

Sources in U.S. History Online: The Civil War



Introducing **Sources in U.S. History Online**, a series of archival digital collections for public library patrons, high school students, and community college students and faculty.

Thomson Gale has digitized rare primary source materials from leading libraries across the globe and has made them available online, with full-text searching across every page. These collections open up a wealth of rare, formerly inaccessible historical content, allowing end users to search across a broad range of materials as they appeared in their original printed editions.

Thomson Gale has released two archival digital collections under the **Sources in U.S. History Online** series, focusing on two essential components of the study of U.S. History: **Slavery in America** and **The Civil War**. Both combine the more traditional study of these topics with the most recent focus on social and cultural history. These digital collections tell the story of a particular era through primary source documents, with structured access to the subjects within the period via topic trees and synoptic outlines. Users will be able to browse topics, or search by keyword, subject, author, title, or full-text. Scholarly introductory review and reference articles written on individual topics and subtopics will provide important historical background and educational structure.

SOURCES IN U. S. HISTORY ONLINE: THE CIVIL WAR

Thomson Gale's **The Civil War** Digital Collection is an introductory overview that casts a wide net across the entire topic: military history; social history; political history; diplomatic history; cultural history; legal history; and area specialties including Southern history; African American history; healthcare and medical history; the history of technology and more.

The Civil War consists of approximately 450 primary source documents, selected by the 19th-century U.S. historian, Paul Finkelman, President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School. These documents, selected for their relevancy to the study of the Civil War, come from a series of historical collections, including *Sabin Americana: 1500-1926*, *The Making of Modern Law*, *The Making of the Modern World*, and selected content from Thomson Gale's Scholarly Resources imprint.

Patrons, students and faculty can access rare documents that present a narrative of the Civil War, which documents key aspects of this historical timeframe on both the traditional (military) and less traditional (social and cultural) aspects of the war. Sample topics in **The Civil War** digital archive include:

Armies and Combatants

Primary documents include:

- Armies
 - Battles
 - Soldiers and Army life
 - Conscription
 - Black troops
 - Navy and Naval Operations.
- Barney, Chester. *Recollections of field service with the twentieth Iowa infantry volunteers, or, what I saw in the army : embracing accounts of marches, battles, sieges and skirmishes in Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Texas, and along the... Davenport*. 1865.
 - Jones, Charles Colcock. *The siege of Savannah in December, 1864 : and the Confederate operations in Georgia and the third military district of South Carolina during General Sherman's march from Atlanta to the sea*. Albany, N.Y. 1874.
 - Shaver, Lewellyn Adolphus. *A history of the Sixtieth Alabama regiment : Gracie's Alabama brigade*. Montgomery, Ala. 1867.

The Art of Warfare

- Tactics and Military Training
- Technology

Primary documents include:

- Dodge, William Castle. *Breech-loaders versus muzzle-loaders, or, How to strengthen our army and crush the rebellion, with a saving of life and treasure*. Washington, D.C. 1865.



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- Richardson, William H.. *A manual of infantry and rifle tactics : with honors paid by the troops, inspections, reviews, &c.* Richmond. 1861.
- United States. War Dept. *Instruction for heavy artillery.* Richmond, Va. 1862.

Leadership

Primary documents include:

- Lincoln
- Grant
- McClellan
- Sheridan
- Sherman
- Lee
- Jackson
- U.S. Officers
- Confederate Officers
- Brockett, Linus Pierpont. *Our great captains : Grant, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, and Farragut.* New York. 1866.
- Grant, Ulysses S. *Personal memoirs of U.S. Grant.* New York. 1886.
- Sheridan, Philip Henry. *Personal memoirs of P.H. Sheridan, general, United States Army.* New York. 1888.
- Early, Jubai Anderson. *A memoir of the last year of the War for Independence, in the Confederate States of America...* Lynchburg, 1867.

Away From the Battlefield

- Prisoners and Jailed Civilians
- Spies
- Medical and Sanitary Commission
- Emancipation and Free Blacks
- Civilian Memoirs

Primary documents include:

- Baker, La Fayette Charles. *History of the United States Secret Service.* Philadelphia. 1867.
- Holstein, Anna Morris Ellis. *Three years in field hospitals of the Army of the Potomac.* Philadelphia. 1867.
- Keiley, Anthony M. *Prisoner of war, or Five months among the Yankees : being a narrative of the crosses, calamities, and consolations of a Petersburg militiaman during an enforced summer residence north.* Richmond. 1865.

Spirituality

- Religion
- Soldier's Obituaries
- Sermons

Primary documents include:

- Elliott, Stephen. *God's presence with our army at Manassas! : a sermon, preached in Christ church, Savannah...* Savannah. 1861.

- Fransioli, Joseph. *Patriotism, a Christian virtue : a sermon preached by the Rev. Joseph Fransioli, at St. Peter's (Catholic) church, Brooklyn, July 26th, 1863.* New York. 1863.

Government, Law, Economics, and Foreign Policy

Primary documents include:

- Secession
- Election of 1860
- Law
- Foreign Relations
- British View of the War
- Election of 1864
- Kettell, Thomas Prentice. *Southern wealth and northern profits : as exhibited in statistical facts and official figures facts and official figures : showing the necessity of union to the future prosperity and welfare of the Republic.* New York. 1860
- Poland, John Scroggs. *A digest of the military laws of the United States : from 1860 to the second session of the Fortieth Congress, 1867, relating to the army, volunteers, militia, and the rebellion and reconstruction of the southern states.* Boston. 1868.
- Stratheden, William Frederick Campbell, Baron. *Speech of Lord Campbell, in the House of Lords, on the right of the neutral powers to acknowledge the Southern Confederacy, March 23rd, 1863.* London. 1863.

Literary Genres

- Histories and chronologies
- Children's Literature
- Reminiscences
- Music and Songs

Primary documents include:

- *The Lincoln and Hamlin songster, or, The continental melodist : comprising a choice collection of original and selected songs, in honor of the people's candidates, Lincoln and Hamlin, and illustrative of the enthusiasm everywhere entertained for "Honest O..."* Philadelphia. 1860.
- Greeley, Horace. *The American conflict: a history of the great rebellion in the United States of America, 1860-'64 : its causes, incidents, and results : intended to exhibit especially its moral and political phases, with the drift and progress of American opinion...* Hartford, Conn. 1867