



AM Explorer

Diane L. Richard investigates the Adam Matthew Digital Collection

AM EXPLORER IS SHORT FOR ADAM MATTHEW Digital Collection (www.amdigital.co.uk/products), a collection of primary sources from around the globe spanning the 15th – 21st centuries. Though this is an academic resource that institutions subscribe to, it has some excellent resources of interest to genealogists.



If any of the mentioned collections intrigue you, see if a local institution can provide access or possibly pursue a limited trial (not all features are available). For example, the Government and Heritage Library (GHL), State Library of North Carolina, often provides access to trials for select databases for staff and patrons to test out as they consider whether to subscribe or not to a database, <https://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/research/information-researchers/online-resources#trials>. GHL is not unique. I found many university libraries also provide trial access to databases under consideration for inclusion in their offerings. Basically, search on the institution name and then something like “trial data bases” or “database trials.” Often you have to have a library card from the institution to access these trials; sometimes not. And, if you do access such a trial, provide feedback. There is typically an official feedback form made available or an email provided. After all, the institution evaluates these databases as a future offering, and your feedback plays a critical role.

AM Explorer is an extensive digital collection, so exploring the included collections is an excellent way to get oriented. Some of the databases that caught my eye as genealogically relevant and less likely to be found elsewhere are:

- American Indian Newspapers
- Colonial America
- East India Company
- Jewish Life in America
- Popular Medicine in America, 1800-1900
- Slavery, Abolition and Social Justice
- Trade Catalogues and the American Home
- Virginia Company Archives
- and more

