

Parsons Paper Company Payroll & Employment Analysis - Stat 210

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Introduction

The Parsons Paper Register contains nearly 400 pages of employee, payroll, and financial records from January 1861 to April 1869 from Parsons Paper Company in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Founded in 1853 by Joseph Parsons, Parsons Paper Company was the oldest and largest manufacturer of cotton-based high quality writing papers in Holyoke until its liquidation in 2005. The original pages of the register, which is now property of the Holyoke Public Library, were scanned on January 10, 2023 as part of this class (STAT210: Mining the History of Holyoke) and screenshots are included in the analysis below. Pages contain information such as employee name and signature, role, days worked, daily pay, and total wages earned, and are organized by separate pay periods. We are focused mainly on the payroll, which is comprised by pages 1-316 of the register.

The goal of the following report is to further explore patterns in employment and different groups of employees over time by analyzing the payroll records in the 1861-1869 time period, both before and after the end of the Civil War. First, we aimed to quantify the length of a single pay period as well as the number of employees working at Parsons Paper Company during the era spanning the register. The 1860s were a time of great growth for the company, and by the beginning of the Civil War in 1861 Parsons Paper Company had already become the largest manufacturer of writing and envelope paper in the United States. We then examined the distribution of different roles within the company, ranging from women who worked in the “rag room” where the raw material for paper was cut and processed, to men who worked in the engine room and repairs. Most paper mills in the North purchased rags from companies in the South, and Parsons’ rag room was considered an “[anomaly](#).” We are also interested in clarifying the meaning of the “Price” column of the payroll, which appears to denote the daily wage rate of the different employees in cents, although the exact meaning and calculation of the fractions remains unclear.

In the example analysis below, we used a transcribed copy of page 253 (Figure 1) of the register to compare the number of employees who were able to sign their own signatures to

the number of employees who were not able to read a singular page, and examine whether there was a relationship between literacy and pay.

Figure 1: Ex. p. 253 of register - February 1st, 1867. Payroll of the Parsons Paper Company (Holyoke, MA)

Based off these findings, it appears that a large portion (slightly more than half) of the employees at Parsons Paper Company were illiterate, especially the women and immigrants, who largely lacked formal education. Additionally, employees who were literate received significantly higher wages compared to employees who were illiterate.

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signature_x
no yes Total
24 20 44
```

```
signature_x
no yes
0.5455 0.4545
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One of the central goals of this class is to make the information contained in the Parsons Paper Register and related materials more accessible and widely available to those interested in the rich history of Holyoke. A Shiny app is available to view individual scans of the register at r.amherst.edu/apps/nhorton/Parsons-Paper/. We hope that this report can provide some insight into the different day-to-day operations at Parsons Paper Company, as well as the individuals who worked there, many of whom stayed for several years.

Table 1: Example Portion of Parsons Paper Company Register P.253

lastname	firstname	number_days	price1	price2	total	rent_or_board	balance_due	signature_x	daily_pay
Johnson	William	24.50	16	6	67.37	NA	67.37	yes	2.750
O'Brien	John W.	21.50	9	9	34.95	4.67	30.28	yes	1.626
Connor	William	25.00	16	6	68.75	7.25	61.50	yes	2.750
Kennedy	Martin	23.00	9	9	37.38	0.00	37.38	no	1.625
Casey	James	25.50	12	0	51.00	0.00	51.00	no	2.000
Gallivan	Thos	25.00	9	0	37.50	0.00	37.50	no	1.500
Vaughn	John W.	25.00	12	0	50.00	0.00	50.00	no	2.000
Doyle	Pat K.	27.00	9	0	40.50	0.00	40.50	no	1.500
Knight	Samuel L.	27.50	12	0	55.00	7.25	47.75	no	2.000
Gilday	Phillip	28.50	12	0	57.00	0.00	57.00	yes	2.000
Couchon	John	28.00	12	0	56.00	6.25	49.75	yes	2.000
Russell	Frank	27.50	10	6	48.12	9.00	39.12	yes	1.750
Johnson	Chancy	28.50	7	6	35.63	0.00	35.63	no	1.250
Pomeroy	William	27.00	21	0	94.50	0.00	94.50	yes	3.500
Flynn	John	27.00	15	0	67.50	0.00	67.50	no	2.500
Willington	E.	27.00	19	6	87.75	6.25	81.50	yes	3.250
Moran	Martin	27.50	9	9	44.70	0.00	44.70	no	1.625
McKay	William	31.25	19	6	98.31	9.33	88.98	yes	3.146
Strong	Chester	27.00	13	0	58.50	0.00	58.50	yes	2.167
Allen	J.H.	27.00	9	0	40.50	5.00	35.50	no	1.500
Ryan	Mick	31.00	11	0	56.83	0.00	56.83	no	1.833
Bergin	Pat K.	31.00	9	0	46.50	0.00	46.50	no	1.500
Markham	Mick	29.00	11	0	53.17	0.00	53.17	no	1.833
Woolf	Edward	25.00	9	9	40.63	0.00	40.63	yes	1.625
Moriarty	Pat K.	25.50	10	6	44.62	4.67	39.95	no	1.750
O'Hare	Pat K.	27.00	9	9	43.88	5.00	38.88	yes	1.625
Beaudeax	Jos	6.00	9	9	9.75	5.00	4.75	no	1.625
Beaudeax	Jos Jr.	28.00	9	9	45.50	0.00	45.50	no	1.625
Naughton	John	27.00	10	6	47.25	0.00	47.25	no	1.750
Hurly	Eugene	26.00	9	0	39.00	0.00	39.00	no	1.500
Davis	Hiram	26.50	9	0	39.75	0.00	39.75	yes	1.500
Shea	John	18.50	9	0	27.75	0.00	27.75	no	1.500
Warren	John	0.50	9	0	0.75	0.00	0.75	yes	1.500
Donlan	Mary	11.00	6	9	12.37	0.00	12.37	no	1.125
William	Kate	27.00	6	9	30.37	0.00	30.37	no	1.125
Moran	Kate	24.00	6	9	27.00	0.00	27.00	no	1.125
Baldwin	Kate	23.00	6	9	25.87	0.00	25.87	no	1.125
Gilday	Phillip	NA	NA	NA	7.12	0.00	7.12	yes	NA
Flynn	John	NA	NA	NA	1.00	0.00	1.00	no	NA
Ely	Austin	27.00	18	0	81.00	0.00	81.00	yes	3.000
Buckley	Matteo	27.00	18	0	81.00	0.00	81.00	yes	3.000
Alden	J.M.	27.00	16	0	67.50	0.00	67.50	yes	2.500
Newell	Martin	27.00	13	6	60.75	4.00	56.75	yes	2.250
Casey	Pat K.	33.00	9	9	53.62	0.00	53.62	yes	1.625

How many days in a pay period?

As mentioned in the introduction, the Parsons Paper Company register stored in the Holyoke Public Library comprises monthly pay periods from January 1861-April 1869 (p.1-316 of the register). Pay periods appear to be a month long with employees typically getting paid on the 1st of the next month. Based off Table 1 from p. 253, most employees work between 20-30 days each pay period, with the average being around 27, so most employees work at least 6 days/week. In Chapter IV of Constance Green's *Holyoke, Massachusetts: A Case History of the Industrial Revolution in America* (Green 1939), it is reported that male Holyoke paper makers worked 58-72 hours a week. Working 11.25 hours five days a week in addition to 8.75 hours on Saturday was typical for Holyoke textile mills, while women tended to work slightly shorter hours.

Pgs. 223-225 (see Figure 2) appear to comprise an entire pay period for the month of April in 1868 (most pay periods span ~3 pages in the register)

*Received of the PARSONS PAPER COMPANY, by their Agent, the sum prefixed to our Signatures,
being in full of all demands up to April 1st 1867.*

NAMES	NO. POUNDS.	NO. REAMS.	NO. DATE.	PRICE.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	RENT, OR BOARD.	BALANCE DUE.	DATE.	SIGNATURES.
George Papillion	2 ² / ₃	13		6187	61.87	Apr 15			George Papillion
James P. Dowd	24 ³ / ₄	9		3742	37.42				James P. Dowd
Walter F. Lord	28 ² / ₃	3		5600	6.25	4675	"		Walter F. Lord
George P. Day	26 ¹³ / ₁₆	5		5850	6.25	5225	"		Geo. A. Day
Olive Whalley	23 ¹ / ₂	19		4419	12	5219	"		Olive Whalley
P. Belmont Sales	26 ¹ / ₂	8		3467	13 1/4	2153	"		P. Belmont Sales
Lawrence Fairall	24 ¹ / ₂	6		4200	13 1/4	2886	"		Lawrence Fairall
Samuel Lawrence	16 ² / ₃	3		19.25	12	7.25	"		Samuel Lawrence
Charles Morgan	15 ⁴ / ₅	4		1000		10	"		Charles Morgan
Kay P. Dowd	26 ¹ / ₂	9		26		26	"		Kay P. Dowd
Mary Holland	26 ¹ / ₂	9		26		26			Mary Holland
Ellen Dowd	24 ² / ₃	4		24.50		24.50	"		Ellen Dowd
Olive Morgan	26 ¹ / ₂	9		26		26	"		Olive Morgan
Isabella Stock	26 ¹ / ₂	9		26		26	"		Isabella Stock
M. Casey (Horgan)	23 ⁵ / ₆	4		23.50		23.50	"		M. Casey (Horgan)
Mary Peigle	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25.75		25.75	"		Mary Peigle
Emilia Marsh	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25.25	12	15.25	"		Emilia Marsh
Malina Colby	26 ¹ / ₂	9		26		26	"		Malina Colby
Audina Colby	24 ² / ₃	4		24.50	9 00	15.50	"		Audina Colby
Res Smith	18 ² / ₃	6		18.50		18.50	"		Res Smith
Emily Strong	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25		25	"		Emily Strong
E. Tomlinson	26 ¹ / ₂	9		28	3	23	"		E. Tomlinson
Jennie Gill	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25.50	12	13.50	"		Jennie Gill
J. A. Reale	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25	6.85	18.15	"		J. A. Reale
G. Whittemore	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25		25	"		G. Whittemore
Carrie Galvan	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25.75		25.75	"		Carrie Galvan
Alice J. Perry	25 ¹ / ₂	4		25		25	"		Alice J. Perry
Maria Bush	25 ¹ / ₂	4		24.75	12	12.75	"		Maria Bush
E. A. Barnes	25 ¹ / ₂	4		20.50		20.50	"		E. A. Barnes
Abby Allen	9 ³ / ₄	2		8.10		8.10	"		Abby Allen
Kay E. Kelt	18 ¹ / ₂	4		18	9.86	8.14	"		Kay E. Kelt
Mary Comin	26 ¹ / ₂	4		26		26	"		Mary Comin
Elizabeth Dowd	3 ¹ / ₂	3		3		3	"		Elizabeth Dowd
Margaret Kalan	17 ¹ / ₂	6		11.50	6	5.50	"		Margaret Kalan
H. Cross	String 1667 46349			18.64	12	6.64	"		H. Cross
Jessie Dowd	C. & G. 12272 52 53			30.45	6.25	24.20	"		Jessie Dowd
Suey Allen	12351								Suey Allen
J. Cormac	1174 582 53			33.74					J. Cormac
Sarah Francis	829 46 53			26.97	9.00	17.97	"		Sarah Francis
E. A. Allen	118 123 53			7.89	2.58	5.26	"		E. A. Allen
H. Brown	Seton 1520	2		26		26	"		H. Brown
Margaret Dowd	" 757	2		15.14		15.14	"		Margaret Dowd
E. M. Seitz	" 724	2		14.48		14.48	"		E. M. Seitz
Martha Wright	" 1118	2		22.56		22.56	"		Martha Wright
Julia Cormac	" 939	2		18.78	7.00	11.78	"		Julia Cormac
O. R. Miller	" 421	2		8.42	5.9	7.92	"		O. R. Miller
L. Farrell									L. Farrell
R. P. Sykes									R. P. Sykes
Sam. J. Lawrence									Sam. J. Lawrence

C. & G. 12272 52 53
Seton 1520
E. A. Allen
H. Brown
M. Dowd
R. T. Lord
S. J. Lawrence

1867
1868



Figure 2: p. 223 of register (April 1st, 1867), see p.224-225 in 'Appendix'

Pgs. 223-225 and Pgs. 261-263 (see Figure 3) are exactly one year apart in the register (April 1st 1867 vs. April 1st 1868).

Received of the PARSONS PAPER COMPANY, by their Agent, the sum prefixed to our Signatures,
being in full of all demands up to April 1st 1868.

NAMES.	NO. POUNDS.	NO. REAMS.	NO. DAYS.	PRICE.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	RENT, OR BOARD.	BALANCE DUE.	DATE.	SIGNATURES.
Geo Papillion	24	18	4	64.32	64.32				George Papillion
Jenny P. Davis	22	10	1	3.98	3.98				Jenny P. Davis
J. T. Lord	23	18		63.75	7.25	56.50			Haller Lord
Elo A. Day	24	15		60.63	7.25	53.38			Elo A. Day
O. S. Whaler	21	14		5.01	17.71	32.66			O. S. Whaler
A. L. P. Sykes	26	18		45.50	17.71	27.79			A. L. P. Sykes
J. F. Daniels	21	15		5.25		5.25			J. F. Daniels
Chas. Robertson	26	16		82.50	17.71	14.79			Chas. Robertson
Cho. A. Morgan	26	5		2.16		2.16			Cho. A. Morgan
Ellen Dowling	25	6		2.50		2.50			Ellen Dowling
Jos. H. Shattuck	26			3.03		3.03			Jos. H. Shattuck
R. Casey	25	6		2.50		2.50			R. Casey
Anna Brown	20			2.05		2.05			Anna Brown
Elo A. Whittemore	26			26.00	13.29	12.71			Elo A. Whittemore
Sarah Storer	25			23.50	13.29	10.21			Sarah Storer
Cara Wadsworth	24			24.00	13.29	10.71			Cara Wadsworth
Eliza Burley	26			26.00		26			Eliza Burley
Mary Burley	26			26.00		26			Mary Burley
Felicity Norton	29			21.50	13.29	8.21			Felicity Norton
J. Buckland	18			18.00	9.86	8.14			J. Buckland
E. Carlton	13			1.00		1.00			E. Carlton
Lizzie Dawson	26			26.00	13.29	12.71			Lizzie Dawson
S. Mandeville	26			26.00		26.00			S. Mandeville
Julia Dart	26			36.00	13.29	12.71			Julia Dart
Maria Brown	13			13.25		13.25			Maria Brown
Meredith Dart	25			25.00	13.29	11.71			Meredith Dart
Louisa Heath	25			2.50		2.50			Louisa Heath
Sarah Camp	24	6		2.00		2.00			Sarah Camp
Yours Gould	26	6		26.00	13.29	12.71			Yours Gould
L. A. Dow	21	20	3	27.64		27.64			L. A. Dow
Lucy Allen	25	2	13	2.97		2.97			Lucy Allen
M. Brown	27	2	40	20.09	13.29	6.80			M. Brown
M. Dow	21	20	40	28.71		28.71			M. Dow
E. A. Allen	11	1	2	2.34		2.34			E. A. Allen
Mary Conford	780			15.60	15.60	0.00			Mary Conford
G. A. Lord	906			1.81		1.81			G. A. Lord
Matthew Wright	756			1.51	7.00	8.12			Matthew Wright
E. Conford	1069			2.13	13.29	8.09			E. Conford
S. Conford	915			1.83		1.83			S. Conford
D. Conford	7	6		7.00		7			D. Conford
Adie Conner	279	25	58	14.64		14.64			Adie Conner
M. Brown	200	25	58	5.51		5.51			M. Brown
S. Hackeloff	235	9	8	5.51		5.51			S. Hackeloff
Julia Conner	214	2		4.25		4.25			Julia Conner
M. Brown	168	2		3.36		3.36			M. Brown
S. Conford	12	6		4.50		4.50			S. Conford
Mary Dow	680	2		13.60	6.25	7.35			Mary Dow
"	240	2		6.00		6			"
260	3			7.50		7.50			260
Mary Holland	702	2		14.04		14.04			Mary Holland
"	496	3		14.85		14.85			"
Mary Conford	400	2		8.00	5.83	2.17			Mary Conford
					101.960	145.07	97.462		

Figure 3: p. 261 of register (April 1st, 1868), see p.262-263 in 'Appendix'

Table 2: Number of Parsons Paper Company Employees by Year

Year	Number of Employees	Subset Page Numbers
April 1861	92	8-10
April 1862	122	43-45
April 1863	141	79-81
April 1864	128	115-117
April 1865	159	151-153
April 1866	144	187-189
April 1867	131	223-225
April 1868	153	261-263
April 1869	153	314-316

How many employees during this era?

To quantify this, we counted the number of employees throughout each of the following pay periods by hand by going through the pages of the register one by one. We found that the average number of workers employed at Parsons Paper Company across the measured 9 years spanning the register is **136 employees between 1861-1869**. From Table 2 below, we can see that the number of employees generally increased over the years, with a noticeable boom in employment towards the end of the Civil War in 1865. In Chapter IV of *Holyoke, Massachusetts*, Green mentions that these paper mills had abnormally high employee retention rates compared to other industries. From *Burt's Illustrated Guide of the Connecticut Valley* ([page 79](#)), we also know that at the end of 1867, Parsons employed 150 people and had “nineteen engines for grinding rags,” turning out “800 tons of paper yearly.”

What types of jobs are there?

In *History of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts: History of Franklin County. History of Hampden County* (1879), accessed [here](#) via Google Books, L.H Everts provides more information about the layout of the two Parsons Paper Company mills and the different departments of employment, which helped us determine job names that we could not originally decipher (i.e. “jobber”). Everts writes that,

“The buildings of this company are situated on the river-bank near the dam, and were built in 1853. They are two in number,—the **main mill**, where the paper is made, and what is known as the **finishing-mill**, where it is finished. The former is a structure three stories and a basement high. The upper floor and attic are devoted to drying purposes, while the second story contains the storehouse and **rag-rooms**. About 175 persons are employed on the two floors. On the ground-floor is the **engine-room**, which contains sixteen 450-pound and fourteen 250-pound engines. The mill has three Fourdrinier machines, two of them are 62-inch and the other 72-inch. It has two bleach-boilers, of 3 1/2 and 2 1/2 tons respectively, and 4 sheet calendars and a web calendar and 2 hydraulic presses. The finishing-mill is also situated on the bank of the river, a short distance from the other mill, and, like that, is a

brick structure three stories high. The attic and third floor are used for **packing**, and on the second floor the paper is **reeled** and **jogged**. On the first floor are eight 6-roll calendars and three powerful hydraulic presses, and in the basement is a box-factory and plating-machines" (919).

Tracking employment by job type for first 6 months of the register (Jan-Jun 1861)

[Link to full spreadsheet](#)

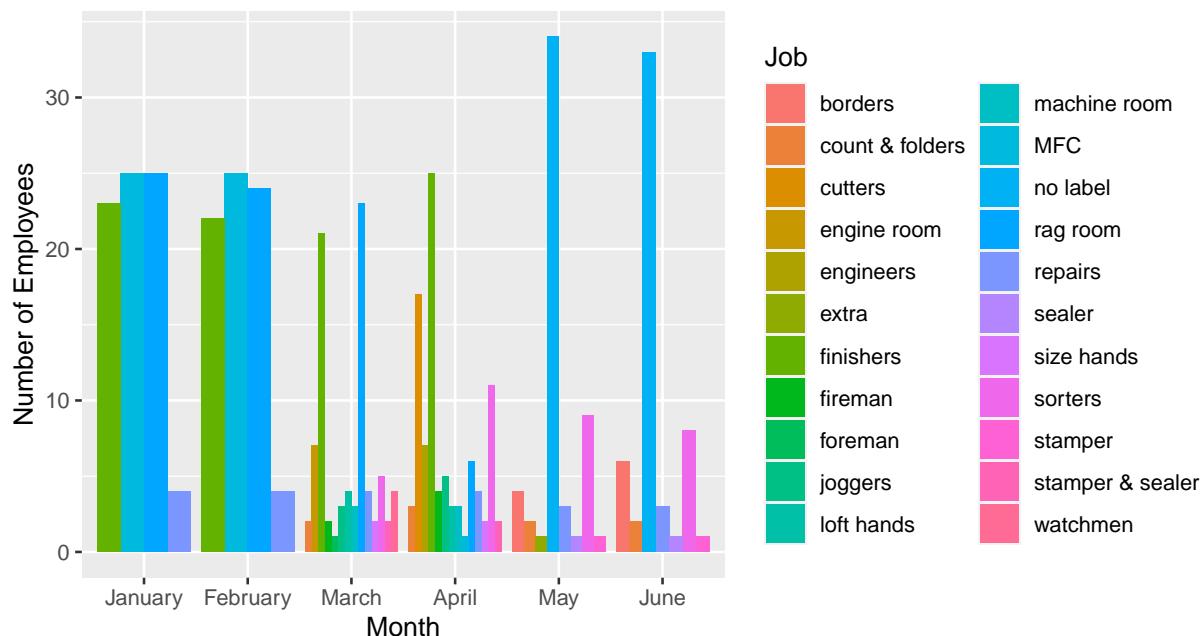
Table 3 below displays the different roles recorded for the first six months of the register, from January to June of 1861. The role labels on the register become very sporadic and difficult to track after 1861, however, ‘Repairs’ and ‘Repairs and Watchmen’ remain in their own section at the bottom of the register pages throughout all of the pay periods. There were 5 people under “Repairs” for April 1st, 1867 (see Figure 6 in ‘Appendix’) and 8 people under April 1st, 1868 (see Figure 7 in ‘Appendix’).

The first couple pages of each pay period are comprised by unlabeled laborers (presumably the majority worked in the engine and machine rooms), in addition to Repairs and Watchmen, are all males. The sorters, stampers, sealers, count and folders, and rag room/cutter roles all appear to remain throughout 1861-1869, although there are much fewer of them compared to the unlabeled male laborers. These roles are largely held by women, and their wages tend to be significantly lower than male workers, which can be seen in the next section.

Table 3: Parsons Paper Company Employment by Job Type (January-June 1861)

Month	Year	Page Number	Job	Count	Monthly Total Workers
January	1861	1	MFC	25	77
January	1861	1	repairs	4	77
January	1861	2	rag room	25	77
January	1861	2	finishers	23	77
February	1861	3	MFC	25	75
February	1861	3	repairs	4	75
February	1861	4	rag room	24	75
February	1861	4	finishers	22	75
March	1861	5	foreman	1	85
March	1861	5	machine room	3	85
March	1861	5	engine room	7	85
March	1861	5	loft hands	4	85
March	1861	5	fireman	2	85
March	1861	5	size hands	2	85
March	1861	5	joggers	3	85
March	1861	5	watchmen	4	85
March	1861	6	rag room	23	85
March	1861	6	repairs	4	85
March	1861	7	finishers	21	85
March	1861	7	sorters	5	85
March	1861	7	stamper & sealer	2	85
March	1861	7	count & folders	2	85
March	1861	7	sorters	2	85
April	1861	8	rag room	6	93
April	1861	8	cutters	17	93
April	1861	8	repairs	4	93
April	1861	9	MFC	1	93
April	1861	9	machine room	3	93
April	1861	9	engineers	7	93
April	1861	9	loft hands	3	93
April	1861	9	size hands	2	93
April	1861	9	joggers	5	93
April	1861	9	fireman	4	93
April	1861	10	finishers	25	93
April	1861	10	stamper & sealer	2	93
April	1861	10	count & folders	3	93
April	1861	10	sorters	11	93
May	1861	11	no label	25	105
May	1861	11	stamper	1	105
May	1861	11	sealer	1	105
May	1861	11	count & folders	2	105
May	1861	11	sorters	9	105
May	1861	11	extra	1	105
May	1861	12	no label	34	105
May	1861	12	repairs	3	105
May	1861	13	no label	25	105
May	1861	13	borders	4	NA
June	1861	14	no label	17	95
June	1861	14	repairs	3	95
June	1861	14	borders	6	95
June	1861	15	no label	24	95
June	1861	15	sorters	8	95
June	1861	15	count & folders	2	95
June	1861	15	stamper	1	95
June	1861	15	sealer	1	95
June	1861	16	no label	33	95

Parsons Paper Company Employment by Job Type in 1861



The plot above shows the distribution of different roles within the paper company during the first six months of 1861. The unlabeled male laborers, MFC mill workers, finishers, and rag room workers appear to be the most popular roles.

How do Parsons wages compare to the Massachusetts state averages?

Table 4 and the plot below are adapted from page 314 of Judith McGaw's *Most Wonderful Machine: Mechanization and Social Change in Berkshire Paper Making, 1801-1885*, which used data from page 74 of the *Tenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Statistics of Labor* (Boston, 1879).

Table 4: Weekly Wages of Massachusetts Paper Workmen, 1860-78

Job	1860 Weekly Wages (\$)	1872 Weekly Wages (\$)	1878 Weekly Wages (\$)
Foreman	16.63	16.00	26.49
Millwright	9.86	16.00	15.21
Paper-machine tender	10.00	16.00	15.25
Mechanic	9.75	NA	13.20
Finisher	7.70	11.33	10.20
Rag-engine tender	7.90	14.67	10.41
Engineer/fireman	6.64	10.52	8.77
Finisher's helper	5.80	NA	7.27
Cutter	6.90	8.89	7.95
Bleacher	6.70	8.89	7.56
Men on stock	5.88	9.33	6.57
Laborers	5.50	9.33	6.55

Weekly Wages of Massachusetts Paper Workmen, 1860–78

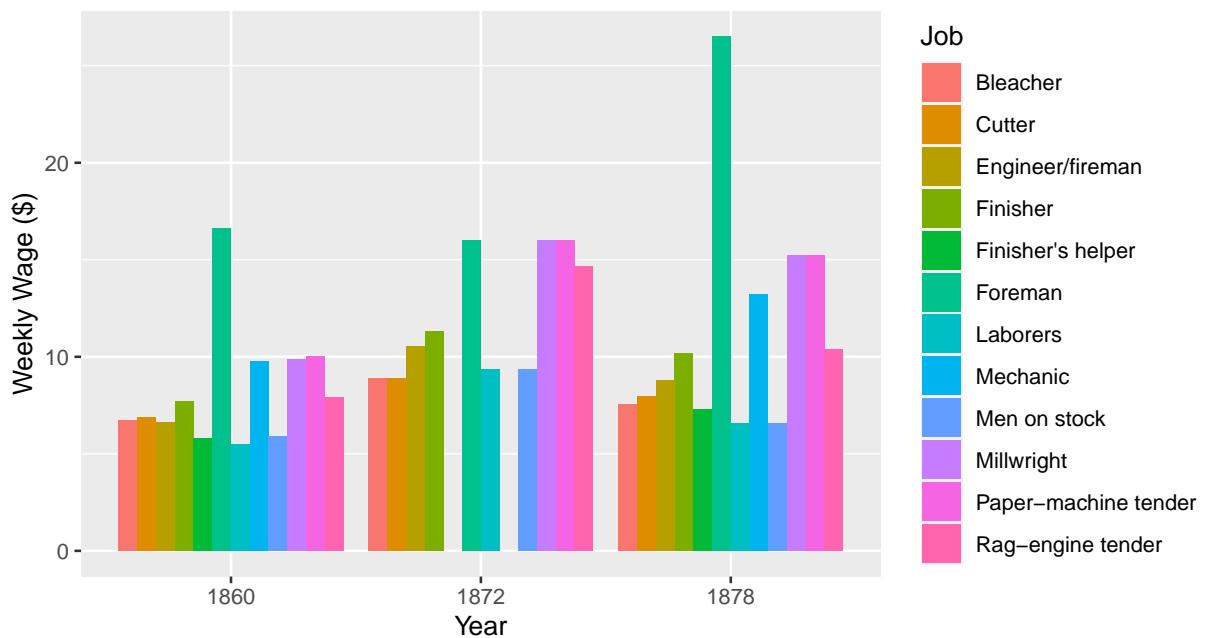
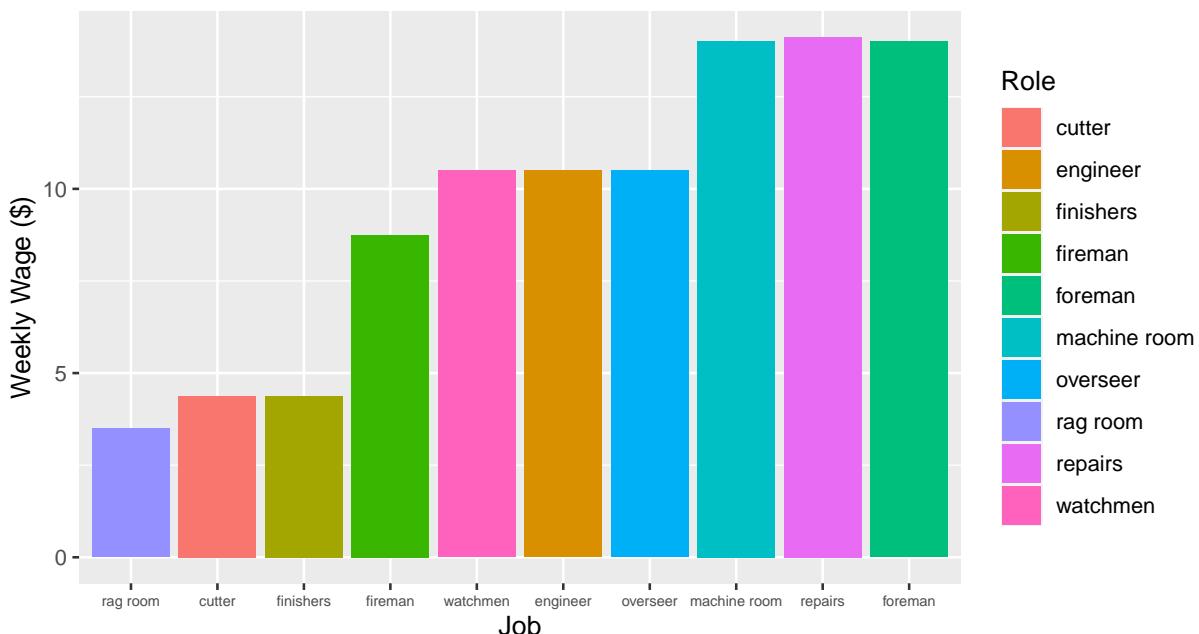


Table 5: Parsons Weekly Wages - 1861

Job	Weekly Wages (\$)
repairs	14.12
foreman	14.00
machine room	14.00
repairs	12.25
machine room	11.79
engineer	10.50
overseer	10.50
watchmen	10.50
fireman	8.75
watchmen	7.00
finishers	4.38
cutter	4.38
rag room	3.50
rag room	3.50

From Table XX Please autonumber all Figure and Table refs XX, we can see that Parsons Paper Company employees were, for the most part, paid at comparable rates to other Massachusetts paper factory workers across the state, although the pay for several common roles, especially those held by women (finisher, cutter), is noticeably lower compared to the state average, while other more “important” roles such as engineer and mechanic tended to be paid more at Parsons compared to other Massachusetts paper mills. It may be beneficial to compare the Parsons Paper Company wages to those of other paper mills in Holyoke, as opposed to the entire state, to get a better understanding of how the Parsons Paper Company paid relative to its direct competitors.

Weekly Wages of Parsons Paper Company Workers – 1861



From this graph, we can see that the top paying roles at Parsons Paper Company in 1861 were the foreman, followed by repairs and machine room workers, who each made nearly 15 dollars a week. From John P. Hickey's 1954 University of Massachusetts thesis *The Holyoke Area Paper Industry*, we know that repairs were undertaken on Sundays, typically the only day off for many paper workers: "In replacing a wire on a Fourdrinier paper machine, workers in the Holyoke mills receive half a day's pay besides their regular pay during the hours they work on the replacement. This acts as an incentive to the workers to get the machine back in operation as soon as possible" (94).

In contrast, female laborers who worked in the rag room and as cutters and finishers were paid much lower wages, with almost all women being paid less than 5 dollars a week.

From Hickey's thesis, we also found the following quote:

In 1861, after a period of severe readjustment just prior to the Civil War, twenty-one of the thirty-six manufactures of fine papers met at Pittsfield...to organize a protective association. They desired to raise prices which had fallen drastically as the result of a decrease in demand. They agreed to reduce output by about one-third for about three months. This was the first trade association established in the paper industry of the United States....The Parsons Paper Company and the Carew Manufacturing Company were charter members of this organization" (108).

This agreed upon reduce in output in 1861 is important because it may indicate that at the start of the register, employee wages were lower than they would have been under normal

circumstance. Any subsequent change in payment patterns throughout the rest of the 19th century is important for future analysis, as it can indicate both local and domestic economic shocks and sector-specific economic factors.

References

- Green, Constance McLaughlin. 1939. *Holyoke, Massachusetts: A Case History of the Industrial Revolution in America*. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT. https://archives.yale.edu/repositories/12/archival_objects/1572349.

Appendix

224

*Received of the PARSONS PAPER COMPANY, by their Agent, the sum perfoiced to our Signatures,
being in full of all demands up to April 1st 1867.*

NAMES.	No. Pounds.	No. REAMS.	No. DAYS.	PRICE.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	RENT, OR BOARD.	BALANCE DUE.	DATE.	SIGNATURES.
William Kelly	26	18	75	8 54	69 66	Sp 05	9 55	Sp 05	William Kelly
Samuel S. Knight	26	12	52	6 25	45 75	"	"	"	J. T. Knight
Michael Ryan	26	9	1225	5 00	37 25	"	"	"	Michael Ryan
Catharine Brady	26	9	257	29 17	29 17	"	"	"	Kate X Brady
Ellen Conroy	25	7	29 17	29 17	29 17	"	"	"	Ellen X Conroy
Bridget McNamee	4177	90	37 59	37 59	2436	"	"	"	Bridget X McNamee
Louisa Exner	2929	"	200	20 00	20 00	"	"	"	Louisa Exner
Catherine O'Hare	5703	"	53 55	53 55	53 55	"	"	"	Kate X O'Hare
Mary Murphy	3765	"	58 49	58 49	58 49	"	"	"	Mary X Murphy
Rebecca Gould	3659	"	52 03	52 03	52 03	"	"	"	Rebecca Gould
Ellen Stone	3614	"	52 53	52 53	52 53	"	"	"	Ellen X Stone
Mary Daugherty	3836	"	39 52	39 52	39 52	"	"	"	Mary X Daugherty
O'Leary - O'Leary	3216	"	29 21	29 21	29 21	"	"	"	O'Leary X O'Leary
Margaret Fitzgerald	3135	"	39 52	39 52	39 52	"	"	"	Margaret Fitzgerald
Julia Head	3647	"	53 27	53 27	53 27	"	"	"	Julia X Head
Mary Quinlan	2085	"	19 87	19 87	19 87	"	"	"	Mary X Quinlan
Ella O'leary	2352	"	26 98	7	13 49	"	"	"	Ella X O'leary
Patrick Maloney	3911	"	35 20	35 20	35 20	"	"	"	Patrick X Maloney
Margaret Kelly	3675	"	31 92	31 92	31 92	"	"	"	Margaret Kelly
Margaret Haffey	1822	"	31 90	31 90	31 90	"	"	"	Margaret Haffey
annah Scollan	3434	"	50 91	50 91	50 91	"	"	"	annah Scollan
Catharine Stevelan	3434	"	51 09	700	2109	"	"	"	Catharine Stevelan
Ezra Davis	2760	"	29 14	29 14	24 87	"	"	"	Ezra X Davis
Elizanna McCarley	3738	"	53 82	53 82	53 82	"	"	"	Elizanna X McCarley
Mary Gaughan	3103	"	29 93	29 93	29 93	"	"	"	Mary X Gaughan
Rosa McNamee	2169	"	19 52	19 52	19 52	"	"	"	Rosa X McNamee
Oliver Stock	3230	"	29 55	29 55	29 55	"	"	"	Oliver Stock
Tom Kennedy	4224	"	58 38	58 38	58 38	"	"	"	Tom X Kennedy
Mary McNamee	1863	"	16 77	16 77	16 77	"	"	"	Mary X McNamee
Margaret Vaughan	3949	"	55 54	55 54	55 54	"	"	"	Margaret Vaughan
Julia Sullivan	4753	"	57 56	57 56	57 56	"	"	"	Julia X Sullivan
Peter Torrey	3108	"	27 97	27 97	27 97	"	"	"	Peter X Torrey
Ezra Rogers	3666	"	27 60	27 60	27 60	"	"	"	Ezra X Rogers
Mary Dalton	3462	"	30 88	30 88	30 88	"	"	"	Mary X Dalton
Mary Mahaney	2957	"	26 61	26 61	26 61	"	"	"	Mary X Mahaney
Mary McGeough	1714	"	15 42	15 42	15 42	"	"	"	Mary X McGeough
Johnna Lee	3169	"	28 52	28 52	28 52	"	"	"	Johnna X Lee
Johnna Leetan	4244	"	58 16	58 16	58 16	"	"	"	Johnna X Leetan
Mary O'Hare	2086	"	18 77	18 77	18 77	"	"	"	Mary X O'Hare
	11231		125110	55 59	120826				




Figure 4: p. 224 of register - April 1st, 1867

Received of the PARSONS PAPER COMPANY, by their Agent, the sum prefixed to said Signatures,
being in full of all demands up to April 1st 1867.

NAMES	NO. POUNDS.	NO. YEARS.	NO. DAYS.	PRICE.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	RENT, OR BOARD.	BALANCE DUE.	DATE.	SIGNATURES.
William J. Pomroy	26 325	84 50			84 50 Apr 15				Wm. J. Pomroy
E. H. Wellington	27 375	74 25	6 25	68	"				E. H. Wellington
John Duffy	26 250	66 25	6 25	60	"				John Duffy
John Flynn	22 265	49 50			49 50 "				John Flynn
P. O. Harr	26 70	52 25			52 25 "				P. O. Harr
Charles Strong	26 12	52 00			52 "				Charles Strong
Joh G. Allen	26 91	59 00	5		54 "				J. G. Allen
Michael Ryan	17 70	29 75			29 75 "				Michael Ryan
John Carroll	37 20	63 62			63 62 "				John Carroll
John Slaughter	22 99	55 75			55 75 "				John Slaughter
Richard Marshall	26 10	45 50			45 50 "				Richard Marshall
Kate Baldwin	26 57	21 67			21 67 "				Kate Baldwin
Martin Moran	26 91	59 00			59 "				Martin Moran
James Moran	23 9	54 50			54 50 "				James Moran
Jefferson Powell	26 29	59 75			59 75 "				Jefferson Powell
William Johnson	25 15	63 12	8 54		54 78 "				William Johnson
Pat Donahue	26 9	54 00	4 00		35 "				Pat Donahue
Wm. Corry	26 39	66 87	8 34		58 63 "				Wm. Corry
Patrick Kennedy	26 9	59 00			59 "				Patrick Kennedy
James Casey	29 22	55 00			55 "				James Casey
John Gangar	26 3	52 00			52 "				John Gangar
Patrick Higgins	39 9	51 00			51 "				Patrick Higgins
J. D. A. Ballou	26 136	58 50	8 34		50 16 "				J. D. A. Ballou
Wm. C. Coffey	25 84	47 20			47 20 "				Wm. C. Coffey
Frank Russell	25 29	55 25			55 25 "				Frank Russell
Nich. Valley	24 9	36			36 "				Nich. Valley
Joseph Bordeau	25 9	44 13	10		30 43 "				Joseph Bordeau
E. A. Chapman	23 7	40 30	10		30 30 "				E. A. Chapman
Frank Cummings	23 9	35 25			35 25 "				Frank Cummings
Edmund Cain	36 9	39			39 "				Edmund Cain
Patrick Ryan	27 9	43 88	11		32 88 "				Patrick Ryan
" in April	72	81			81 "				
Frank Cummings	44 9	6 00			6 00 "				Frank Cummings
Morris L. Harmon	12 9	18			18 "				Morris L. Harmon
Morris L. Harmon	28 9	42 75			42 75 "				Morris L. Harmon
Wm. Jepson	25 9	25			25 "				Wm. Jepson
John Couchon in Apr	94 4	16 93			16 93 "				John Couchon in Apr
	150 078	77 52	1495 26						

Repairs &c

Austin Ely	26 15	65 00	65	"	Austin Ely
J. M. Allen	26 15	65 00	65	"	J. M. Allen
H. C. Walter	26 250	65 00	8 34	56 66	H. C. Walter
Patrick Casey	32 79	52 00	52	"	Patrick Casey
Martin Neilly	18 225	44 50	40 50	"	Martin Neilly
	287 50	134	279 16		



Figure 5: p. 225 of register - April 1st, 1867

262

*Received of the PARSONS PAPER COMPANY, by their Agent, the sum specified to our Signatures,
being in full of all demands up to April 1st, 1868.*

NAMES, &c.	No. POUNDS.	No. REAMS.	No. DAYS.	PRICE.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	RENT, OR BOARD.	BALANCE DUE.	DATE.	SIGNATURES.
William Johnson	26 164	9 150			71 80				Wm Johnson
John O'Brien	26 90	3 910		488	488				John O'Brien
William Connor	26 166	7 100			725	6425			Wm Connor
Matthew Kennedy	26 99	6 50			4550				Matthew Kennedy
James Casey	26 121	5 350			5350				James Casey
John Gallagher	26 97	3 9			39				John Gallagher
John Langan	26 124	4 9			49				John Langan
John Shea	26 97	4 360			4360				John Shea
John E. Knight	26 12	5 200			725	4825			John E. Knight
Philip Cudahy	26 136	6 010			6010				Philip Cudahy
John Conchan	26 121	5 3			625	4675			John Conchan
Frank Russell	25 106	4 975			7000	3675			Frank Russell
Chinnery Johnson	26 76	8 250			8250				Wm Johnson
Harmon McGaugh	24 97	3 187			3187				Hiram H. Davis
William Conroy	26 24	9 100			9100				Wm. Conroy
John Flynn	27 15	6 750			6750				John Flynn
E. W. Wellington	26 196	8 450			625	7425			E. W. Wellington
Martin Moran	26 99	4 307			4307				Martin Moran
Mr. McCay	26 96	8 400			933	7517			Mr. McCay
Charles Strong	26 13	5 638			5638				Charles Strong
John H. Allen	26 91	3 9			500	34			John H. Allen
Mark Ryan	26 111	5 957			5957				Mark Ryan
Pat Beglin	15 111	3 750			2750				Pat Beglin
Mark Marshall	28 11	5 224			5224				Mark Marshall
John Wolf	26 106	4 687			4687				John Wolf
Pat McCarthy	26 106	1 594			467	4121			Pat McCarthy
Pat O'Kane	27 96	0 388			500	5888			Pat O'Kane
Joseph Beauchard Jr	25 70	4 963			500	3563			Joseph Beauchard Jr
John Naughton	26 106	4 550			4550				John Naughton
George Kunkel	21 97	3 150			3150				George Kunkel
Pat Doyle	26 11	3 987			3987				Pat Doyle
Michael O'Brien	25 1	3 750			3750				Michael O'Brien
Thomas Sherry	26 1	3 937			3937				Thomas Sherry
Mary Donlon	26 69	2 925			2925				Mary Donlon
Kate Littleton	26 1	2 925			2925				Kate Littleton
Kate Moran	26 1	2 925			2925				Kate Moran
Kate Baldwin	24 1	2 700			2700				Kate Baldwin
Jessie Keefe	7 9	1 050			1050	1050			Jessie Keefe
John Flynn	24	1 00			100	100			John Flynn
					17,300	13,000			
Rehans &c.									
Aspinwall	26 18	7800			78				Aspinwall
John Buckley	21 18	6300			63				John Buckley
J. M. Allen	23 18	6437			6437				J. M. Allen
Matthew Kennedy	22 18	4957			4957				Matthew Kennedy
Pat Casey	8 12	6120			5720				Pat Casey
John Sullivan	7 106	1225			1225				John Sullivan
Edgar Downey	8 99	1300			1300				Edgar Downey
Henry Blackmore	7 121	1400			400	10			Henry Blackmore
					34,832	8,000			
						13,732			

Figure 6: p. 262 of register - April 1st, 1868

263

*Received of the PARSONS PAPER COMPANY, by their Agent, the sum prefixed to our Signatures,
being in full of all demands up to April 1st 1868.*

NAMES.	NO. POUNDS.	NO. REAMS.	NO. DAYS.	PRICE.	TOTAL AMOUNT.	RENT, OR BOARD.	BALANCE DUE.	DATE.	SIGNATURES.
William Kelly	26181	7800	953	6867					William Kelly
Michael Ryan	2839	4032	500	4132					Michael Ryan
Ellen Cavanaugh	2671	3033			3033				Ellen Cavanaugh
Kate Sheridan	2641	8033	700	2333					Kate Sheridan
Anna Cavanagh	2671	8033			3033				Anna Cavanagh
Mary Davenport	2369	2587			3587				Mary Davenport
John McCarley	2094	2280			2280				John McCarley
Catharine Payay	12476	80	1980		1980				Catharine Payay
Katherine Shulian	2193			746					H & Shulian
Mary Morgan	22784			2203					Mary Morgan
Bridget Kilkenny	42218			1772					Bridget Kilkenny
Anna Emerson	52003			1602	300				Anna Emerson
Mary Erdman	62771			2210					Mary Erdman
Kate O'Han	7277			2205					Kate O'Han
Bridget Clinch	83527			2821					Bridget Clinch
Bridget Cleary	92057			1640					Bridget Cleary
Ann Flynn	10500			400					Ann Flynn
Alice Finnerty	112422			1937					Alice Finnerty
Agnes Lynch	122250			1800	500				Agnes Lynch
Bridget Flynn	131850			1480					Bridget Flynn
Ellen Shinn	148050			2440					Ellen Shinn
Mary Powers	152457			1965					Mary Powers
Mary Donohue	162013			2822					Mary Donohue
Mary Shahan	172587			2031					Mary Shahan
John O'Sullivan	192670			2136					John O'Sullivan
Mary Mahoney	202158			1726					Mary Mahoney
Julia Shay	21826			660					Julia Shay
Ellen Shahan	222871			2296					Ellen Shahan
Mary Shahan	238129			2503					Mary Shahan
Kathleen Somes	242862			2289					Kathleen Somes
Mary Shay	252571			2056					Mary Shay
Bridget Mulroy	260380			2704					Bridget Mulroy
Ellen Burke	273188			2550					Ellen Burke
Bridget Linton	283204			2563					Bridget Linton
Mary Sullivan	291754			1403					Mary Sullivan
Bridget Kennedy	307703			3018					Bridget Kennedy
John O'Farrell	311924			1539					John O'Farrell
Eliza Powers	321788			1566					Eliza Powers
Horatio Martin	322659			2120					Horatio Martin
Ellen Stack	332532			2025					Ellen Stack
Ann Kennedy	336264			2907					Ann Kennedy
Bridget Kennedy	448448			2734					Bridget Kennedy
John Sullivan	442880			2304					John Sullivan
Julia Sullivan	458751			3160					Julia Sullivan
Mary Duckford	452099			1679					Mary Duckford
Eliza Powers	462703			2210					Eliza Powers
Horatio Martin	452106			1684					Horatio Martin
Julia Powers	462839			2811					Julia Powers
Margaret O'Gorman	462803			2242					Margaret O'Gorman
Mary Powers	483149			2512					Mary Powers
John O'Sullivan	482832			2276					John O'Sullivan
John O'Sullivan	513380			2664					John O'Sullivan
Isabel Johnson	51421			336					Isabel Johnson
Mary Powers	531448			1158					Mary Powers
Kate Brady	59892			713					Kate Brady
					121972	2033	110139		

Figure 7: p. 263 of register - April 1st, 1868