Week 7 Sources and Methods

1. Quantitative Sources for History
2. Aggregate Data

1. Quantitative Historical Data Sources

- Words
- Commercial records
- Legal Records
- Institutional records
- Surveys
- Government records
- Genealogies and similar sources
- Church records
Percent of articles mentioning "Table 1":
Fourteen History Journals

Percent of articles mentioning "nineteenth century":
Economics journals (AER, QJE, JPE)
Analyzing Words

- Unit of analysis
- Explosion of potential source material
- Content analysis
  - [http://academic.csuohio.edu/kneuendorf/content/resources/TOC.htm](http://academic.csuohio.edu/kneuendorf/content/resources/TOC.htm)
  - Not just counting word frequencies

Commercial Records

Commercial Records
Commercial Records

Receipts

Payroll

Legal Records

18th c. Probate Inventories

Medieval Wills
Trial Transcripts

15th c. Croatia

18th c. Virginia

Institutional Records

Australian Lunatic Asylum Admissions Register

Canadian Orphanage Daily log
Issues with Commercial/Legal/Institutional Records

- Representativeness issues
  - Survival
- Few well-documented clean datasets generally available—usually DIY
- Essential for history of the organizations (e.g. business history, legal history, asylum history)

Survey Data

- Early labor force surveys (1896, 1916, state surveys)
- Public opinion surveys (beginning in 1930s)
- Modern academic/government surveys of social/demographic behavior, health, and income begin in late 1950s
Government Records

- Administrative (military, tax)
  - Available from ancient times
  - Usually non-representative
  - Often have little demographic information

- Statistical
  - Vital Statistics: Births, Deaths, Marriages
  - Censuses and Surveys
  - Both sources begin in the early-to-mid nineteenth century in most NW European countries
Genealogies and Biographical Data

• Peerage/aristocratic records
  – Widely available in Asia, Europe
  – Nonrepresentative
  – Scrubbed of illegitimate descendants

• Genealogies
  – Potential fertility and class selection biases

• Biographical dictionaries
  – Legislators
  – College Students
Basil, who succeeded, was Sheriff of the county of Rutland in 1605, and of Warwickshire in 1611; and marrying Elizabeth, fourth and youngest daughter of Sir Walter Aston of Thrale, in the county of Stafford, Knt. had issue three sons, and a daughter Dorothy, married to Sir Henry Arden of Curdworth, in Warwickshire, Knt. who left her a widow in 1616, and the dying in 1625, left one son Robert, who died unmarried at Oxford 22 August, 1643, and four daughters, Elizabeth, Judith, Dorothy, and Anne.—The sons of Basil were, Sir William, created Earl of Denbigh; Sir Roger, on whom his father settled the manor of Barnakele, and other lands, in the county of Warwick, which had been given by Edward Aglionby, 8 May, 32 Eliz. to Michael Fielding, his father's brother, and his heirs, where he became feated, and died 30 December, 1643, leaving issue by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Neale of the county of Southampton, Knt. three sons and six daughters, viz. Basil, his successor; George,
JOHN PICKENS, son of MARGARET STROBRIDGE (6), was
b. Oct. 10, 1765, in Middleborough (West Parish, now Lakeville),
Mass.; m. May 23, 1788, JOANNA (or Anna as it appears in Mid-
dleborough Records) CLARK, who d. at Wilton, Me., to which
place or vicinity, nearly all of her children, excepting Joanna,
removed.

CHILDREN.
151. i. RHODA, b. Nov. 7, 1788; m. JOHN MCCULLY.
152. ii. JOHN, b. Feb. 4, 1790; m. MARY ANN RANDALL.
153. iii. JOANNA, b. Oct. 13, 1791; m. CALEB TINKHAM.
154. iv. LEANDER, b. Oct. 3, 1793; m. VANNIE RANDALL, sister to his brother
John's wife.
155. v. DAVID.
156. vi. EDITH, b. 1797; d. Feb. 2, 1798, ex. 9 mos.
157. vii. ELISHA, m. Widow HATHAWAY. Their son Elisha lives (1891) with a
158. viii. EDITH, m. EZEKIEL RANDALL.

LIEUT. GEORGE PICKENS, son of MARGARET STROBRIDGE (6), was b. Apr. 18, 1767, in Middleborough (West Par-
ish, now Lakeville), Mass.; d. Apr. 2, 1849; m. (1), Jan. 23,
1794, his cousin POLLY, dau. of John and Ruth (Cushing) Pick-
ens; d. Aug. 19, 1805, ex. 37; m. (2), Nov. 27, 1806, ABIGAIL,
dau. of Jonathan Harvey, who d. July 13, 1839, ex. 69. An old
account book once owned by Lieut. George Pickens, and dating
back to 1728, is owned by his grandson, James P. Pierce of
Lakeville.

CHILDREN BY FIRST MARRIAGE.
159. i. LUCY, b. June 10, 1795; m. SILAS KING (167).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF THE

GRADUATES OF YALE COLLEGE

WITH

Annals of the College History

VOL. IV.

JULY, 1778—JUNE, 1792

BY

FRANKLIN BOWDITCH DEXTER, LITT.D.
THOMAS BULL, the eldest child of Thomas Bull, a merchant of Hartford, Connecticut, and grandson of Captain Caleb and Martha (Cadwell) Bull, was born in Hartford on November 9, 1787. His mother was Ruth, daughter of Moses and Sarah (Howard) Butler, of East Hartford. His eldest sister married Richard E. Goodwin, of the next class.

He was occupied after graduation in his father's store until he came of age, in November, 1808, when he sought his fortune in the Western Reserve of Ohio.

About 1824 he became Secretary of the Manhattan Insurance Company in New York, and he continued for many years to be engaged in the insurance business in that city, with his residence in Brooklyn, where he died on April 1, 1850, aged 62½ years.

He married Sarah Parsons Clark, the second daughter of Russell Clark, Junior, and Content (Ward) Clark, of New Haven, who was born in June, 1786, and survived him.
Church Records

- Main source for preindustrial demographic analysis
  - Aggregate analysis
  - Family reconstitution
2. Aggregate Data and Microdata

**Microdata**
- every record represents a separate person
- all of their individual characteristics are recorded
- users must manipulate the data themselves

**Aggregate data**
- a table of deaths from the Bills of Mortality, 1664
- an occupation table from a published census volume from the library
TABLE XLII—ATTENDING SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES DURING THE YEAR, AS SCHEDULE OF POPULATION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATES AND TERRITORIES</th>
<th>WHITE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>FREE COLORED</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Males</td>
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<td>Maine</td>
<td>97,493</td>
<td>68,021</td>
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<td>995</td>
<td>995</td>
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<td>221,373</td>
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<td>98,922</td>
<td>270,666</td>
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<td>36,835</td>
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<td>61,400</td>
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<td>154,614</td>
<td>311,003</td>
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<td>203,150</td>
<td>417,500</td>
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<td>113,513</td>
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<td>29,778</td>
<td>60,656</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trans-Mississippi</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>1,196</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

| Total                  | 9,141,432 | 1,015,604 | 4,963,040 | 12,366 | 12,367 | 24,733 |