

**AJC 50@50**


**Project Report:**

**Digital Collections /  
Heritage Online**



SOCIÉTÉ  
JERSIAISE

January 2022

The background of the slide features a large, faint watermark of the University of London crest. The crest is circular and contains a shield with a lion rampant, a book, and a sun. The words "UNIVERSITY OF LONDON" are visible around the perimeter of the crest.

**heritage brings significant  
value to the community through  
an enriched sense of personal  
and shared identity**

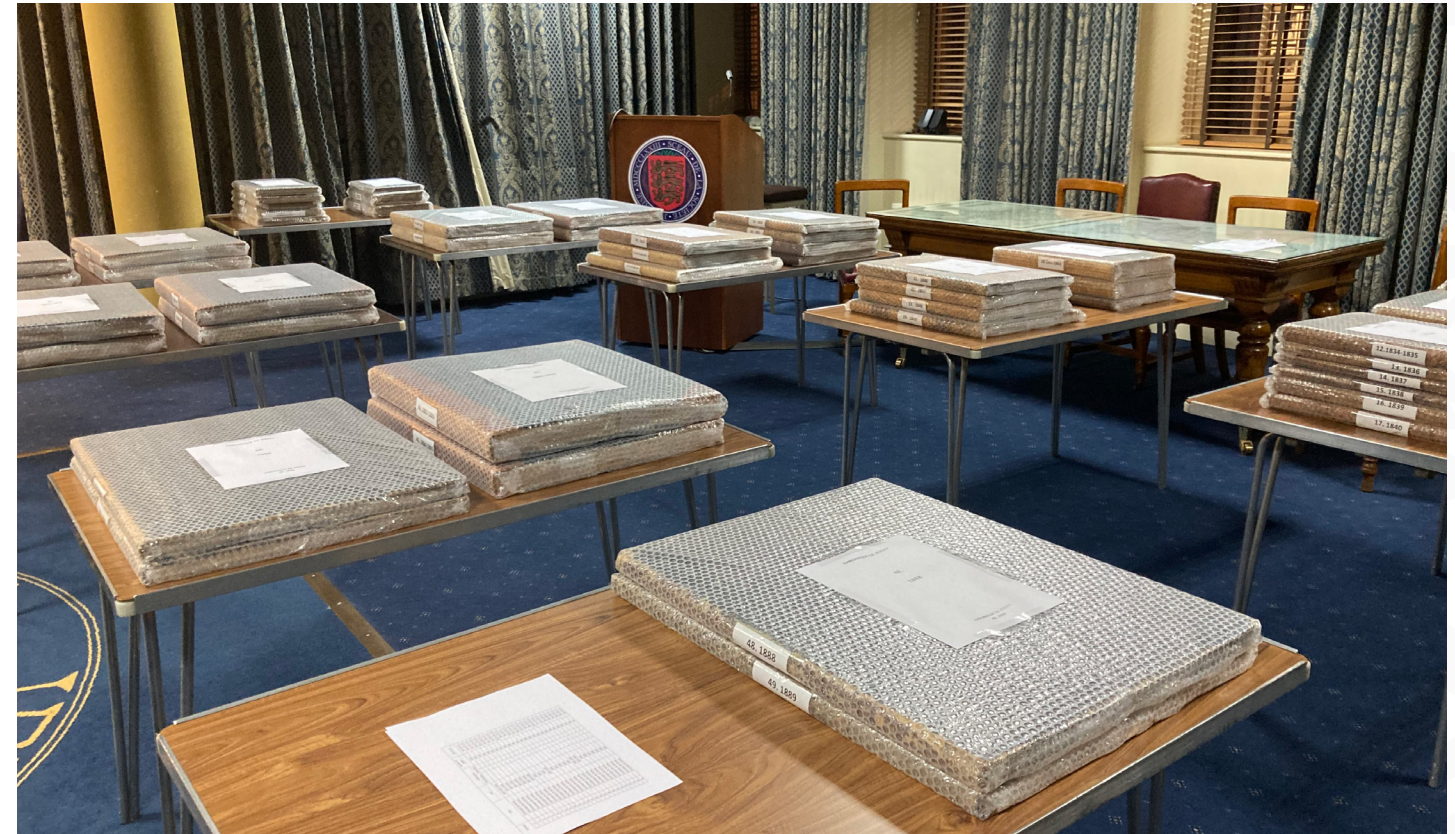
# Project overview:

- In October 2021 the SJ was delighted to receive one of the AJC 50@50 awards.
- The £10,000 was put towards a project which began in 2021; to improve access to our digital collections, and digitise the *Chronique de Jersey* (1814-1959), Jersey's last French language newspaper.
- The *Chronique de Jersey* is one of our most popular collections, digital access will open it up to digital search capabilities and automated translation.
- Digital access will also allow the physical collection to be removed from regular use, helping to preserve the collection for future generations.
- This project is now fully funded thanks to the support of the Association of Jersey Charities and the Jersey Community Foundation.



# Project to date:

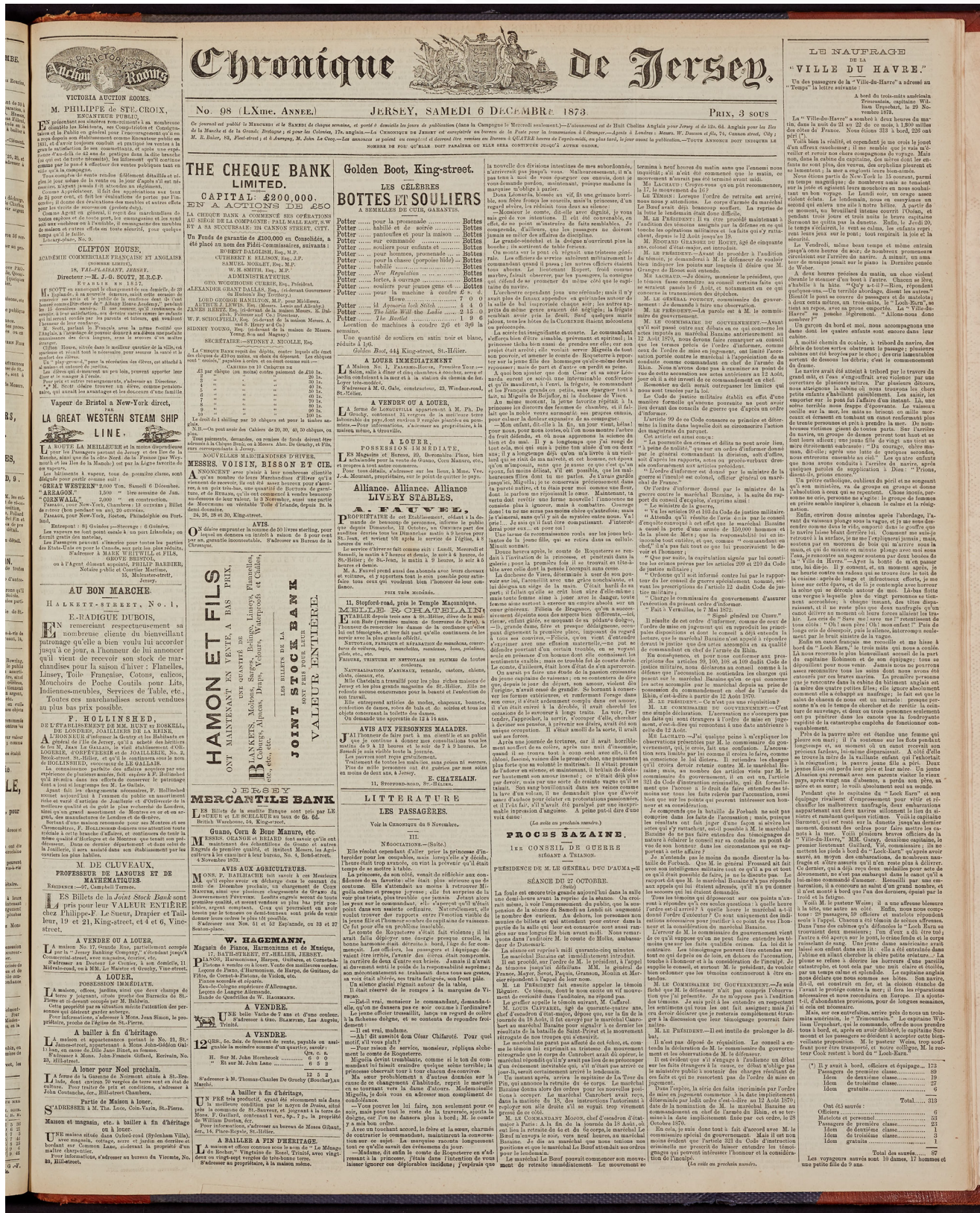
- In September 2021 TownsWeb Archiving collected the first batch of the *Chronique des Jersey* - 49 Volumes.
- They immediately began the digitisation work at their state of the art facilities in England.
- These were completed and returned to Jersey in November 2021, the remaining batch - 64 Volumes - was collected and transferred as part of the same trip.
- Whilst digitisation has been ongoing, work also began processing existing digital collections and developing the online search functionality, which will enable greater access opportunities.





# Project review:

- 28,000 of 53,000 single pages have now been digitised, processed and indexed.
- Tests on the OCR quality and the ability to combine OCR text with an automated translation application such as Google Translate have produced successful results.
- Custom search function capabilities developed for the *Société Jerseyaise Annual Bulletin* will offer significant improvements to the accessibility of this collection which the SJ has been providing free online access to since 2014.
- The project is progressing on target, the expected completion date is still December 2022.

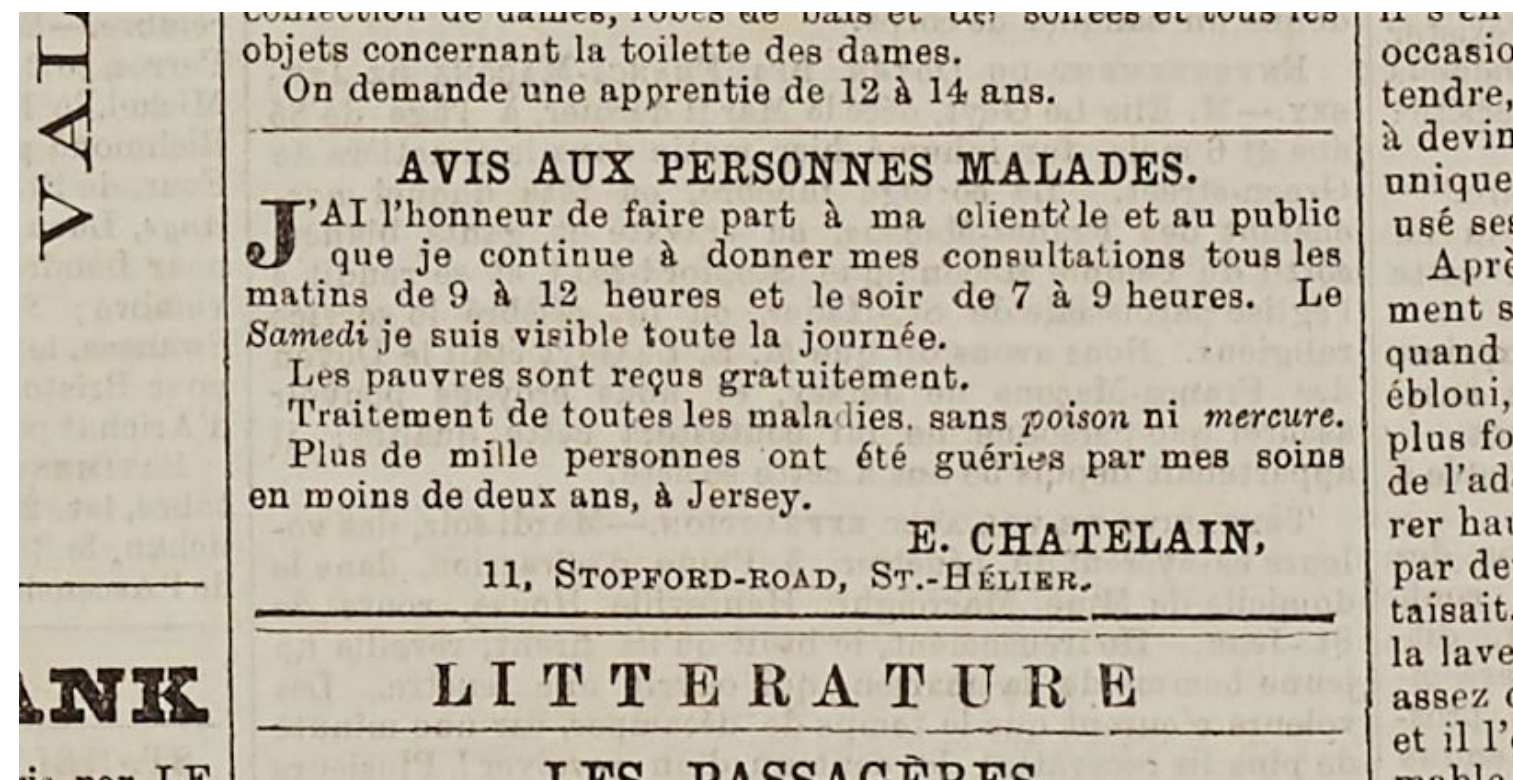


Chronique des Jersey, 6th December 1873



# Project review: OCR

An example of the OCR/Automated Translation feature is given here. The French language has been declining in Jersey for decades, by using technology we can offer ways to mitigate, what was previously a significant barrier for many Islanders, allowing wider engagement with the records of our past.



Advert from the *Chronique des Jersey*, 6th December 1873

## OCR Text Extract

AVIS AUX PERSONNES MALADES.

J'ai honneur de faire part & ma clienttelle et au public que je continue & donner mes consultations tous les matins de 9 a 12 heures et le soir de 7 a 9 heures. Le Samedi je suis visible toute la jonrnée. Les pauvres sont requs gratuitement, 'Traitement de toutes les maladies, sans poison ni mercure. Plus de mille personnes ont été guéries par mes soins en moins de deux ans, a Jersey.

E. CHATELAIN

## Google Translation of OCR Text

NOTICE TO SICK PEOPLE.

I have the honor to inform my clients and the public that I continue & give my consultations every mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and evenings from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. the Saturday I am visible all day. The poor are received freely, 'Treatment of all diseases, without poison or mercury. Over a thousand people have been healed by me in less than two years, in Jersey.

E. CHATELAIN

The OCR text and automated translations are not perfect but they are more than adequate for providing the user with an understanding of the content.





**we would like to extend our thanks  
to the Association of Jersey Charities  
for supporting this project**