25
 Dighton, Mass.; 1820-36
 East River, Va. 1830
 Edenton, N.C.; 1820
 Edgartown, Mass.; 1820-70
 Fairfield, Conn.; 1820-21
 Fall River, Mass.; 1837-65
 Frenchman's Bay, Maine; 1821-27
- 3 Galveston, Tex.; 1846-71
- 4 Georgetown, D.C.; 1820-21
 Gloucester, Mass.; 1820-70
 Hampton, Va.; 1821
 Hartford, Conn.; 1832
 Havre de Grace, Md.; 1820
 Hingham, Mass.; 1852
 Kennebunk, Maine; 1820-42
 Key West, Fla.; 1837-68
 Little Egg Harbor, NJ; 1831
 Marblehead, Mass.; 1820-52
 Mobile, Ala.; 1832-52
- 5 Nantucket, Mass.; 1820-62
 Newark, NJ; 1836
 New Bedford, Mass.; 1826-52
 New Berne, N.C.; 1820-65
 Newburyport, Mass.; 1821-39
 New Haven, Conn.; 1820-73
- 6 New London, Conn.; 1820-47
 Newport, RI; 1820-57
 Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va.; 1820-57
 Oswegatchie, N.Y.; 1821-23
- 7 Passamaquoddy, Maine; 1820-44
- 8 Passamaquoddy, Maine; 1845-59
 Penobscot, Maine; 1851
 Perth Amboy, NJ; 1820-32
 Petersburg, Va.; 1820-21
 Plymouth, Mass.; 1821-44
 Plymouth, N.C.; 1820-40
- 9 Portland and Falmouth, Maine; 1820-47
- 10 Portland and Falmouth, Maine; 1848-58
- 11 Portland and Falmouth, Maine; 1859-62
- 12 Portland and Falmouth, Maine; 1863-65
- 13 Portland and Falmouth, Maine; 1866-Sept. 1867
- 14 Portland and Falmouth, Maine; Oct. 1876-Mar. 1868
- 15 Port Royal, S.C.; 1865
 Portsmouth, N.H.; 1820-61

Providence, R.I.; 1820-49
Providence, R.I.; 1850-67
Richmond, Va.; 1820-44
Rochester, N.Y.; 1866
Sag Harbor, N.Y.; 1829-34
St. Augustine, Fla.; 1821-70
St. Johns, Fla.; 1865
Salem, Mass.; 1865-66
Sandusky, Ohio; 1820
Savannah, Ga.; 1820-66
Saybrook, Conn.; 1820
Waldoboro, Maine; 1820-33
Washington, N.C.; 1820-48
Wilmington, Del.; 1820-49
Yarmouth, Maine; 10820