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Title

The House of Commons Parliamentary Papers – an unknown resource.

Summary

The House of Commons Parliamentary Papers, spanning 1688-2005, are an almost unknown resource that has an enormous amount of information of value to genealogists about people in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the Colonies. If your ancestor was involved in a colliery disaster, was a JP, fell foul of vagrancy or excise laws this is a resource you should consult.

Abstract

This presentation will discuss the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers, which are available through the State Library or the National Library of Australia. They contain an eclectic mix of information of use to family historians. This presentation will show a selection of the information that can be found in HCPP. These include civil service lists, reports on colliery disasters, Sheriffs' Accounts, lists of vagrants and prisoners, breaches of excise laws and those who paid their excise duties, petitions to parliament, land resumed for railway construction, railway accidents, paupers in workhouses and numerous Irish records. Irish records include examinations by the Apothecaries' Hall in Dublin, rents set by the Irish Land Commission, reports of Agrarian Crime and information about Irish Civil Servants. Australian information includes land grants and purchases, Alienation of Crown Lands, appointment of Colonial Officials, requests for allocation of convicts and the Bigge Report. The presentation will also show an example of some information that was not available from any other source. The presentation will also show how to access the HCPP.

Audience

Intermediate