Locating Common Forms of Historical Primary Sources in the HTDL

Eamon Duffy

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Code of Conduct

HathiTrust events provide an inclusive environment that welcomes inquiry, constructive criticism and debate, and candor. HathiTrust does not tolerate personal attacks, harassment of any kind, verbal or physical violence, or disruptive behavior. All attendees are expected to be respectful of our community’s diversity and generous of others’ views. A full Code of Conduct and a complete process for handling reports of violations is in development. Until it is available, please bring concerns to us by contacting a member of the HathiTrust staff or by emailing conduct-reports@hathitrust.org.
Technology overview

- Zoom Meeting Features
- Mute and Unmute
- Chat
- Speaker View and Gallery View
- Automated Transcript/Closed Captions
- Support
Zoom Meeting Features

- Audio and Video will be muted for all Participants upon entry
- Switch between Speaker View and Gallery View
- Chat is enabled
- Automated Transcripts/Closed Captioning are available
Mute / Unmute

When not speaking, please keep your Microphone muted

To turn on your microphone, click the “Unmute” button in the bottom left corner

Click the “Mute” button to then turn your microphone off
Chat

Use Chat for discussion or to ask a question.

To open the Chat window, click the Chat button at the bottom of the Zoom application.

By clicking the “Everyone” button in the Chat pop out window, you can select who you want to chat with.
Social Media

Please join the discussion online as well:

- Twitter: #HTCW20
- HathiTrust Community Slack space at [hathitrust-community.slack.com](http://hathitrust-community.slack.com): #2020-comm-week
Locating Common Forms of Historical Primary Sources in the HTDL
Primary sources in historical research

- Situational defined
- Documents written during or soon after the events under study, and which bear upon the issues being investigated
- Provide first-hand evidence from the past
- Provide the foundation for making an informed argument about the past
Common suggested types of primary sources

- Diaries
- Travel narratives
- Letters
- Laws and other government documents
- Statistics
- Newspaper articles
Frequent issues for undergraduates

- Lack of foreign language skills
- Unfamiliar with historical vocabulary
- Large full-text collections lead to information overload and they are overwhelmed by irrelevant results
- Difficulty conceptualizing how to search for primary source
- A good primary source isn’t necessarily “about” what the student’s paper will be about.
HTDL as a 19th Century Database

EEBO, ECCO, ... HTDL?
Number of 19th Century titles in the HTDL

1,264,120
Free-floating subdivisions

Signify document types rather than topics, and match closely with commonly suggested primary sources for undergraduates:

- Biography
- Correspondence
- Description and travel
- Diaries
- Interviews
- Personal narratives
- Sources [for published primary source anthologies]
Both at the same time!
Search the HathiTrust Digital Library

Search words about or within the items

- Full-text
- Catalog

[ ] Full view only

Advanced full-text search  Advanced catalog search  Search tips

ℹ️ Should I search catalog or full-text?
Advanced Full-text Search

Search information within the item (Search Tips).

Prefer to search about the item in an Advanced Catalog search?

Search by field

- Full-Text + All Fields
- all of these words
- guano AND (mine OR mines OR miner OR miners)
- Subject
- this exact phrase
- peru description and travel

+ Add another group of search fields

Advanced Search
Travels in Peru, during the years 1838-1842 ... In two parts. part 1.
Published 1847
Author Tschudi, Johann Jakob von, 1818-1889.

Melbourne, and the Chincha Islands : with sketches of Lima, and a voyage round the world
Published 1854
Author Peck, George W. 1817-1859.

Travels in Peru, during the years 1838-1842
Published 1847
Author Tschudi, Johann Jakob von, 1818-1889.
Melbourne, and the Chincha Islands: with sketches of Lima, and a voyage round the world
MELBOURNE, AND THE CHINCHAS.

Almost every week some of them commit suicide by throwing themselves from the cliff. They are said to do this in the belief that their spirits will awaken in their native land. Kossuth told me that more than sixty had killed themselves this way in the two years he has been there. One was driven over the cliff or jumped off, and was dashed in pieces, to escape the lash of a black driver, who chased him to the verge in sight of a captain of an American ship, the week before we left. The cliff where he leaped is two hundred feet high, and almost perpendicular. Kossuth affects to pity these coolies; but he is said to over-task them. Each one, strong and weak alike under his overseers, is required to dig and wheel to the man-
Some things to consider

● Only about 75% of HathiTrust catalogue records contain LCSH (as of 2013)
● This method can work well for in-copyright material because it can point to useful print titles to locate.
Thank you!

Eamon Duffy
eamon.duffy@mcgill.ca

- Please complete the survey
- Jump in on the conversation on the HathiTrust Community Slack: #commweek
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