Easy instructions for using the FREE Norwegian Arkivverket Digitalarkivet — Digitised Parish Registers Copyright©2009-2014 by Deb Nelson Gourley, Astri My Astri Publishing www.astrimyastri.com

The original **old handwritten Norwegian Church Registers** for <u>birth</u>, <u>baptism</u>, <u>vaccination</u>, <u>confirmation</u>, <u>banns</u>, <u>marriage</u>, <u>immigration</u>, <u>death and other records</u> can be found **FREE on the internet**, **instead of having to use microfilms**. The images are not only clearer, but you can save them as high resolution jpgs and/or pdfs. The Digitised Parish Registers are a tremendous primary resource to verify the data found in the bygdebøker.

To find your ancestors hand written records in Norway, work through this one example of finding Snowshoe Thompson's birth/baptism record and then try your ancestors! Be sure to share this NEW resource with your family and friends.

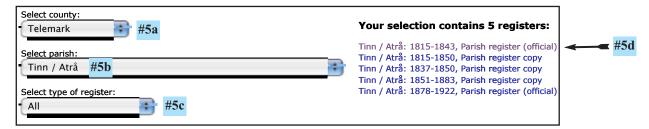
John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson certainly was a true flesh-and-blood character, but because of the countless stories written about him, it has become impossible to completely separate fact-from-fiction and history-from-legend. From 1856 to 1876, Snowshoe Thompson made his "Snow-Shoe Express" the counterpart of the "Pony Express" in the Sierra Nevada Mountain range. However, a valuable clue of Snowshoe Thompson's birth is given on his tombstone which reads: "In Memory of John A. Thomson, Native of Norway, Departed this life May 15, 1876, Aged 49 years 16 days, Gone but not forgotten." Therefore, with a little math, Snowshoe Thompson was born 30 April 1827. Another clue is recorded on the Snowshoe Thompson monument at Donner Summit: "He was born John Tostensen at Tinn in Telemark." To find Snowshoe Thompson's full Norwegian name in the birth/baptism church records, use the following steps:

#1. Go to: http://arkivverket.no/eng/content/view/full/629



- #2. see Shortcuts and click #2 Digitised Parish Registers
- #3. Other options Use the Censuses, a tremendous resource
- **#4. Other options** Under Find sources use Select Source to select via period, category, geography and form
- **#5.** For this example release arrow on (#5a) **Telemark** county [fylke], release arrow on (#5b) **Tinn / Atrå** parish, leave on (#5c) **All** and click (#5d) **Tinn / Atrå**: **1815-1843**, **Parish register (official)**.

[Note-To save space in this article, I used Tinn / Atrå, but normally less is better, i.e., don't select a parish, just scroll down the list, so you don't miss any records]



#6. Another new window will appear giving records for: Birth and baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, Death and burial, Immigration, Emigration, Stillbirth, and List of reference. Click #6 Birth and baptism records 1827-1828 (050). Then click the forward arrow at the top and go to page 52.

	Type of records	Year (Page)	Year (Page)	Year (Page)
New selection	Birth and baptism records	1814 (002)	1822 (026)	1828 (051)
My selection		1815 (003)	1823 (030)	1828-1829 (055)
		1816 (005)	1824 (033)	1829 (056)
	•	1817 (009)	1824-1826 (039)	1830 (057)
Source		1817-1819 (014)	1825 (035)	1831 (066)
information		1818 (011)	1825-1826 (041)	1832 (068)
		1818-1819 (016)	1825-1827 (043)	1833 (072)
County:		1818-1820 (017)	1826 (042)	1834 (078)
Telemark		1819-1820 (018)	1826-1827 (046)	1835 (081)
Parish name:		1819-1821 (020)	1826-1828 (048)	1836 (085)
Tinn		1820 (019)	1827 (047)	1837 (088)
Atrå		1820-1821 (021)	#6 1827-1828 (050)	1838 (091)
Register:		1821 (022)	1827-1829 (053)	1839 ()