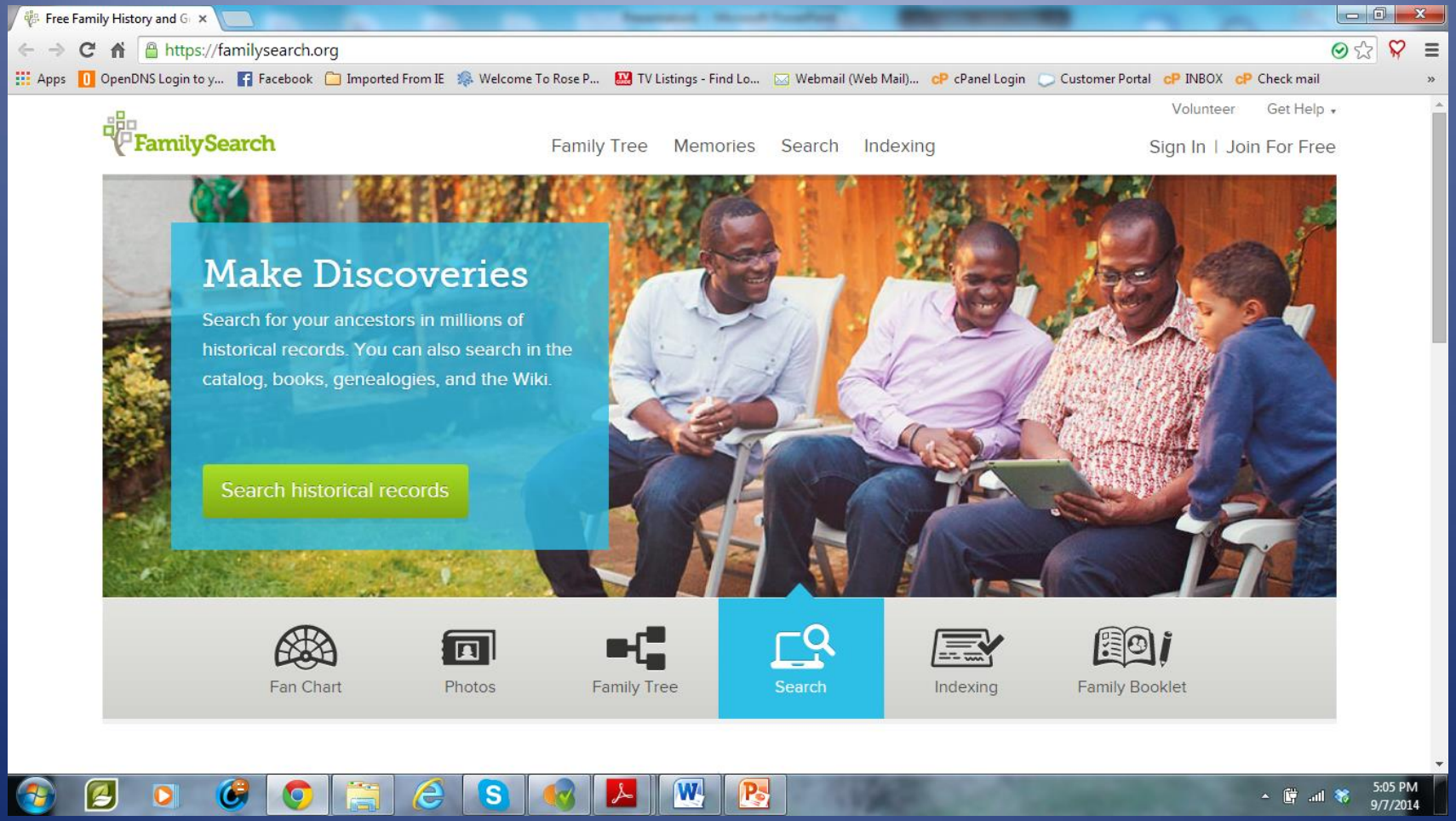
FamilySearch Advanced

Richard Reid

Friends of Irish Research

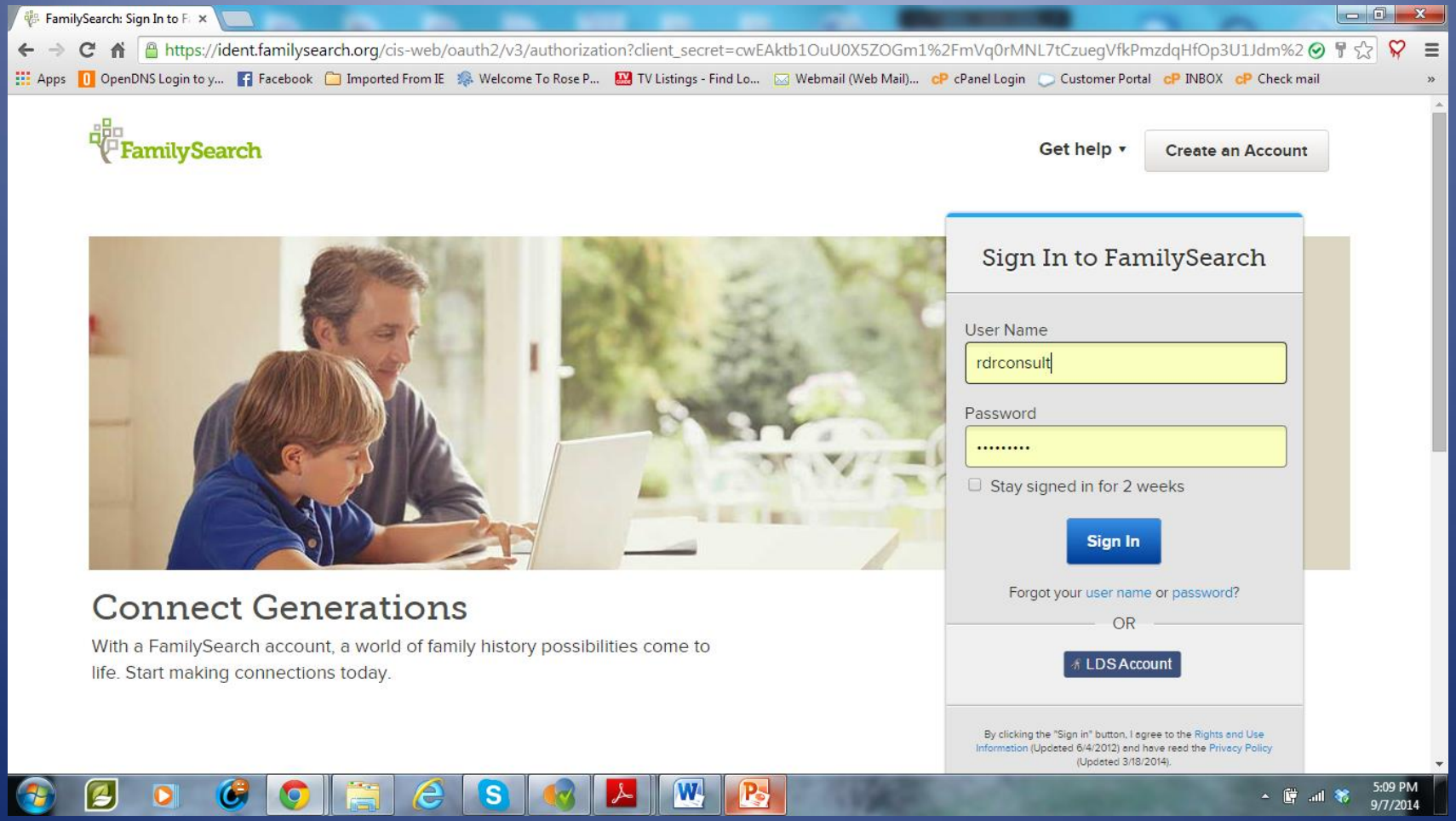
FamilySearch.org



What is FamilySearch

- Operated by the Church of Latter Day Saints, the Mormons
- Free to a registered user
- A place to research and acquire proof of your family history
- A place to host your own family tree

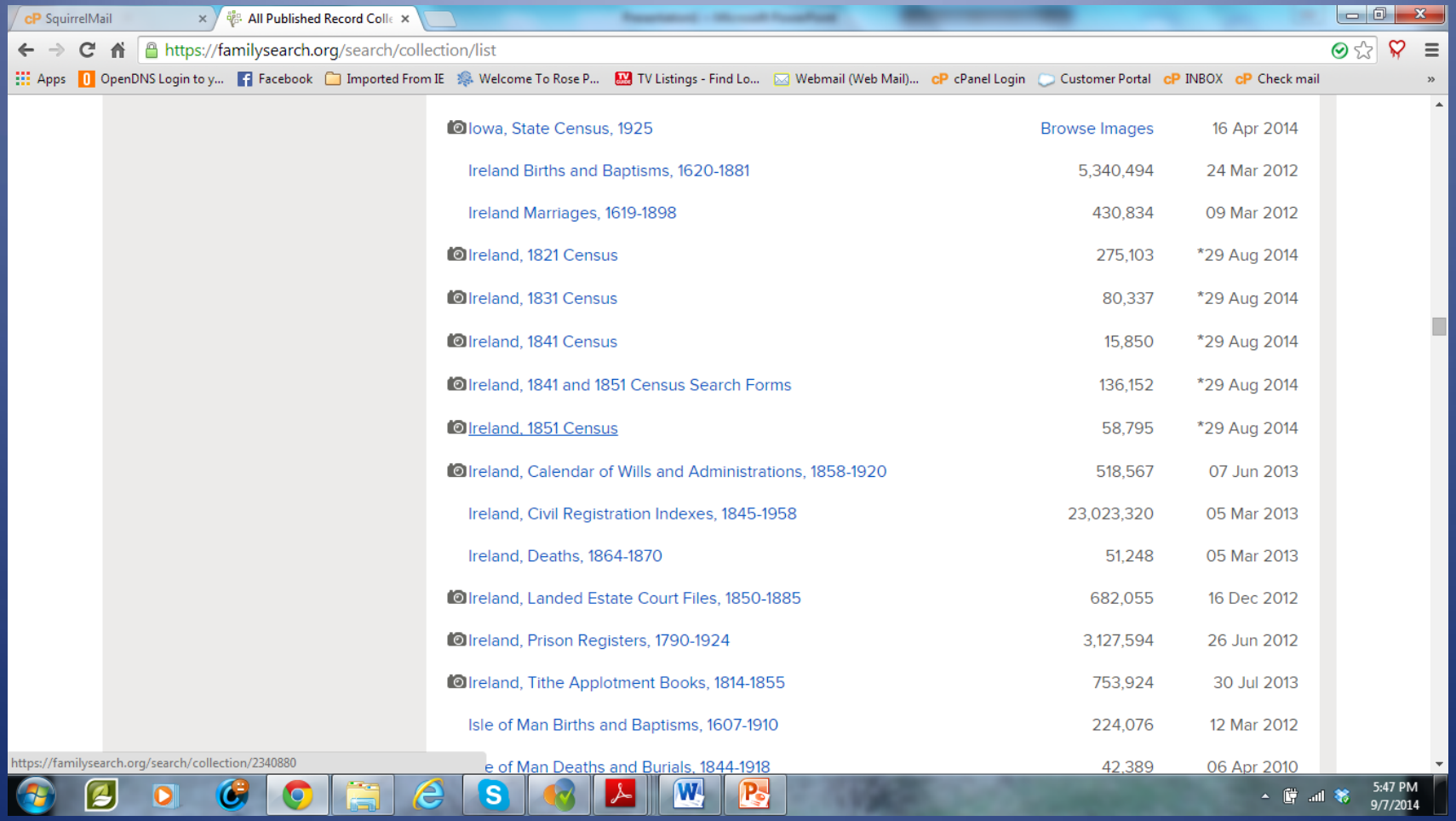
Create Your Account or Sign In



FamilySearch Collections

- 1837 Collections on the FamilySearch website as of October 7, 2014
- As of June 20, 2016 there are now 2101 collections
- Organized by
  - Geographic Region
  - Half Century
  - Type of Collection

New Collections Regularly



June 2016 Additions to Collections

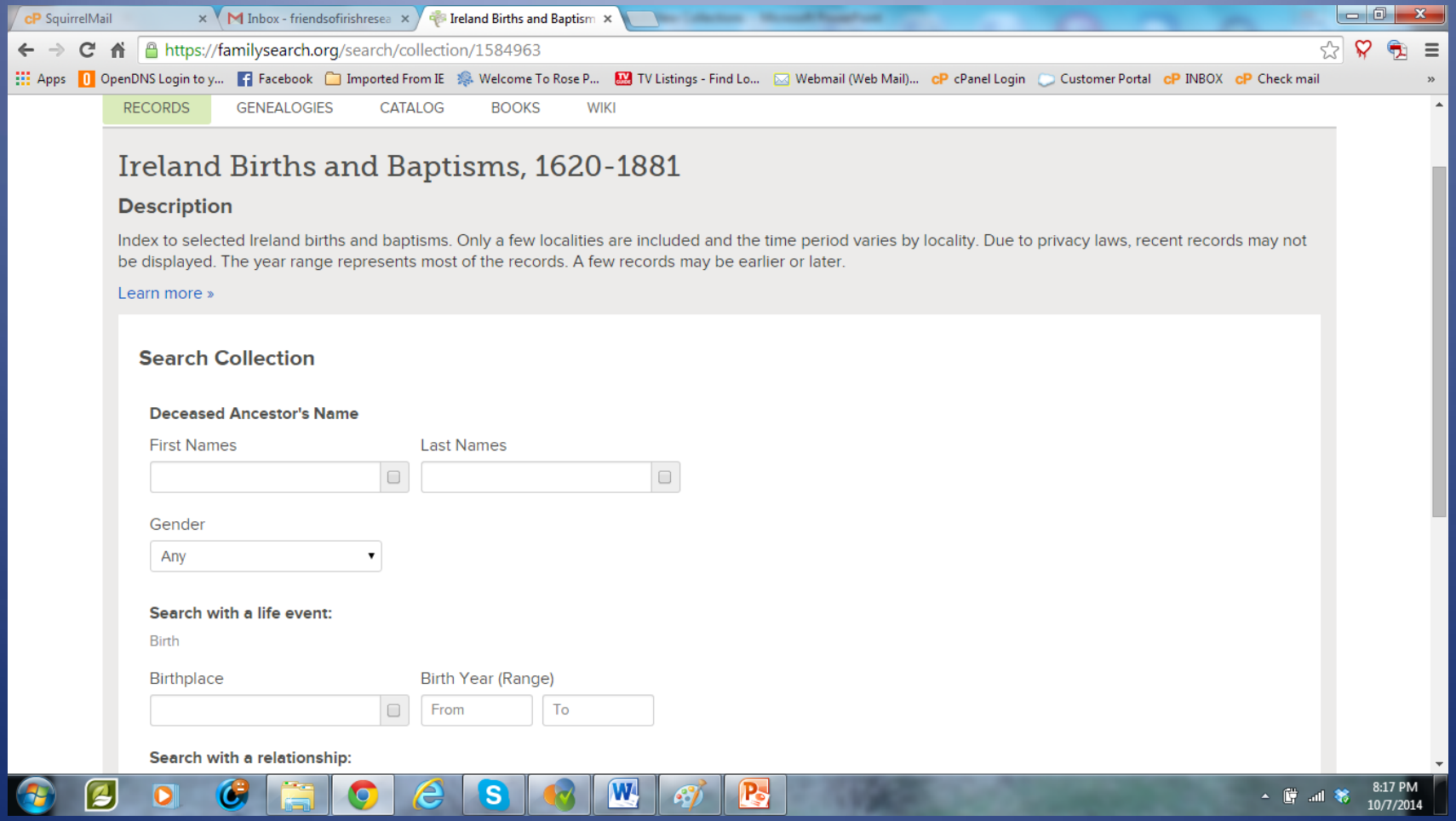
Title	Records	Last Updated
Brazil, Santa Catarina, Catholic Church Records, 1714-1977	192,760	*17 Jun 2016
United States, Freedmen's Bureau, Freedmen's Court Records, 1865-1872	44,466	*16 Jun 2016
Wisconsin Marriages, 1836-1930	197,702	*16 Jun 2016
Minnesota, County Marriages, 1860-1949	870,856	*14 Jun 2016
Arizona Obituary Index to Arizona Newspapers, 1993-1994	50,880	*13 Jun 2016
Spain, Province of Málaga, Municipal Records, 1760-1956	180,341	*10 Jun 2016
Connecticut Marriages, 1640-1939	27,635	*10 Jun 2016
Argentina, Buenos Aires, Catholic Church Records, 1635-1981	829,413	*08 Jun 2016
Find A Grave Index	146,748,413	*07 Jun 2016
Italy, Udine, Civil Registration (State Archive), 1806-1815, 1871-1911	257,344	*07 Jun 2016
Denmark, Probate Indexes, 1674-1851	57,123	*07 Jun 2016
Italy, Imperia, San Remo, Civil Registration (State Archive), 1805-1910	70,810	*06 Jun 2016
Brazil, São Paulo, Immigration Cards, 1902-1980	2,190,017	*06 Jun 2016
Honduras, Civil Registration, 1841-1968	214,588	*06 Jun 2016
United Kingdom, World War I Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Records, 1917-1920	18,567	06 Jun 2016
BillionGraves Index	18,198,653	06 Jun 2016

Complete Irish Collections

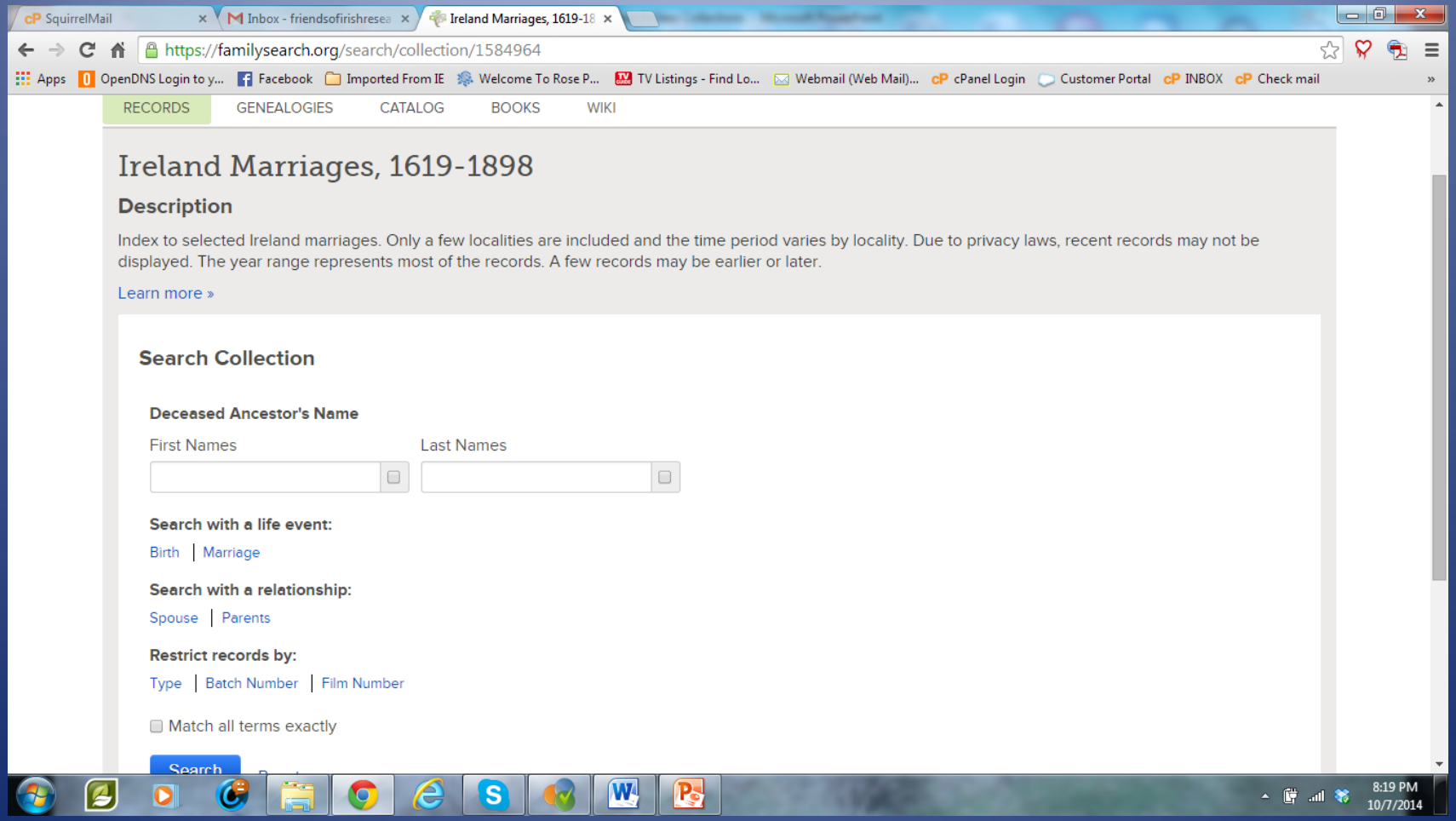
FamilySearch.org Irish Historical Record Collections

Title	Records	Last Updated
Ireland Births and Baptisms, 1620-1881	5,340,494	24 Mar 2012
Ireland Marriages, 1619-1898	430,834	09 Mar 2012
Ireland, 1821 Census	275,103	29 Aug 2014
Ireland, 1831 Census	80,337	29 Aug 2014
Ireland, 1841 Census	15,850	29 Aug 2014
Ireland, 1841 and 1851 Census Search Forms	136,152	29 Aug 2014
Ireland, 1851 Census	58,795	29 Aug 2014
Ireland, Calendar of Wills and Administrations, 1858-1920	518,567	07 Jun 2013
Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes, 1845-1958	23,023,320	05 Mar 2013
Ireland, Deaths, 1864-1870	51,248	05 Mar 2013
Ireland, Landed Estate Court Files, 1850-1885	682,055	16 Dec 2012
Ireland, Prison Registers, 1790-1924	3,127,594	26 Jun 2012
Ireland, Tithe Applotment Books, 1814-1855	753,924	30 Jul 2013

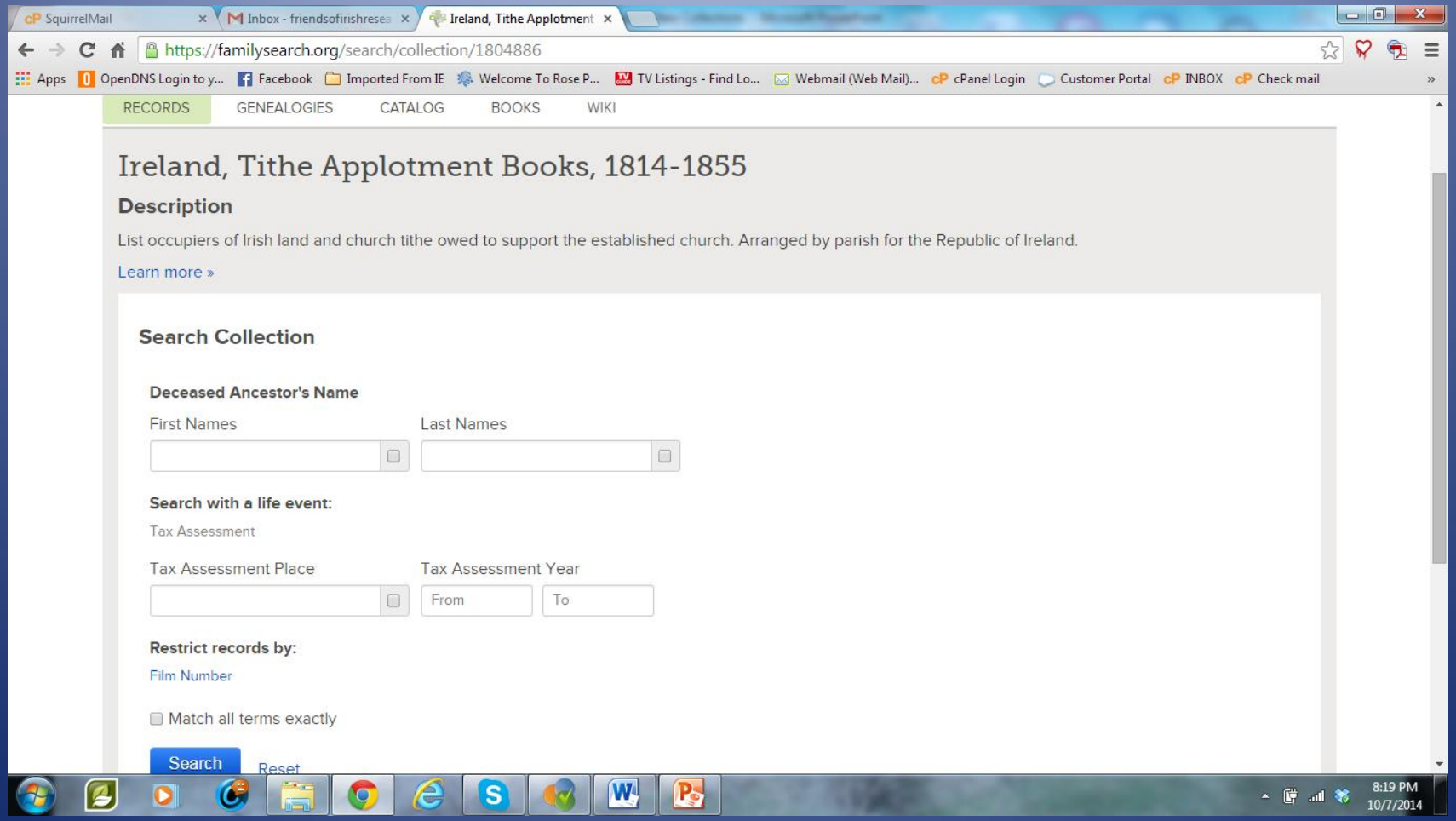
Ireland Births and Baptisms 1620-1881



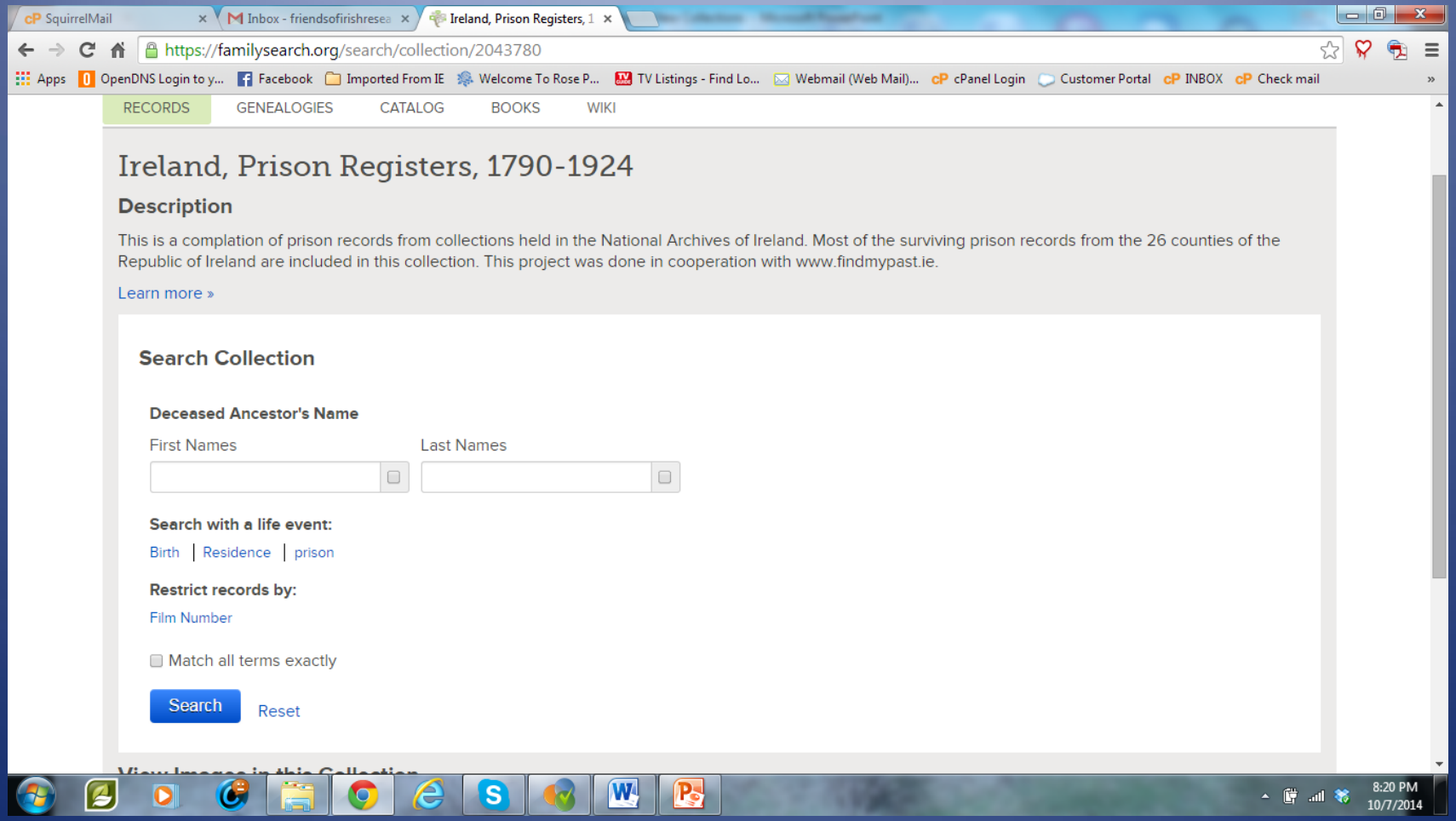
Ireland Marriages 1619-1898



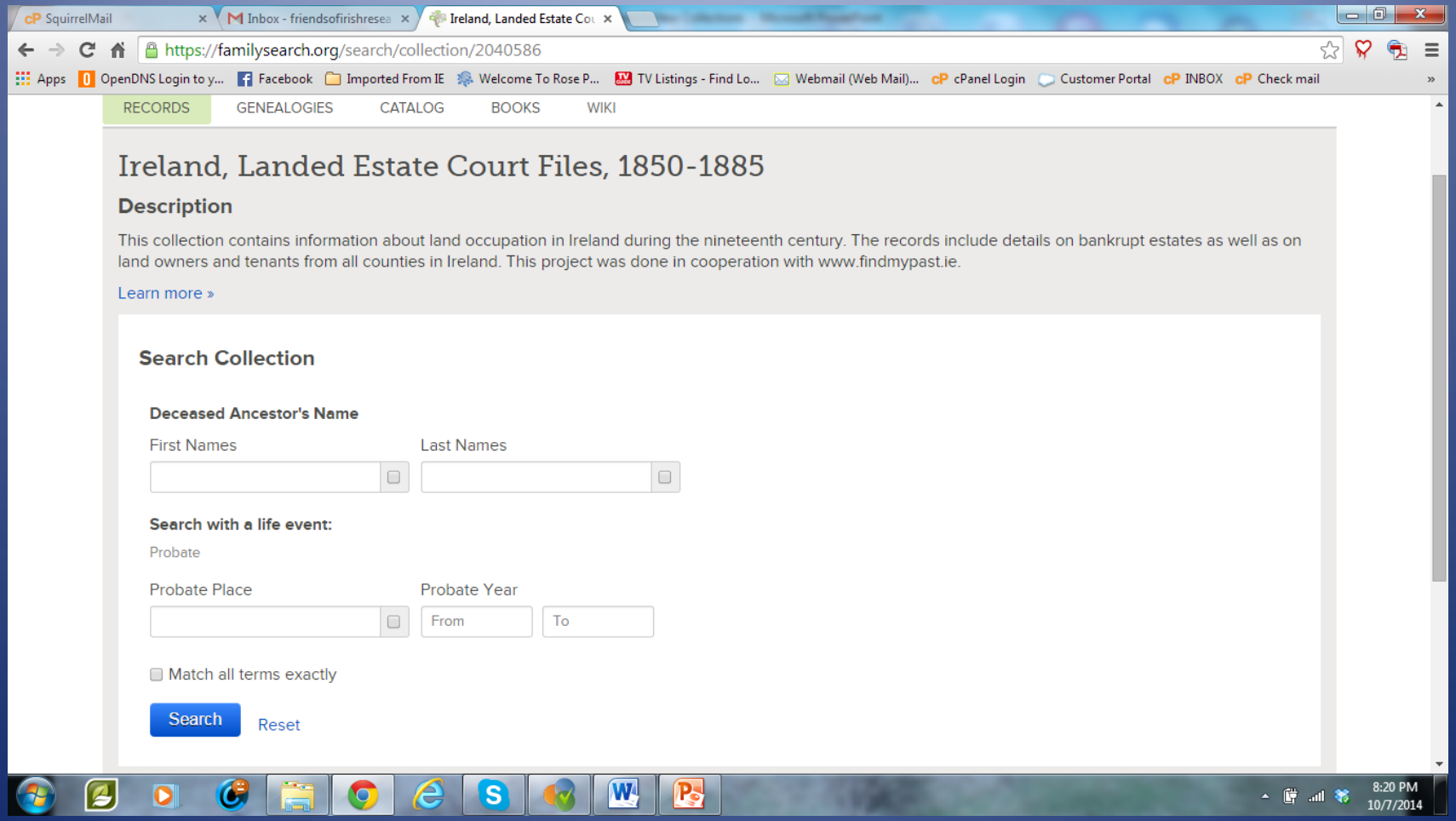
Ireland Tithe Applotment Books 1814-1855



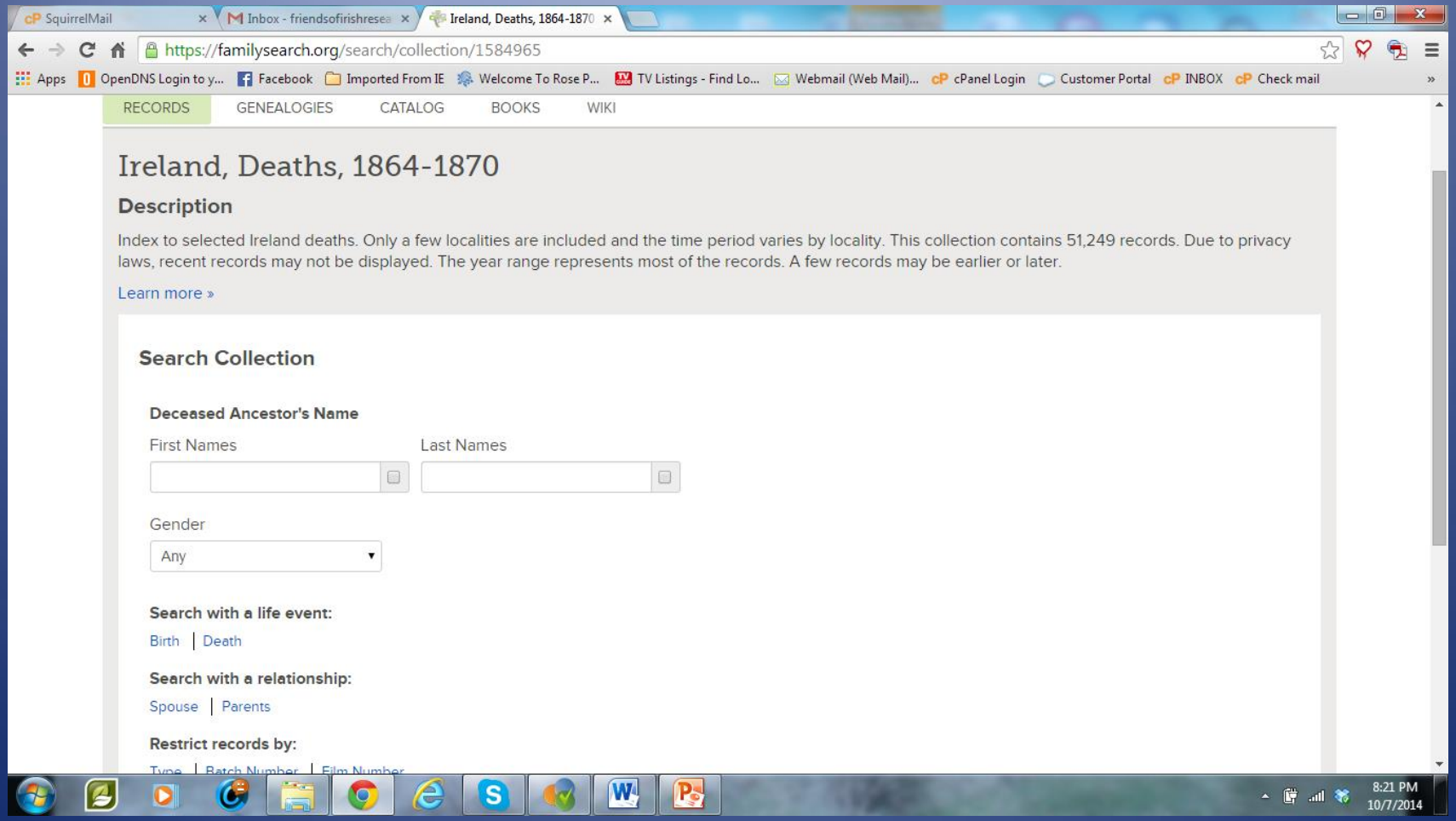
Ireland, Prison Records 1790-1924



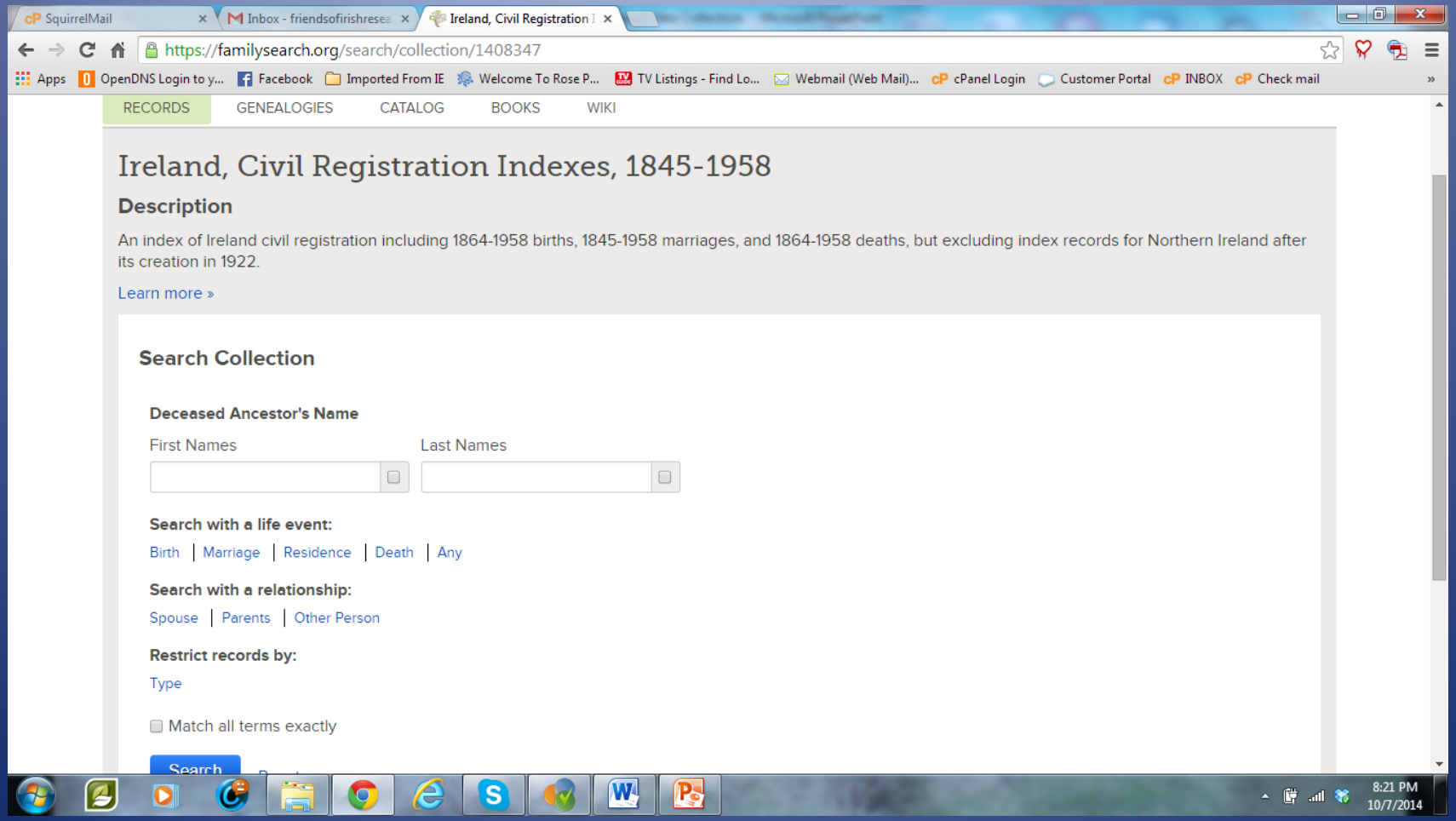
Ireland, Landed Estate Court Files 1850-1885



Ireland, Death 1864-1870



Ireland, Civil Registration Indexes 1845-1958

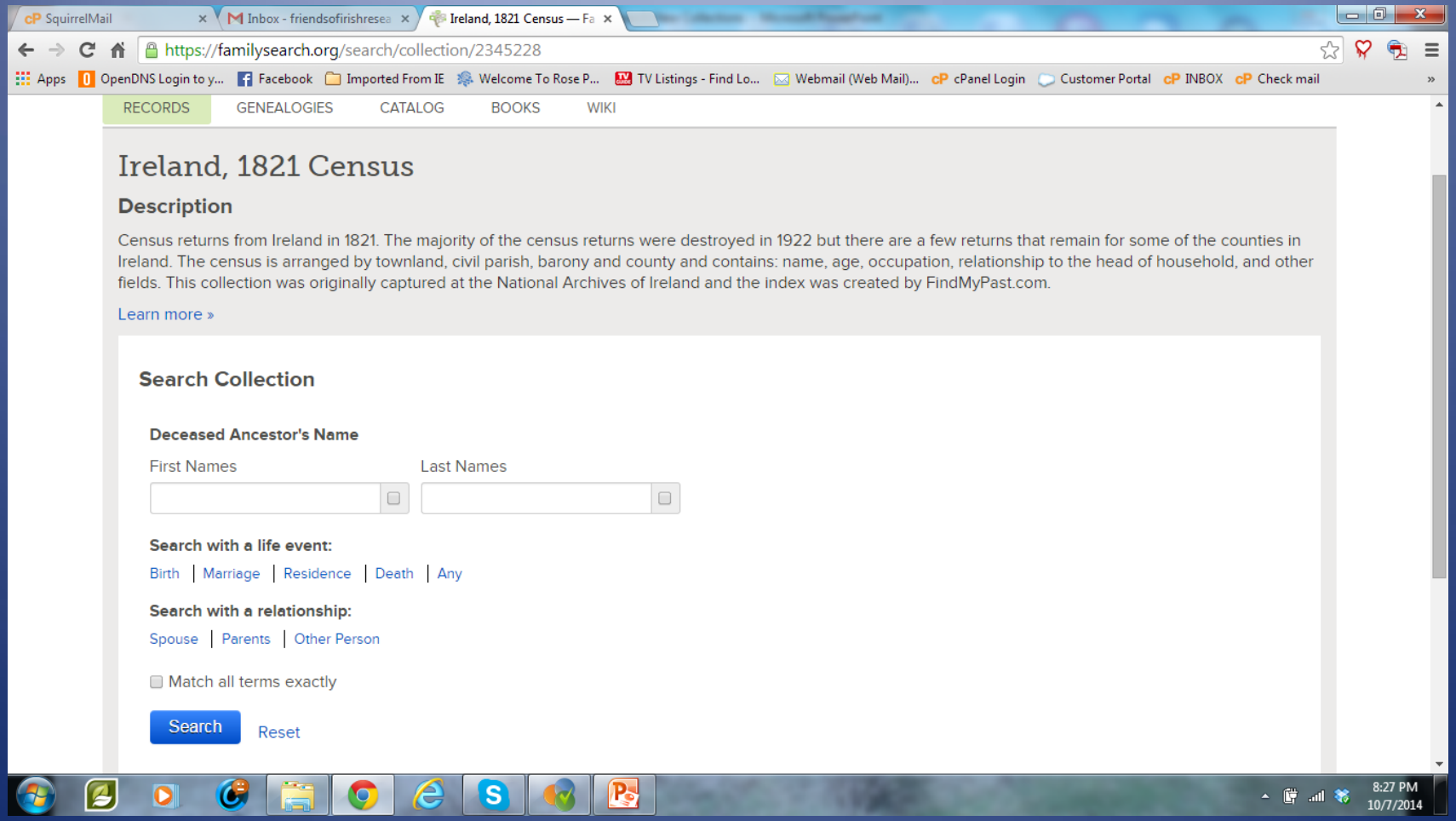


Ireland, Calendar of Wills & Administrations 1858-1920

The August 2014 Additions, Since Then Only Corrections

- Ireland, 1821 Census 275,103
- Ireland, 1831 Census 80,337
- Ireland, 1841 Census 15,850
- Ireland, 1841 and 1851 Census Search Forms 136,152
- Ireland, 1851 Census 58,795

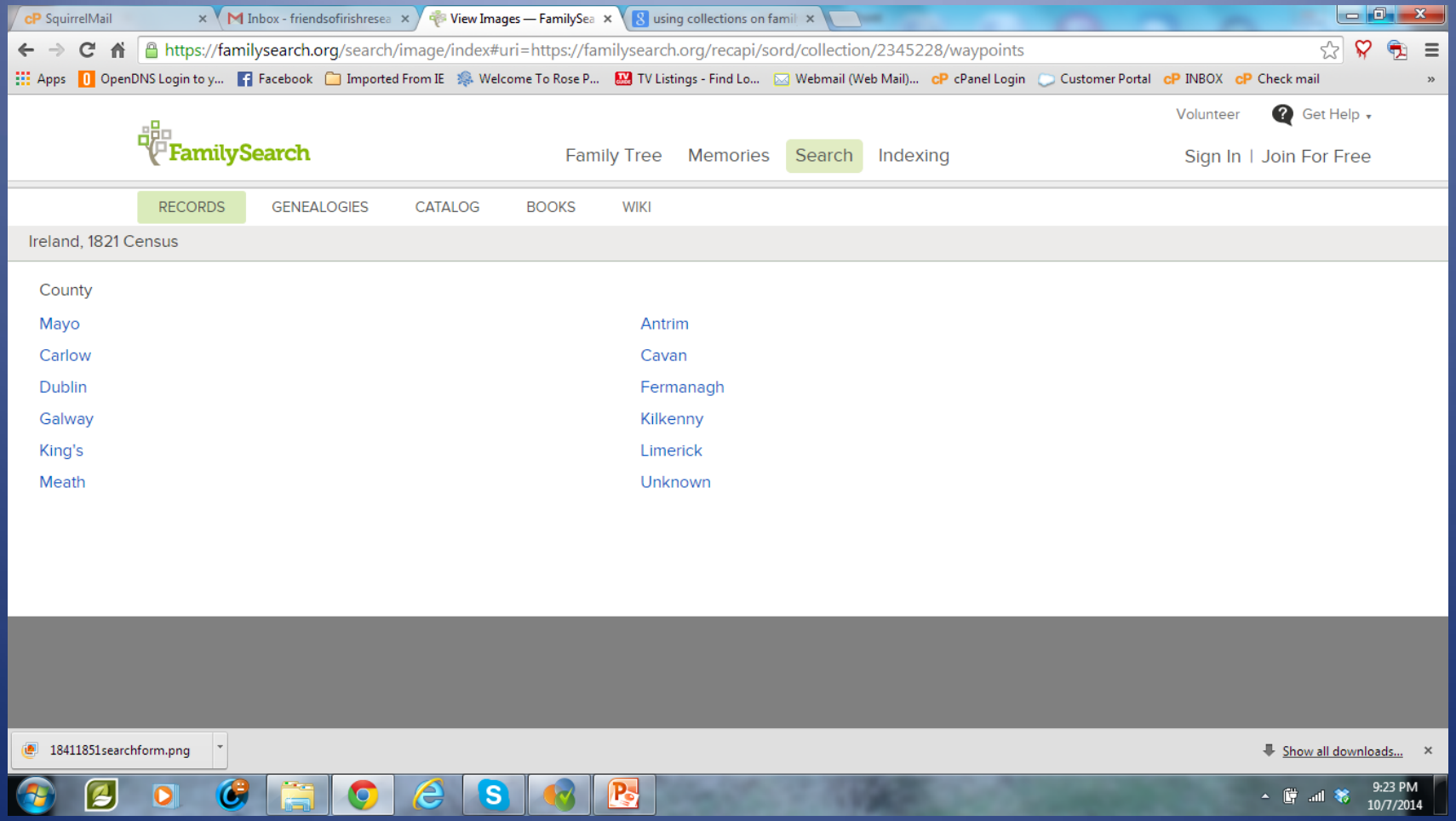
Ireland, 1821 Census



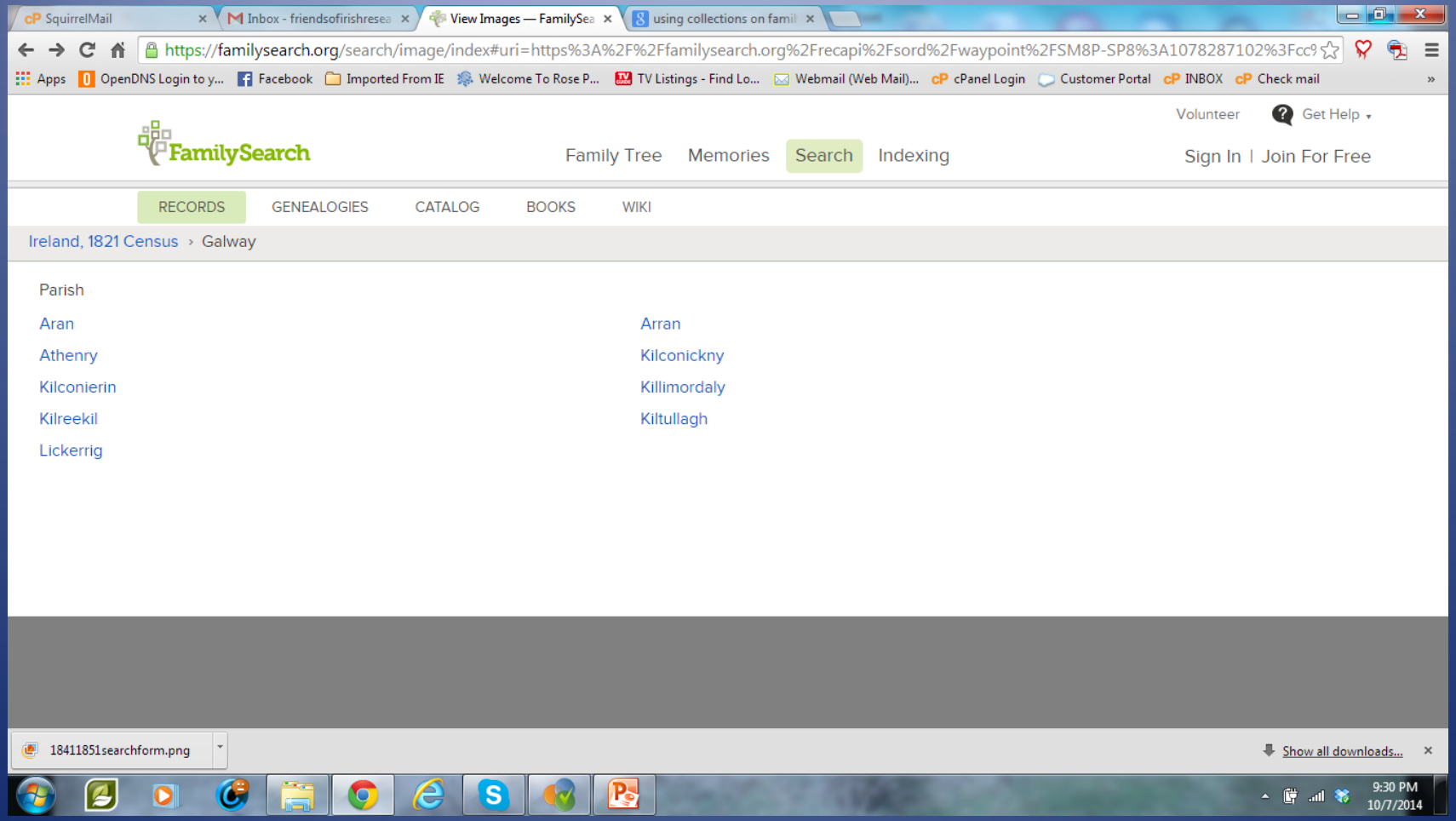
1821 Census

Census returns from Ireland in 1821. The majority of the census returns were destroyed in 1922 but there are a few returns that remain for some of the counties in Ireland. The census is arranged by townland, civil parish, barony and county and contains: name, age, occupation, relationship to the head of household, and other fields. This collection was originally captured at the National Archives of Ireland and the index was created by FindMyPast.com.

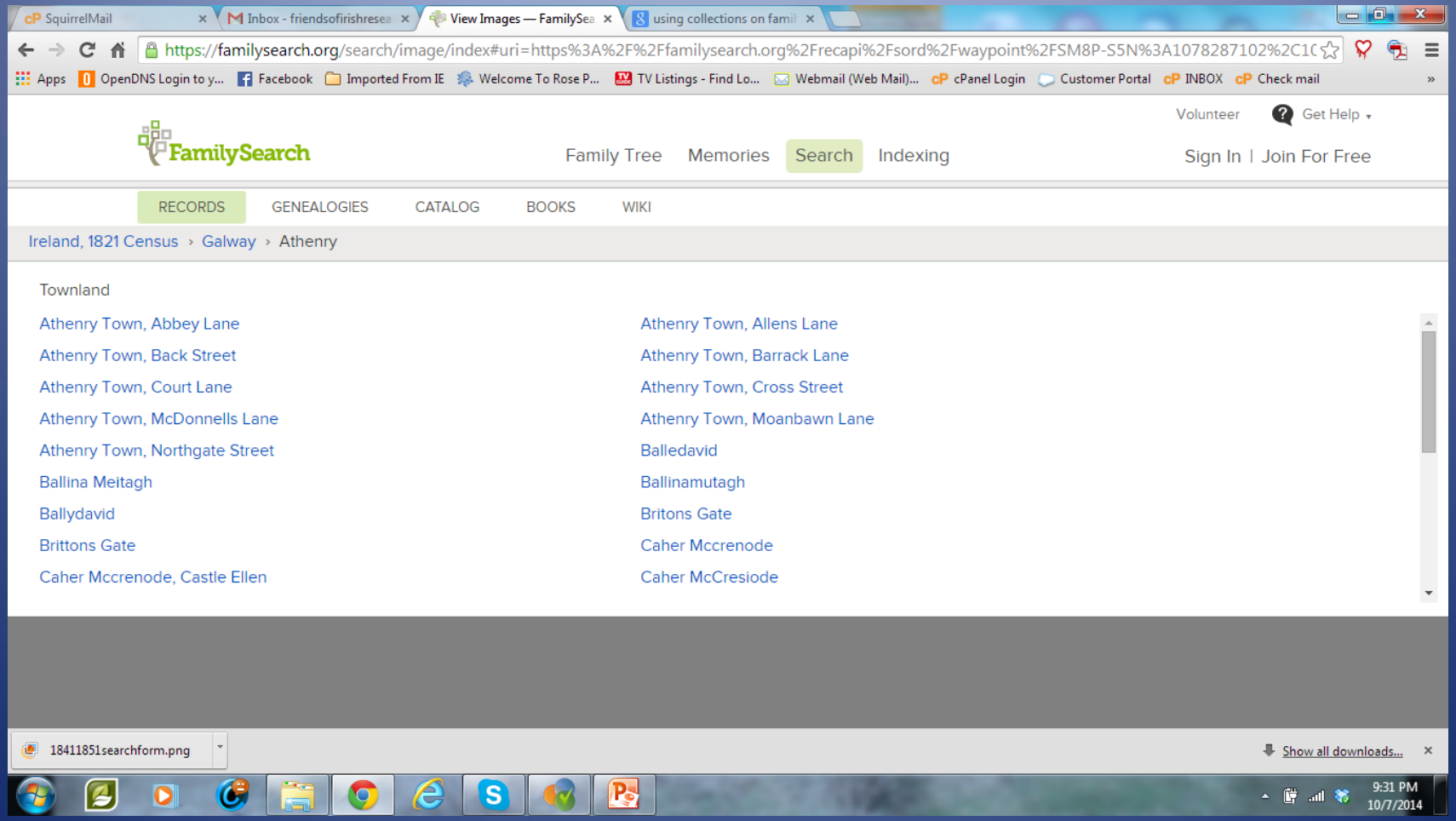
1821 Census County Records



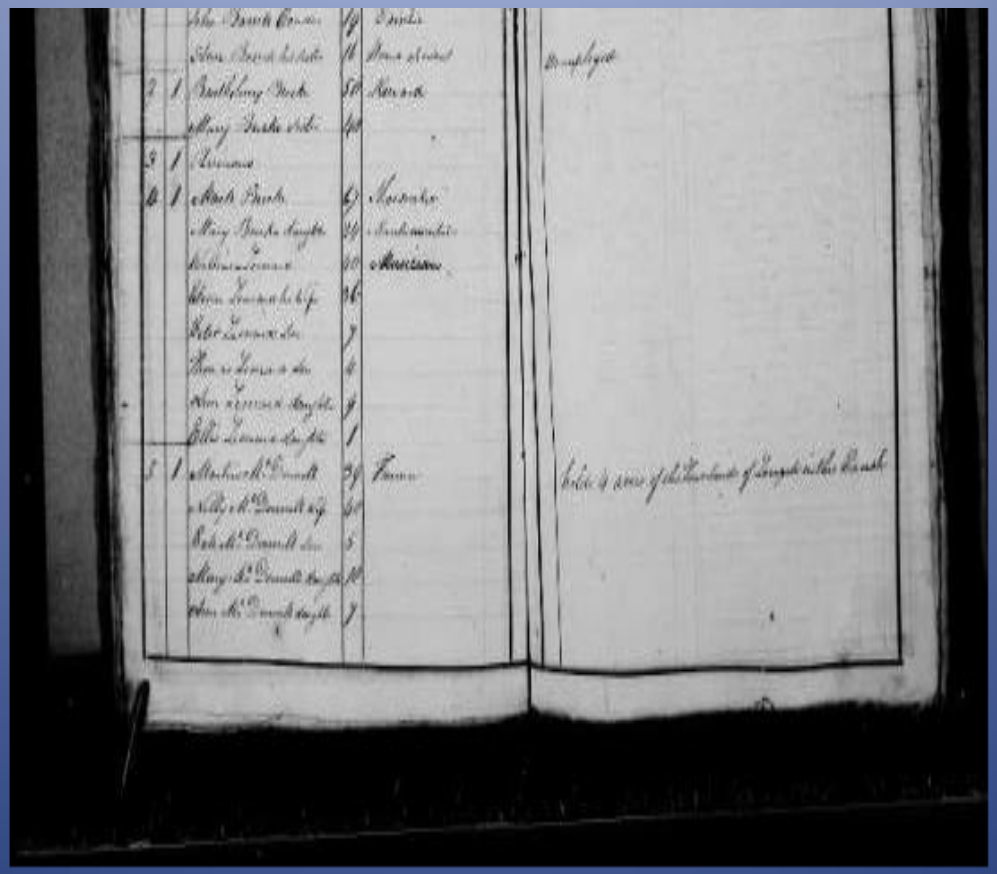
Co. Galway Parish Records



Co. Galway, Parish Athenry, Townlands



Co. Galway, Parish Athenry, Athenry Town, Abbey Lane



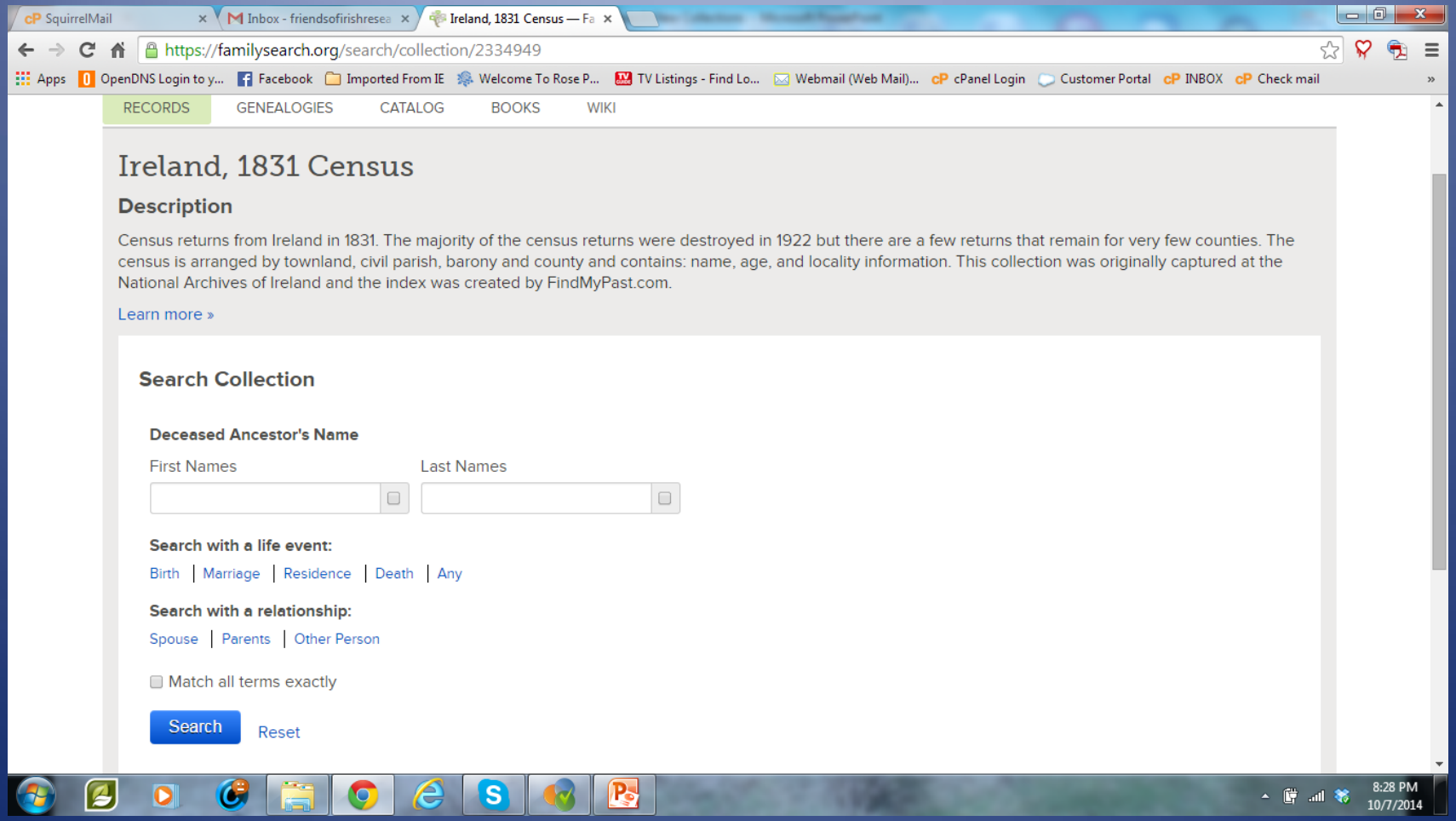
1821 Census Actual Records

- 275,103 records indexed
- 10,459 images

- **Citing this Collection**

"Ireland, 1821 Census", Index and images. *FamilySearch*. https://familysearch.org : accessed 2014.

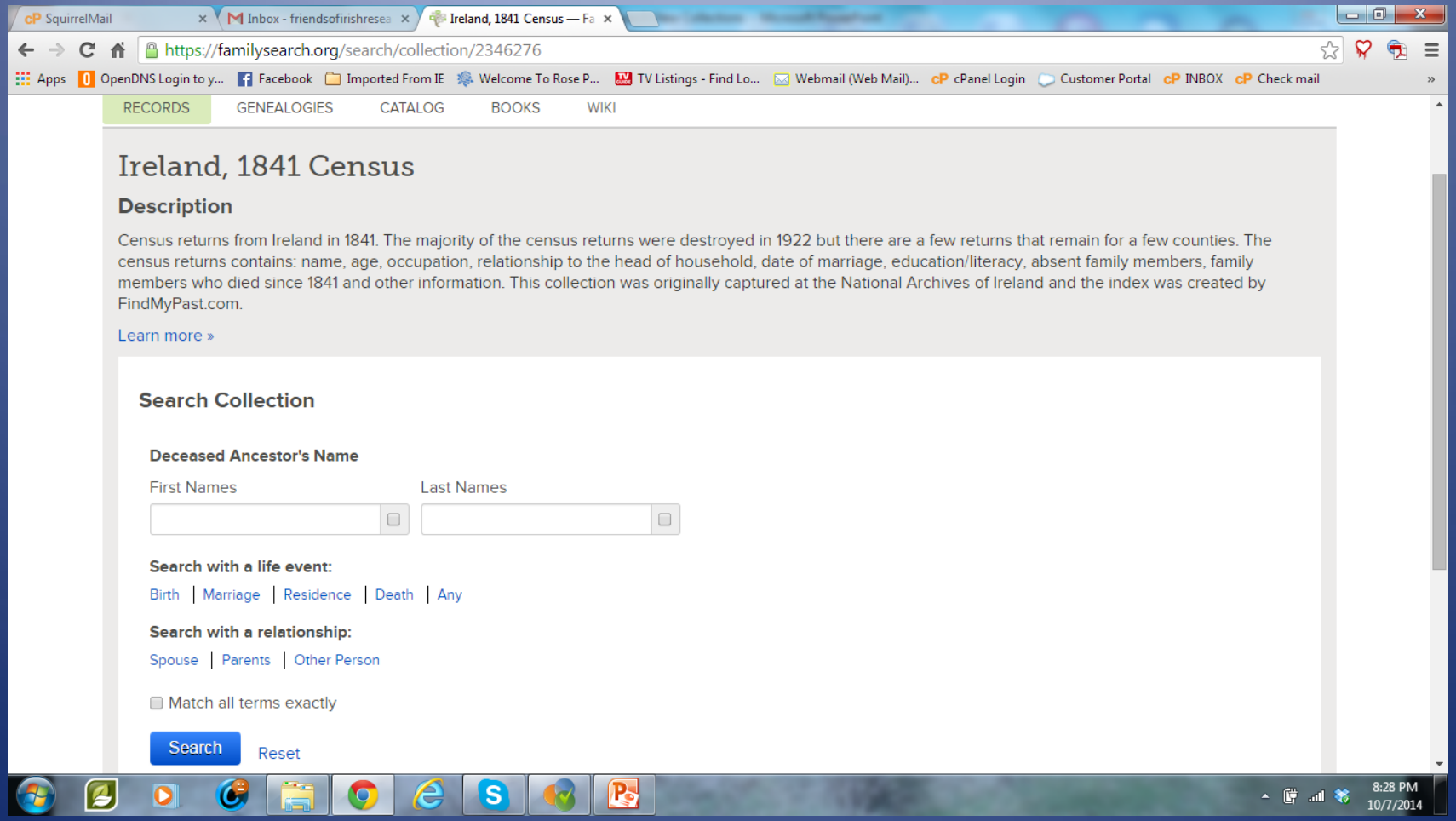
Ireland, 1831 Census



1831 Census

Census returns from Ireland in 1831. The majority of the census returns were destroyed in 1922 but there are a few returns that remain for very few counties. The census is arranged by townland, civil parish, barony and county and contains: name, age, and locality information. This collection was originally captured at the National Archives of Ireland and the index was created by FindMyPast.com.

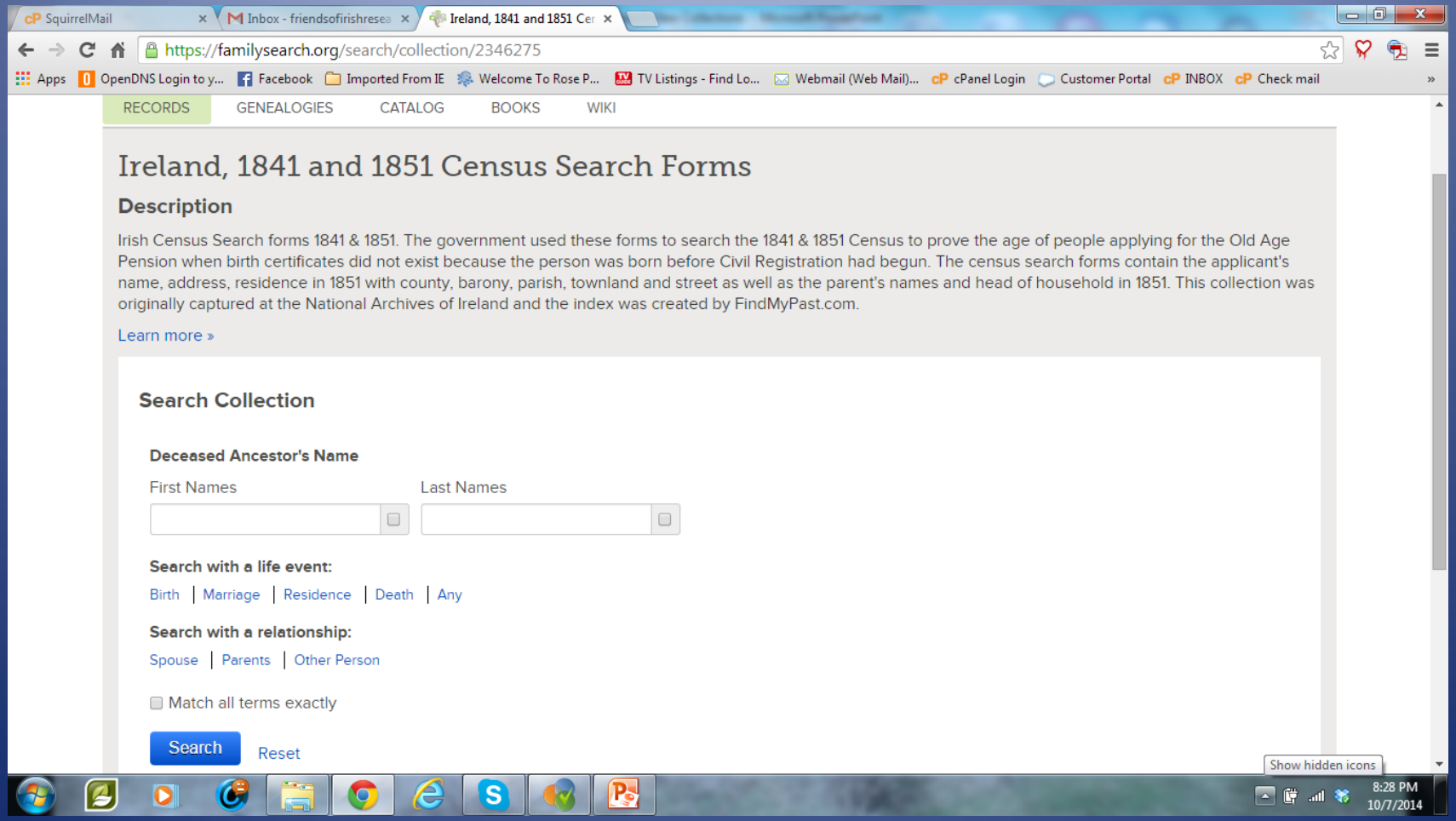
Ireland, 1841 Census



1841 Census

Census returns from Ireland in 1841. The majority of the census returns were destroyed in 1922 but there are a few returns that remain for a few counties. The census returns contains: name, age, occupation, relationship to the head of household, date of marriage, education/literacy, absent family members, family members who died since 1841 and other information. This collection was originally captured at the National Archives of Ireland and the index was created by FindMyPast.com.

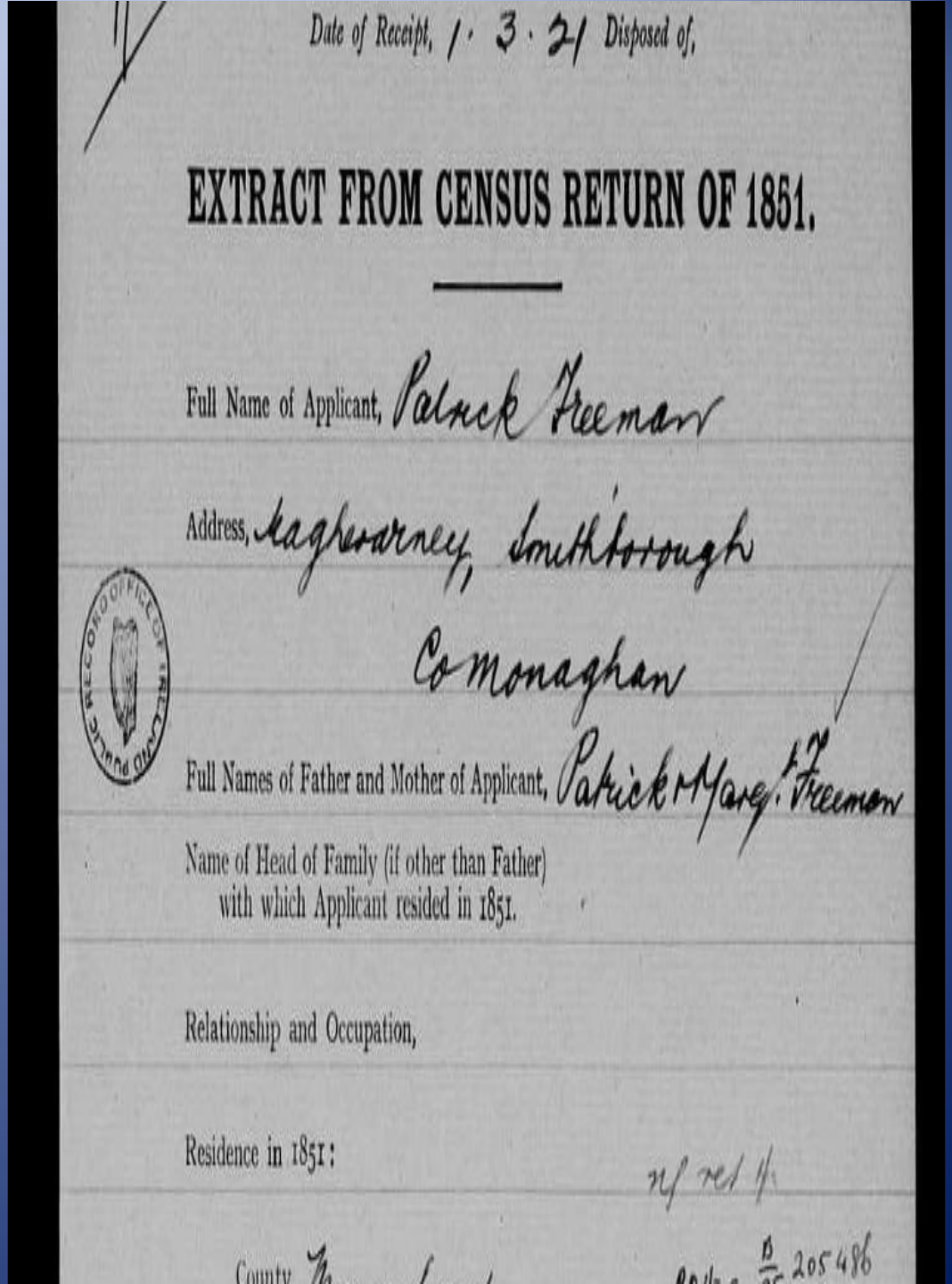
Ireland, 1841 & 1851 Census Search Forms



1841 & 1851 Census Search Forms

Irish Census Search forms 1841 & 1851. The government used these forms to search the 1841 & 1851 Census to prove the age of people applying for the Old Age Pension when birth certificates did not exist because the person was born before Civil Registration had begun. The census search forms contain the applicant's name, address, residence in 1851 with county, barony, parish, townland and street as well as the parent's names and head of household in 1851. This collection was originally captured at the National Archives of Ireland and the index was created by FindMyPast.com.

Extract Record from the 1851 Census Search Forms



Date of Receipt, 1 · 3 · 21 Disposed of,

EXTRACT FROM CENSUS RETURN OF 1851.

Full Name of Applicant, Patrick Freeman

Address, Magherarney, Smithborough

Co Monaghan

Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, Patrick & Marg.t Freeman

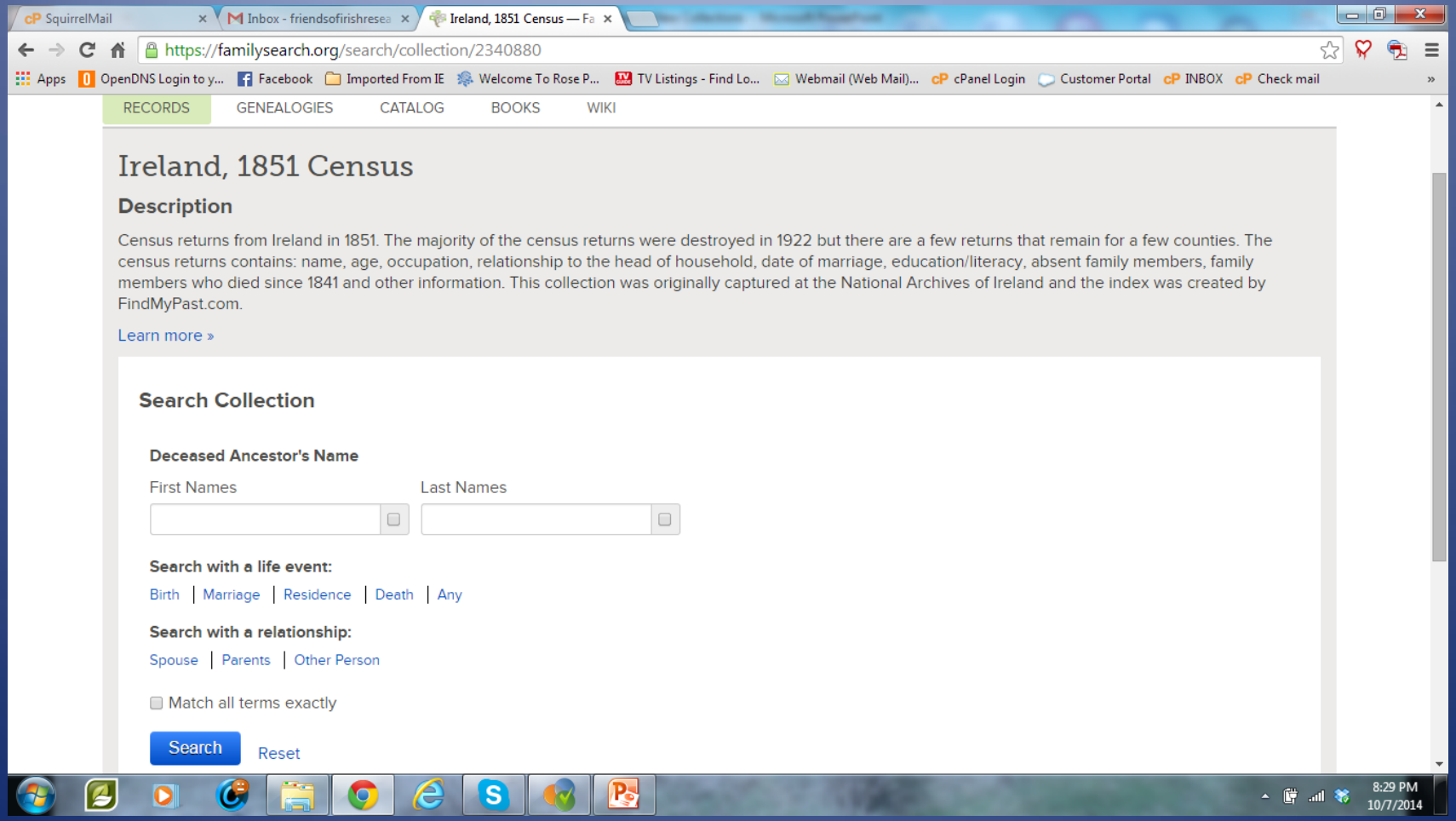
Name of Head of Family (if other than Father) with which Applicant resided in 1851.

Relationship and Occupation,

Residence in 1851:

County

Ireland, 1851 Census



1851 Census

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What Is In the Collection?

When you are in FamilySearch, looking through the Historical Record Collections and are looking at a collection list, you will see some collections with a camera icon next to the collection and some without the camera icon. The camera icon tells you that this record collection has digitized images of each record within that collection. If no icon is shown, there will not be images available.

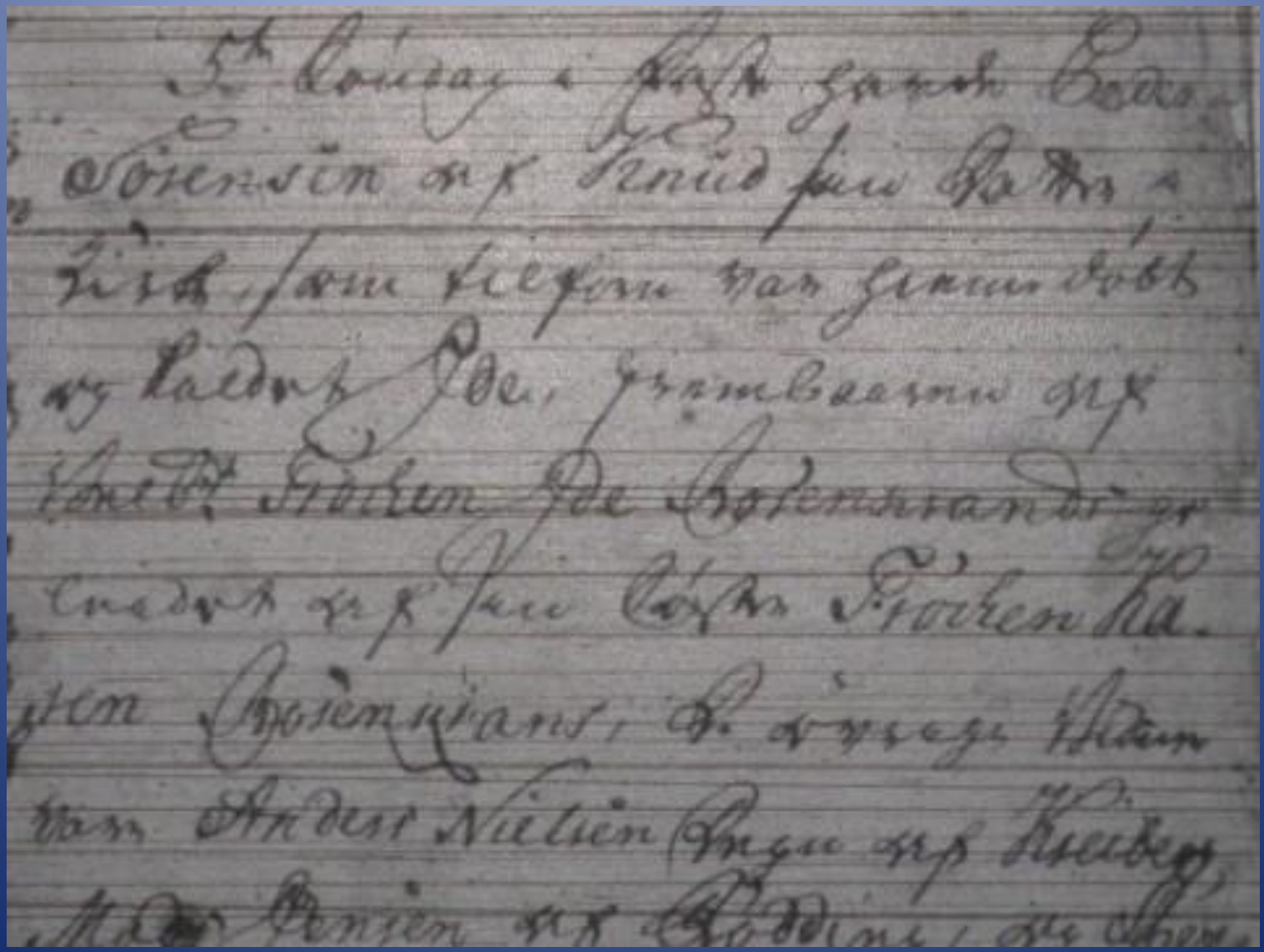
Images or Indexed?

- To the right of the collection title, you will see either the words **Browse Images** or you will see a number. If you see a number, that means the collection has been indexed and that the number indicates how many records are in the collection.
- If you see the words **Browse Images**, this means that the collection has not been indexed

Wiki Helps for FamilySearch Record Collections

Did you know that understanding a document's background is an important part of quality family history research? People wanting to use documents for genealogical research should understand "why and under what circumstances the records were created" because "by understanding the creation, purpose, and use of genealogical records … genealogists can then effectively use, interpret, and evaluate the information in those records"

Record Images



Creation of Records

Because family history depends on finding records about individuals and families, you should understand the nature of the records that you will be searching. In fact, one requirement of the Genealogical Proof Standard is that "the data's background context [be] considered." This means, among other things, understanding why and under what circumstances the records were created.

Genealogical Proof Standard

- The purpose of the Genealogical Proof Standard is to show what the minimums are that a genealogist must do for his or her work to be credible.
- There are five elements to the Genealogical Proof Standard:
- A reasonably exhaustive search has been conducted.
- Each statement of fact has a complete and accurate source citation.
- The evidence is reliable, and has been skillfully correlated and interpreted.
- Any contradictory evidence has been resolved.
- The conclusion has been soundly reasoned.
- Any proof statement is subject to re-evaluation when new evidence arises.

Advantages of Collections

- Firstly, you can refine your search to a specific country or region
- Secondly, you can refine your search to a more specific time frame
- Thirdly, you can refine your search to a specific type of record

Search Tips for FamilySearch Historical Records

There are SO many records online at FamilySearch now that a general search often turns up hundreds if not thousands of irrelevant results. Sometimes this leads people to claim that FamilySearch has nothing on their family. Do keep in mind as you search, however, that these are *historical* records. While FamilySearch does have some records with information on living or recently deceased individuals, this is not true of the majority of their collections.

Tip Page One

- **Check the Exact Search Boxes** – When you're getting a lot of irrelevant results, try checking the exact search boxes next to the names and other information you're fairly confident of.
- **Try Using Wildcards** – FamilySearch recognizes both the * wildcard (replaces one or more characters) and the ? wildcard (replaces a single character). Wildcard searches work both with and without exact search.

Tip Page Two

- **Narrow by Date or Event** – Select a life event (birth, marriage, residence, death or any) to narrow your search by a particular date and event (e.g. someone born in Ireland about 1850). Residence search is the one I use most.

Tip Page Three

- **Narrow by Relationship** – Select Spouse, Parents, or Other Person to narrow your search by entering either the name of a parent, spouse or possible sibling/associate. This search technique is especially useful for locating siblings - just enter the surnames of both the mother and the father and leave everything else blank. If the two surnames are common you may need to also add one or both first names, or narrow by location. You can also use this technique when searching a particular record collection.

Tip Page Four

- **Search by Collection** – A general search almost never works well for me unless I'm searching for someone with a very unusual name. For best results, I almost always start a new search at FamilySearch by browsing by location down to a particular record collection (e.g. Ireland Marriages, 1619-1898). You can also use the "Narrow by Relationship" technique discussed above within each collection.

Tip Page Five

- **Show Preview** – Once your search has returned a list of results, click on the little upside-down triangle to the right of each search result to open a more detailed preview. This reduces the time than clicking back and forth between the results list and the result pages.

Tip Page Six

- **Filter Your Results** - If you're searching across multiple collections at one time, use the Category list in the left-hand navigation bar to narrow your results by category. This is useful for filtering out census records, for example, which often end up topping results lists. Once you've narrowed to a particular category (Births, Marriages & Deaths, for example), the left-hand nav bar will list record collections within that category, with the number of results that match your search query next to each collection title.

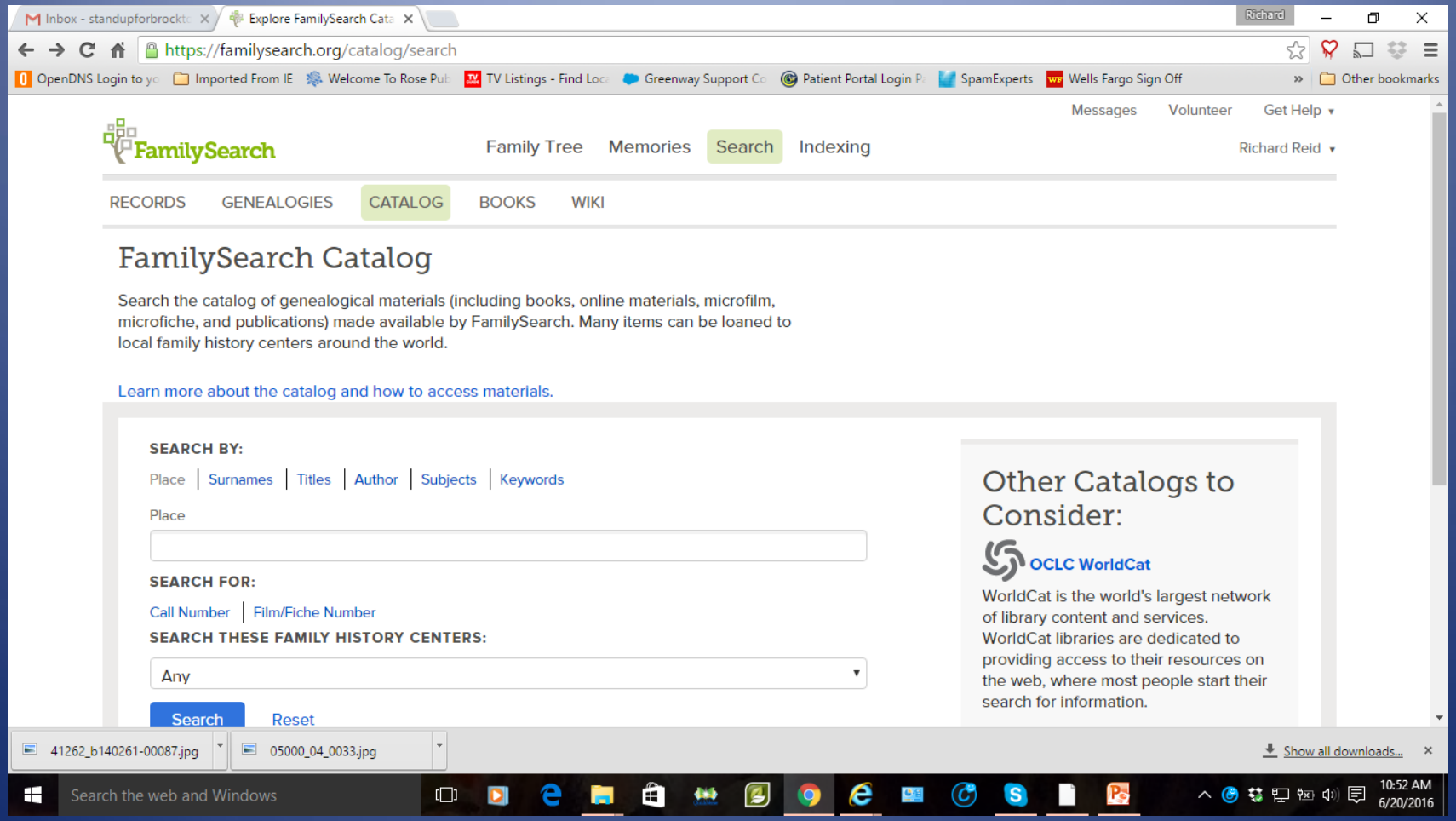
Tip Page Seven

- **Browse as Well as Search** – Many collections at FamilySearch are only partially searchable at any given point in time, and this information isn't always easy to determine from the collection list. Even if a particular collection is searchable, try comparing the total number of searchable records listed in the Collections List with the total number of records available if you select the record set and scroll down to see the number of records listed under "View Images in this Collection." In many cases you will find there are many records available for browsing that aren't yet included in the searchable index.

Other Search Tips

- Search Surname Variants
- Use Nicknames and Initials
- Consider Alternate Surnames
- Use Wildcard Search
- Search for Family Members

FamilySearch Catalogs

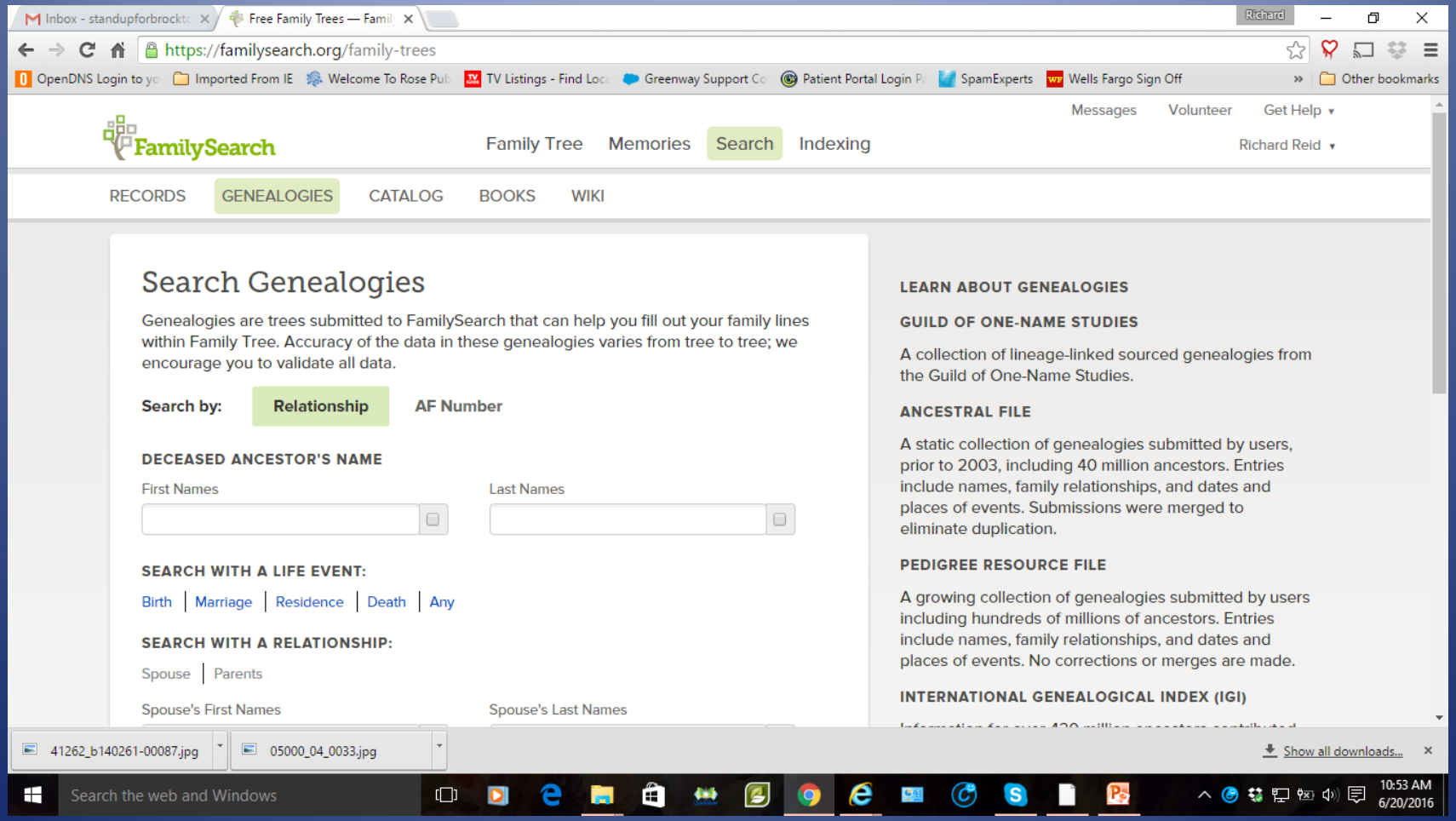


What is a Catalog?

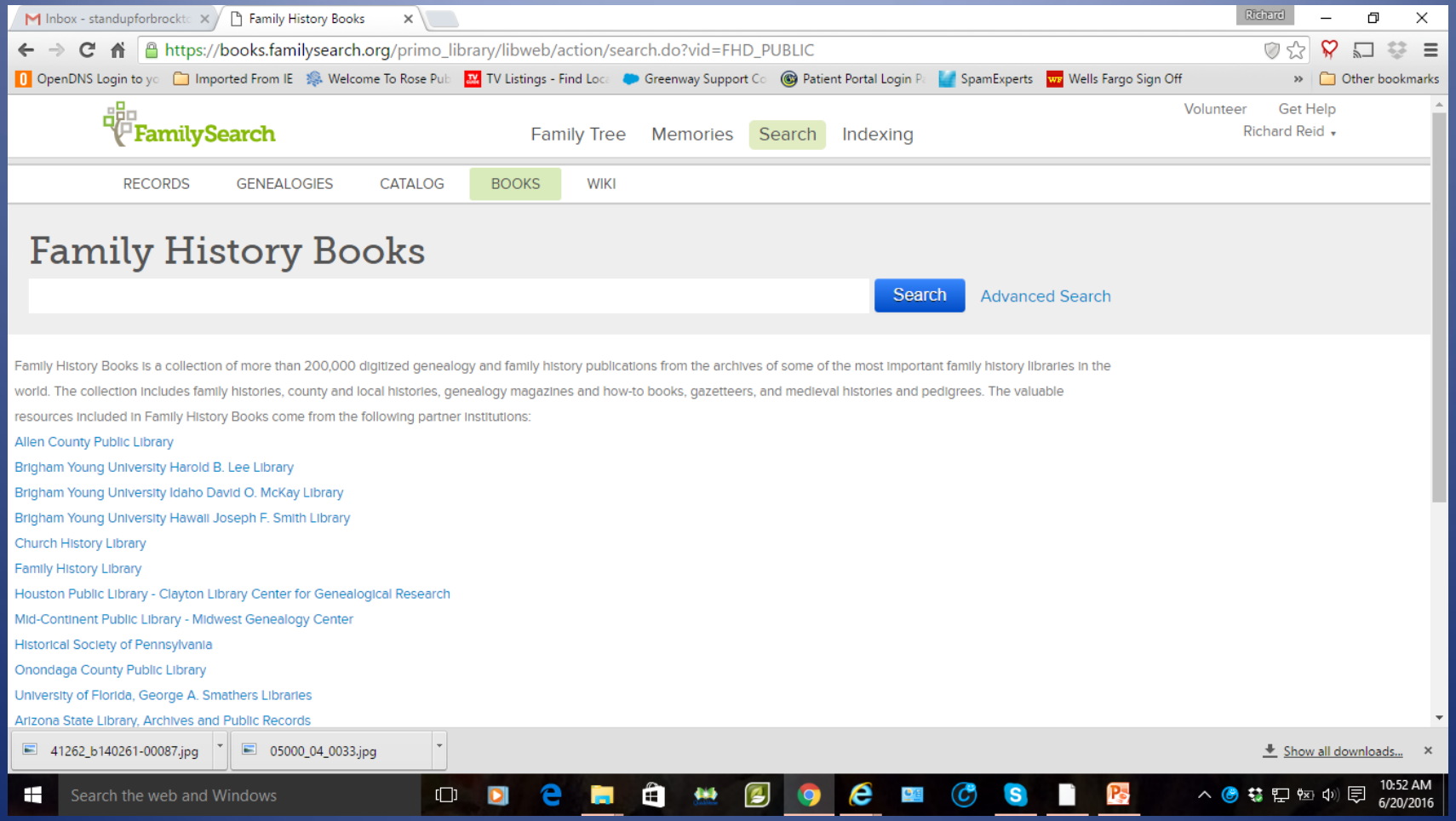
- The Catalog is a guide to birth, marriage, and death records; census records; church registers; books; periodicals; family histories and many other records that contain genealogical information. These records may be searchable online, on microfiche or microfilm, in a book or in a computer file.
- Some entries in the FamilySearch Catalog include images of records. When an image is available in the catalog, a camera icon will appear to the right of the microfilm note associated with that image.

Using the Catalogs Video

Search Genealogies



Family History Books



Allen County Public Library

Secret to Your Success

- Never give up, keep looking!
- Document your results!
- Cite the source!

Friends of Irish Research

- 899 N. Main St., Brockton, MA
- Fridays 7:30 – 9:30pm or by appointment
- 3rd Friday at the ICC Library, Canton
- http://www.friendsofirishresearch.org
- friendsofirishresearch@gmail.com

- Computer research center, research tools and data , training, research assistance