

Final Report for the 2022 Digitization Grant to Chemung County Library District

August 1, 2023

The first batch of scanned and OCRd pages sent to NNYLN for the NYS Historic Newspapers project are in processing at NNYLN. I am sending them the final batch of newspaper pages, totaling 174 in number. This brings the total number of pages scanned and OCRd to 279.

The newspaper submitted to NYS Historic Newspapers through this project was the Chemung Valley Reporter, 1904-1906.

Challenges: Unfortunately I never recovered from missing so much time at the beginning of the project due to the steep learning curve. Additionally, the quality of the microfilm decreased as we moved into 1906 and I tried in vain to get acceptable images from the film.

Looking forward: However, now that we have the scanner, I can identify more titles to digitize. I will identify the least damaged films we own and work off of them. Additionally, I will seek partnerships and collaborations with other state institutions to continue digitization work on Elmira titles that are not available here, or whose films are too damaged in Elmira to use.

I am glad that we were also able to give the Chemung County Historical Society our old Microfilm scanner so they have a way of looking at the microfilm in their collection in house.

These projects will be our focus during the next 2 years or so.

I thank SCRLC very much for the opportunity to begin building our in-house digitization lab in order to continue to work of preserving and making Elmira titles accessible to researchers.

Please contact me with any questions and concerns.

Thank you again,
Maggie

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