

Language, Location and Form of Newspapers in Finland, 1771-1920
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During the period 1771-1917 newspapers developed as a mass medium in the Grand Duchy of Finland. This happened within two different imperial configurations (Sweden until 1809 and Russia until 1917) and in two languages -- Swedish and Finnish. This paper uses the metadata information about the newspapers to statistically trace the expansion of public discourse in Finland. By relating information on publication places, language, number of issues, number of words, size of papers, and publishers and comparing that to the existing scholarship on newspaper history and censorship, the paper aims at reaching a more accurate bird's-eye view of newspaper publishing in Finland after 1771. The paper focuses in particular on the interplay between the Swedish and Finnish language papers, and suggest that the while the discussions in the public were inherently bilingual, the technological and journalistic developments that are traceable through machine reading methods advanced in different speeds in Swedish and Finnish. Toward the turn of the century 1900, Finnish papers started dominating the public discourse which changed the understanding of the language relations in the country. The paper further assess the development of the press in comparison with book production and periodicals, pointing toward a specialization of the newspapers as a medium in the period post 1860.