Abstract:

This diploma thesis will be dealing with the process of emigration from the former Hungarian Kingdom to the USA (specifically via the ports of the state of New York) in the period from 1867 to 1880. Its aim will be to capture the economic and social situation of the immigrants after their arrival to the USA, their association with each other in the early organizations and ethnic determination. Based on primary sources, it will produce statistics. It will deal with their perception by the local inhabitants as well and it will attempt to answer the question, to what extent did they manage to fulfill “the American dream”. The characteristics of the observed period will be the outcome, together with the attempt to confirm the hypothesis that this period was the preparation stage for the economic migration beginning in the 1880s.

Key words:

emigration, Hungary, United States of America, american dream, economic migration, immigration, ethnicity