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Launched on 1 January 2000

We anticipated a banner year for the GG Archives. Twenty years online seemed like a great accomplishment. Unfortunately, the celebration came to a screeching halt as the influenza pandemic breached the United States. We thought this newsletter would be a look back at the past 20 years...

The GG Archives Chronicles is published quarterly by the Gjenvick-Gjønvik Archives, Volume 3, Number 1, First Quarter of 2020.



In 2020, The Gjenvick-Gjønvik Archives Celebrates its 20th Anniversary

The year 2020 started our healthy enough as we spent the month of January adding pages to gjenvick.com that focused on topics like Epicurean (cooking methods, Thanksgiving in 1890), Immigration (section on steerage physically relocated to immigration section), and Ports of Call physically relocated to Ocean Travel section of our website.

February ushered in a focus on immigration, adding 35 new pages in Canadian immigration, including Castle Garden, Ellis Island, Emigration, Immigrant Stories, Laws and Acts, Inspection of Immigrants, and other immigration issues, and steerage.

A Sampling of 1Q 2020 Articles

Below are brief blurbs of some of the articles added during the first quarter of 2020. We encourage all of you to take this time to explore.

PS: This site is an excellent resource for K-12 students studying immigration, social studies, ocean travel, and more.



Girl Clerks in New York Work with Protective Masks, 16 October 1918. Photo courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.

During March, the news about COVID-19 that started in Wuhan, China, progressing to Europe, was now in the United States. In the first half of the month, we devoted much of our resources to add additional material to our website's immigration section.

On 11 March 2020, we switched gears to prepare materials on the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic, an entirely new section/topic for the GG Archives. By the end of March, we added 24 new pages to this section.



Spanish Influenza in Army Hospitals. In Hospital Number 4 at Fort Porter, New York, the Epidemic Was Guarded Against so Closely That Persons of the Office Force Used Masks at Work. Showing Dictation Being Given Through the Masks.

Photograph circa 19 November 1918. National Archives and Records Administration RG 165-WW-269B-33. NARA ID # 45499355. GGA Image ID # 150784d6e6

Disagreement Among Physicians at the recent Chicago meeting of the Public Health Association, regarding many important points in the character and treatment of influenza, is reported in the daily press.

Nevertheless a substantial agreement on some other points quite as vital appears clearly from a reading of the medical journals, and practical suggestions for the home-care of patients will be found in a statement issued by the British Royal College of Physicians, quoted at the end of this article.

Read the article [Expert Medical Advice on Influenza - 1918](#)



Police Officer Wears Mask for Protection Against Influenza, 7 October 1918. 1700 of these Masks were Distributed by Policemen to Police Stations, to be Used Whenever Duty Calls. Photograph © International Film Service, New York. National Archives and Records Administration RG 165-WW-269B-30. NARA ID # 45499349. GGA Image ID # 150d626a5d

Influenza Does Not Arise; it travels. It reached the United States by crossing the Atlantic, and it would seem that it might have been kept out. This is, in fact, the editorial opinion of *The Scientific American* (New York, November 2), which under the heading "A carelessly Guarded Gate," charges that the laxity of port authorities on our Eastern coast is responsible for an invasion that has caused more deaths among peaceful citizens than the deadly weapons of the enemy have effected on the

Read [How Influenza Got In - 1918](#)



Red Cross Motor Corps on Duty St. Louis, Missouri, Circa October 1918.

Photograph Courtesy of the American Red Cross. National Archives and Records Administration RG 65-WW-269B-3. NARA ID # 45499293. GGA Image ID # 1508d4b79b

Acts Tending to Identify the recent epidemic of influenza with a form of pneumonic plague that has raged in parts of China for several years past are adduced in *The Medical Record* (New York, 12 October 1918), by Capt. James Joseph King, of the United States Army Medical Corps.

Dr. King believes that the plague was taken to France by Chinese coolies^[1] imported as laborers, whence it spread over Europe in modified form. The symptoms of the two diseases are similar, he says, and some of them have differed from those observed in previous epidemics.

Read the article [Is the Influenza a Chinese Plague? - 1918](#)



A Duchess Concerned in the Welfare of Aliens at Ellis Island. Notable Group Pictured During the Recent Visit on 15 November 1907 of the Duchess of Marlborough to the Immigration Station at Ellis Island, New York Harbor. Left to right: Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay, Commissioner of Immigration, Robert Watchorn, The Duchess of Marlborough, and Clarence H. Mackay. Leslie's Weekly, 5 December 1907. GGA Image ID # 14dda730bc

Makes a Tour of Inspection, with Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, as Watchorn's Guest.

PASSES THE INSPECTORS And Demonstrates Her Right to Enter the Port — Gives Aid to Immigrants.

The Duchess of Marlborough partook yesterday of the great American product - pie. Furthermore, she showed her patriotism by announcing that she liked it.

This all came about when the Duchess, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay, visited the immigration station on Ellis Island as the guest of Commissioner Robert Watchorn.

Read the article [Duchess Samples Ellis Island Pie - 1907](#)



Some of the Baltic's Boatload of 1,000 Marriageable Girls Looking Down from the Railing on the White Star Liner. 1907 George Grantham Bain Collection. Library of Congress # 2001704440. GGA Image ID # 148815fc2e

This story is about the remarkable group of over a thousand women who arrived in September 1907, many of them were looking for husbands. Reporters from The New York Times covered the story as it happened.

Thousands of Girls on Four Big Ships

They are Servants Returning from Holidays Abroad, White Star Line Officials Say.

Some Bring Sisters Along, and Some are Sweethearts of Farmers in Canada on their Way to Marry Men who have Established Themselves.

Read the article [A Shipload of Immigrant Girls Seek Husbands in America - 1907](#)



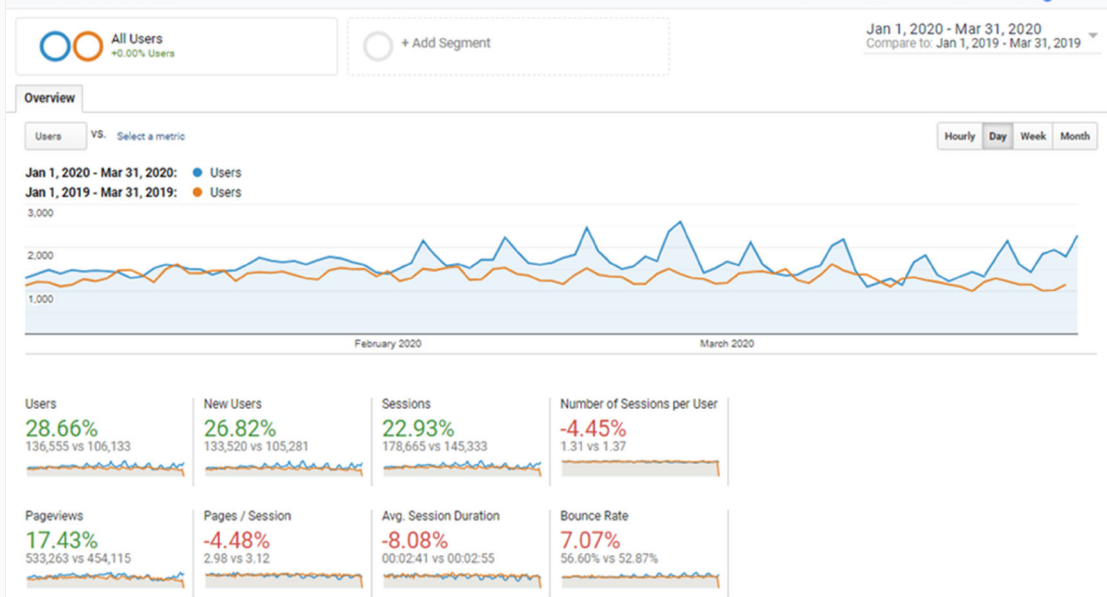
The Crew Lines Up for Inspection Before the Voyage. GGA Image ID # 147354d8db

When the hedges of the home farm can no longer confine the ambitions of young Giles, and he determines to seek fortune across the seas, he little knows how his decision excites the interest and solicitude of the Board of Trade.

It is probable that young Giles has never heard of the Board of Trade; indeed, his ignorance in that respect is shared by the great majority of seasoned voyagers.

Read the article [Inspection of the Ship and Crew Before Sailing - 1908](#)

Audience Overview



GG Archives (Gjenvick.com) Traffic Report for the First Quarter of 2020, from Google Analytics.

- Visitors: 178,665 for 1Q2020 vs. 145,333 for 1Q2019: 22.93% increase
- Unique Visitors: 136,555 vs. 106,133: 28.66% increase
- New Users: 133,520 vs. 105,281: 26.82% increase
- Page Views: 533,263. vs. 454,115: 17.43% increase



Paul Gjenvick, MAS, GG Archives Archivist, Scanning Documents in 2013.

A Tip on Using the GG Archives

Organized by topics, the GG Archives specializes in providing social and cultural history in a historical context to aid in your research and enhance your Family History. With the exception of our military collection, the Archives is focused on the period of American History beginning with the 1880s to 1954 (the year Ellis Island closed).

GG Archives allows students, teachers, and researchers wide discretion in using materials and ask that you properly cite information utilized in your reports, homework, and school projects. Production quality digital images (600 DPI TIFF format) may be available on request for a nominal fee. See [Ordering Information](#) for specific costs.

Parting Thoughts

Live long and prosper my friends, and may you and yours be safe, and may your time be filled with exploration of new materials for your family history. :)