

Arrival of Workers in North America

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Revised September 18, 2025

1903 ARRIVAL OF EARLY WORKERS IN USA

Arrived September 14, 1903, aboard S.S. Columbia, Glasgow to New York, USA

Name	Age	Ethnicity	Occupation
William Irvine	40	Scotland	Preacher
George Walker	26	Ireland	Preacher
Irvine Weir	25	Ireland	Preacher

Arrived November 9, 1903, aboard S.S. Columbia to New York, USA

Jimmie Patrick
Difficult to locate entry on manifest—extremely poor handwriting.
No individual record found.

1904 ARRIVAL OF EARLY WORKERS IN USA

Arrived May 16, 1904 aboard S.S. Furnesia, Londonderry to New York, USA

Name	Age	Ethnicity	
John (Jack) Carroll	25	Ireland	
Hugh Matthews	26	Ireland	
Charlie Glen	27	Scotland	
William Clelland	26	Scotland	
Mary (May) Carroll	24	Ireland	First Sister Workers
Sarah Rogers	30	Ireland	First Sister Workers

Arrived December 8, 1904, aboard S.S. Oceanic, Liverpool, England to New York, USA

Name	Age	Ethnicity	
Francis Scott (Frank)	20	Ireland	
John Jackson (Jack)	24	Ireland	
James Jardine (Jim)	20	Scotland	
David Lyness (Dave)	26	Ireland	
William Weir (Willie)	22	Ireland	
Bella Cooke	26	Ireland	
Emma Gill*	33	Ireland	(*also on this ship)
Lizzie Coles*	26	England	(*also on this ship)

Arrived August 14, 1905, aboard S.S. Numidian, Glasgow, Scotland to New York, USA

Name	Age	Ethnicity
William Jamieson	24	Scotland
John R. Paterson	27	Scotland
William McLeod	27	Scotland
George Beattie	28	Ireland
Charlie Mathews	19	Ireland
William Jones	21	Scotland
John Burns	17	Scotland
Joseph Gaskin	19	Ireland
Maggie Gowans	24	Scotland
Anna Taylor	24	Ireland
Maggie Stewart	20	Ireland
Agnes Hutchison	29	Scotland

Arrived September 16, 1906, aboard SS Caledonia, Londonderry, Ireland to New York, USA

Name	Age	Ethnicity
George Walker	29	British/Irish
Abraham Mayers	28	British/Irish
Herbert Reid	21	British/Irish
Thomas Noble	27	British/Irish
Robert Humphreys	26	British/Irish
James Graves	26	British/Irish
Alexander Dunn	20	British/Irish
John Byers	21	British/Irish

Annie Dougal	28	British/Irish	
Anna Davis	24	British/Irish	
Jane Weir	23	British/Irish	(Jean Weir)
Lottie Reid	23	British/Irish	
Rebecca Dane	26	British/Irish	(Died July 5, 1907)

Arrived September 4, 1908, aboard S.S. Cedric, Liverpool, England to New York, USA

Name	Age	Ethnicity
Hugh Henry	24	Ireland
Walter Smith	21	England
David Sutherland	27	Scotland
David Lyness	30	Ireland
Walter Walden	22	England
Samuel H. Buchanan	27	Ireland
Jane Kelly	20	Ireland
Emma Head	28	England
Isabella Reid	24	Ireland

1904 – 1908: ARRIVAL OF EARLY WORKERS IN CANADA:**Arrived August 13, 1904, aboard the S.S. Parisian, Liverpool, England to Montreal; then to Souris, Manitoba, Canada**

Name	Age	Ethnicity	
Harry Oliver	23	Hampshire	Farmer
Tom Craig	22	Berwick	Farmer
John Doak	25	Tyrone	Farmer
George Buttimer	21	Cork	Farmer

Arrived August 10, 1905, aboard the S.S. Virginian, Liverpool, England to Montreal, Canada

Name	Age	Ethnicity	Destination	Occupation
Ed Armstrong	24	Fermanagh	USA	Preacher
James Boyd**	25	Armagh	USA	Preacher
Ralph Bullick	22	Armagh	Sidney, Manitoba	Missionary
Hugh Doak	23	Tyrone	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
William Jackson	25	King Co.	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
Robert Johnston	35	Scot, Berwicks	(not given)	Preacher
Thos. Lyness	32	Armagh	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
Tom Patterson	23	Tyrone	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
Tom Purves	17	Berwicks	USA	Preacher
Noble Stinson	26	Fermanagh	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
R.D. Watchorn "Dick"	25	Queens	Toronto and USA	Missionary
Robt S. Skerriitt (misspelled Kinitt)	24	Kings	Toronto and USA	Religions
Martha Cooper	30	Antrim	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
Dora Holland	29	Galway	Sidney, Manitoba	Preacher
Annie Irwin	21?	Tyrone	Toronto – to USA	Preacher
Martha McGivern "Mattie"	30	Co. Cork	Toronto – to USA	Preacher
Mabel Reid	22	Derry	USA	Missionary
Annie Skerriitt	24	Kings?	Toronto and USA	Missionary

* were not on this list, but are shown on ship manifest and in other documents.

**Boyd not found on passengerlist

Arrived August 19, 1908, aboard the S.S. Carthaginian, Liverpool, England to Halifax, Nova Scotia:

*"The S.S. Carthaginian Left Liverpool Aug. 08, 1908, to Glasgow, to St. Johns, arrived Halifax Aug. 19, 1908. Manifest shows: George Johnson, Walter H. Dennison, Thos. McGivern, Wm. Armstrong, Joseph Brown, **WM. IRVINE**, John Baillie, Blanche H. Chappell, Janet Dougal, Rosetta (Nettie) Miller, Mary K. Wilson. In Aug. 1908, twelve workers came from the old country, docking in the St. John's Harbour." (Source: **Coming of the Workers to Newfoundland**)*

ARRIVAL OF EARLY WORKERS IN AFRICA:**Arrived September 25, 1905, aboard the S.S. Geelong, London, England to Cape Town, South Africa: Eight**

Workers disembarked at Cape Town, South Africa who were among a group of 18 workers who departed from London on August 25, 1905. The four brothers and four sisters were sisters: Mary Moodie (age 38), Barbara Baxter (age 24), L. Reid (age 26), M. Skerritt (age 22); and brothers Joseph Kerr (age 24), Wilson Reid (age 24), J. Cavanagh (age 27), A. Pierce (age 29). The other ten Workers continued on to various ports in Australia.

Source: Passenger List for S. S. Geelong on ancestry.com