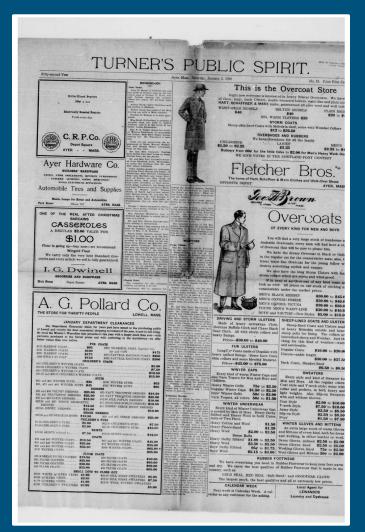
# Digitization of the Public Spirit

May 1869 - Dec. 2021

## **Current Conditions**

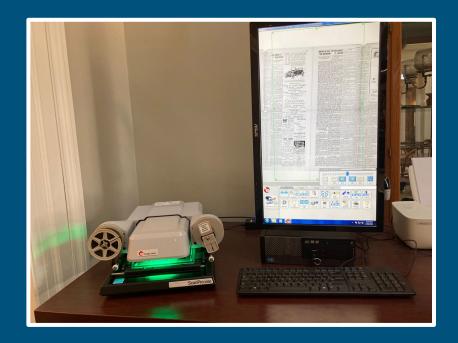
- The Library owns 130 reels covering from 1869 2021.
- The most commonly used reels are from 1869 - 1950.
- The Ayer Library was used as an archive by the paper and owns the only complete collection.
- Film reels are kept in a locked cabinet in The Nutting Room.
  - Room is only accessible with staff permission.

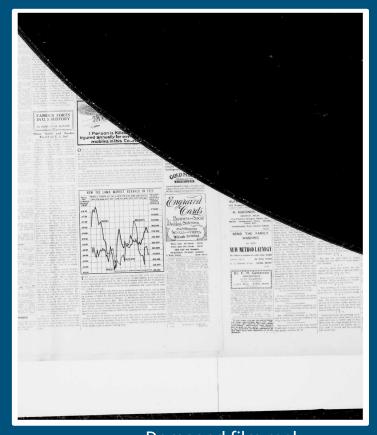
- Only viewable at the Ayer Library during Library open hours.
- Microfilm is starting to deteriorate.
- Newspapers were not always filmed in order.
  - This causes difficulty in finding the correct year
- Each page must be read one at a time in order to find what you are looking for.
  - This is time consuming for both staff and patrons.



How the newspaper can currently be viewed.

Individual pages and articles can be printed or saved to a thumb drive.

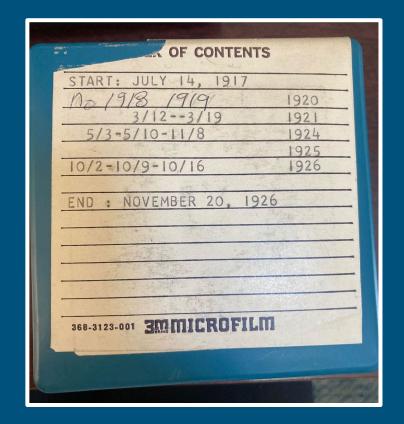




Damaged film reel.

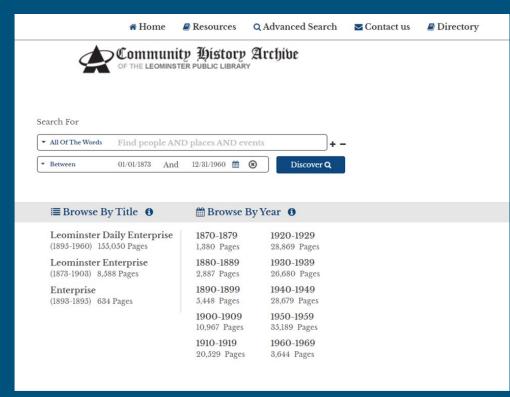
This is the most damaged reel, most have cracks and scratches.

Newspapers filmed out of order.
This reel contains issues from 1917, 1920, 1921, 1924, 1925, 1926. Issues from the missing years can be found on other reels.



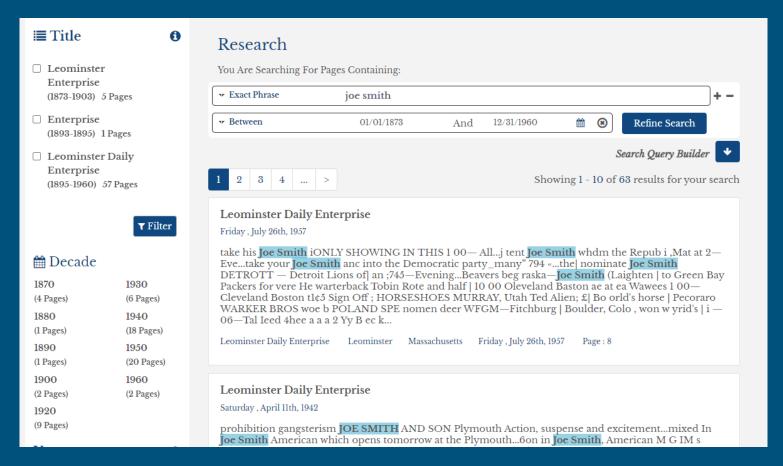
## Our Request

- The Ayer Library is asking for \$25,000 to digitize our microfilm collection.
- This will create a searchable database for the newspaper.
- The database will be accessible from the Ayer Library's website.
  - Patrons can access the database from home.
- Newspapers can be searched by year or by keyword.



The Leominster Library has already done this for their local papers.

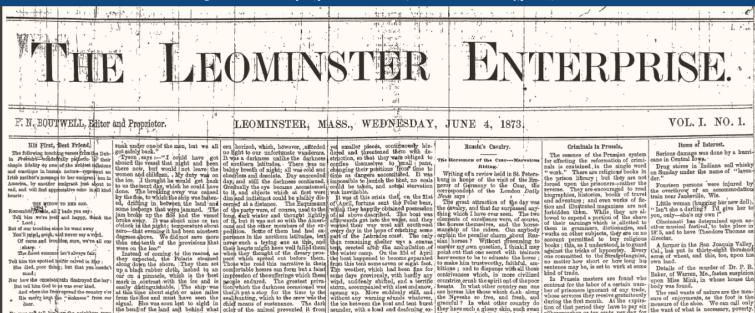
### Names, events, and dates can be used as search terms. This eliminates the need to read every page of the paper.



### Once scanned the newspaper will be easier to read, and there will be more options for magnification, printing and downloading.



Page 1 of Leominster Enterprise, published in Leominster, Massachusetts on Wednesday, June 4th, 1873



Cincinnati has determined upon an-other musical festival, to take place in

tion of that period they have to pay six

Items of Interest.

Details of the murder of Dr. P. R. Baker, of Warren, Me., fasten suspicion upon Miss Mink, in whose house the

body was found. The real wants of nature are the measure of enjoyments, as the foot is the measure of the shoe. We can call only

the want of what is necessary, poverty The United States Consul at Belfast, merely the starting point, the rate of Ireland, writes that during April 3,300 wages being subject to increase from of the flower of the youth of the sgricultime to time as the prisoner becomes tural districts left that port for the Uni-

Be care you test implow the neighbors cannot have due to the hand and be within a summer of the health of the hand and be within the hand hand and be within the hand the within the hand and be within the hand and be within the hand the within the hand and be within the hand and the hand and be within the hand and be within the hand and be wit more proficient. The contractor is also ted States. bound to provide the convict with work | The chap who could do all the busiwhen he duits the prison. A prisoner ness he wanted to without advertising, failing to earn the regulation six gros- has been compelled to advertise at last. chen per day paid for him by the con- The new advertisement is headed

tractor is duly punished; while of his "Sheriff's sale." A good man, who has seen much of