

**Early State Records for 26 U.S. States and Territories West of the Appalachians: a Digital Record from European Contact to Early Statehood Based on the Library of Congress' Microfilm Collection**

-- epitomizes *once hidden and now enhanced*

**LLMC** DIGITAL



## Bios

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# AGENDA

- Who are we?
- Why ESR?
- When we built it – did they come?
- What were the Hidden and Accessible implications?
  - Production Challenges
  - Content Enhancements
- Where will we go from here?

- **501(c)3 since 1976**

- **independent and self-governing, managed by a Board of Directors and Advisory Council elected by the members**

- **mission: preserve legal and government documents while providing online access via LLMC Digital, LLMC Open Access, Indigenous Law Portal, and RIGHTS! Portal**

- **global member community**

- **dark-storage, permanent preservation in salt mines**

- **database collections are global and growing, currently offering:**

- **US STATES and FEDERAL, including Early State Records, sponsored by Patrons and CLIR; 9,000+ titles**
- **INTERNATIONAL – titles from over 175 countries and 68 languages**
- **INCLUSIVITY and DIVERSITY including international Indigenous Law Portal; RIGHTS!**
- **PARTNERS: Google Books, Library of Congress, dLOC, Laws.Africa and AfricanLII, ESR Patrons and CLIR, Saint Louis Univ., AALL Archive, JAG Theses, and more!**

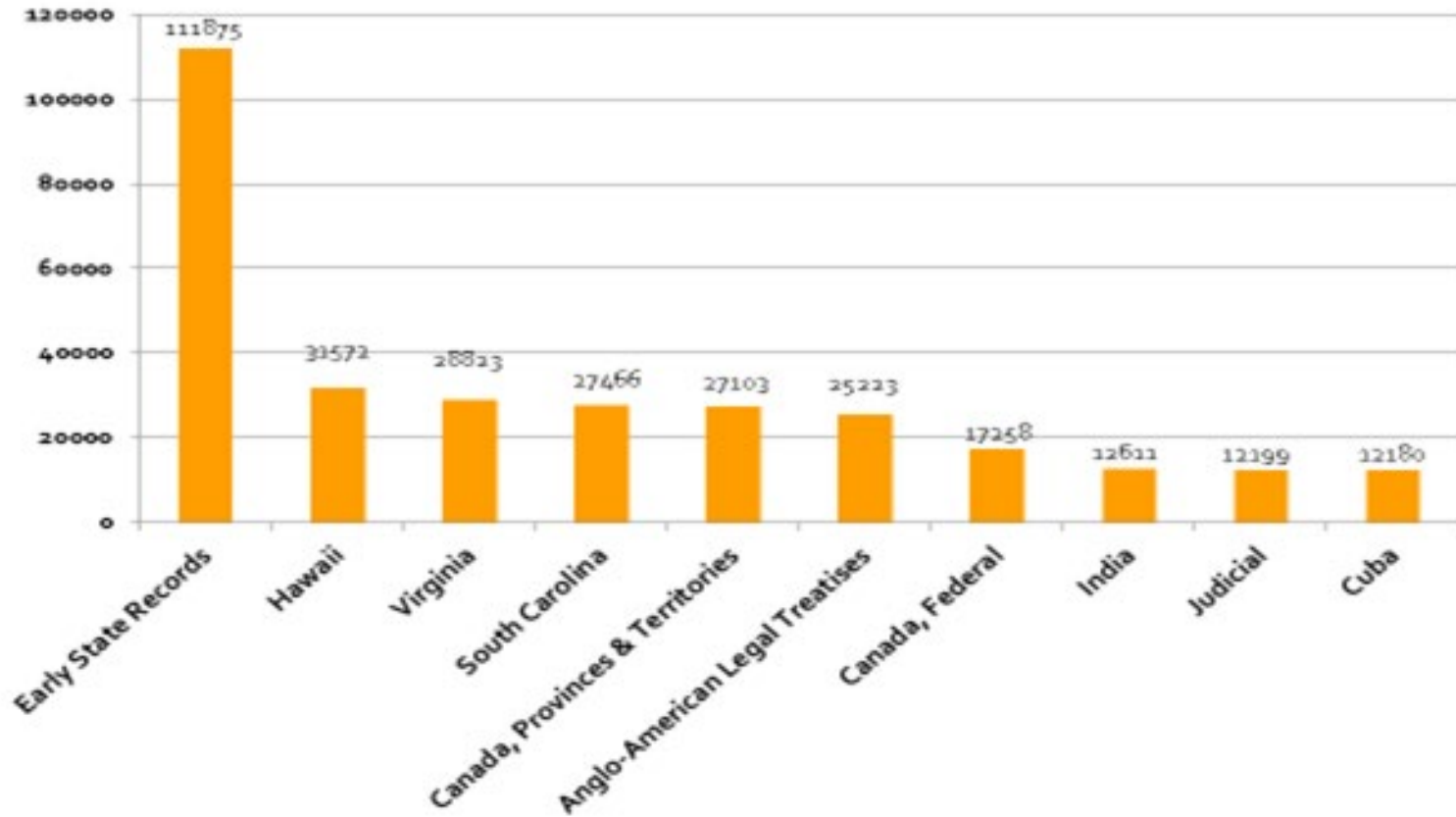


**Build It – But Will They Come?**

- **Absence of ‘market demand’**
- **Challenges to doing it ‘right’**
  - Multi-faceted bibliographic, editorial, and production effort
  - Costs
- **Takes a Village!**
  - CLIR & Library Patrons

- **Created in 1940's**
- **1,808 reels of microfilm**
- **2,666,462+ images**
  - **CLIR -- 6,896 ESR volumes (830,442 images) on LLMC Digital and LLMC Open Access**
  - **39 Patrons -- As of September 2022, 24,194 ESR volumes (1,586,294 images) on LLMC Digital; 7,528 volumes (249,726 images) in pipeline**

Top 10 LLMC Digital Collections Viewed First Half of 2022



- Records of the States of the United States of America
  - Early State Records (ESR)
  - How was this collection “hidden”?
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# How was this collection “hidden”?

OBSOLETE  
FORMAT

UNFAMILIAR  
ORGANIZATIONAL  
MODEL

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**A. Statutory**

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**B. Constitutional**

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**C. Legislative**

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**D. Administrative**

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**E. Executive**

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**F. Court**

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**L. Local**

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**M. American Indian nations**

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**N. Newspapers**

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**X. Miscellany**

- **Organization of the Guide is by type of document**
- **Organization of the Film is first by State then by type of document**

**Either  
provides  
information  
down to the  
volume /  
piece level**

D.22, D.24  
Reel 1  
Ohio. Reports and papers of permanent agencies.  
Northwest Territory, 1787-1803  
State, 1803-  
Unit 1  
D.22  
1800 May 13-1807 Dec. 11 Auditor's journal. [218] p. MS.  
OHI  
Unit 2  
D.24  
1800 May 7-1811 Dec. 4 Treasurer's cash journal. [3], 94, [1] fol. MS.  
OHI

# Or, items grouped within collection types .... Broadsides

- 1708? – 1741 Apr. 30    45 items
- 1741 June ? - 1758 Dec. 8    54 items
- 1759 Jan. 11 – 1765 Nov. 11    62 items

- Index information is incorrect
- Items listed in index are not on film
- Images on film not listed on index pages

X-1  
Reel 1

Florida.                      Miscellany.

Unit 1

Bernard Romans. A concise natural history of East and West Florida...  
New York. 1775.  
4, viii, 342 (i.e. 340), [2], LXXXIX, [3] p., 3 pl., 3 maps NN

East-Florida Gazette (St. Augustine)  
Vol. I, No. 5, Feb. 22--Mar. 1, 1783,  
No. 14, Apr. 26--May 3,  
No. 16, May 10--17.                      FU-Yonge photostatic copies, original PRO

Pensacola Gazette (Pensacola)  
Vol. I, No. 23, Aug. 14, 1824,                      **Volume 4 - 11/16/1824 & 12/07/1827**  
Vol. IV, No. 7, May 2, 1828,                      **Not listed on index page but images found on microfilm**  
No. 28, Sept. 23,  
No. 35, Nov. 7,  
No. 36, Nov. 14.                      FU-Yonge

Havitanes de la Florida Oriental. El Coronel Jose Coppinger.  
San Augustin, 1821.                      Broadside FHI  
6 Ordinances Major General Andrew Jackson. Pensacola, 1821.                      Broadside DNA

Unit 2

The case of the inhabitants of East-Florida...St. Augustine, 1784. <sup>18 p.</sup> 157 p. RPJCB  
John Melish. A description of East and West Florida. Philadelphia, 1813.                      18 p.  
Circular, Army of Pensacola, Mar. 31, 1862.                      Broadside  
Oration delivered by Col. James Gadsden...Tallahassee, 1827.                      14 p.  
A eulogy...on John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. H. M. Bracken-  
ridge. Pensacola, 1826.                      18 p.  
Reply of the board of directors of the Union Bank of Florida.  
Tallahassee, 1840.                      98 p.  
Prayers and other devotions for the use of the soldiers of the  
army of the Confederate States. Charleston, n.d.                      12 p.  
Experience of a Confederate States prisoner...Richmond, 1862.                      64 p.  
Regulations of the ordinance department of the Confederate States.  
Richmond, 1862.                      12 p.  
1863 Aug. 23 - 1864 Feb. 6 R. B. Hilton. Notes on habeas  
corpus and prisoners of war.                      18 p. MS  
Constitution of the State of Florida. St. Joseph, 1839.                      FU-Yonge  
Broadside  
CSmh

Buckingham Smith papers.                      **Not on film**

Unit 3

1739 Mar. 22 - 1741 Feb. 1 Vol. 23 Letters to the Captain  
General of Cuba.                      358, v.p. MS (Sp.)  
NHI transcript from original in East Florida  
archives, St. Augustine.

Unit 4

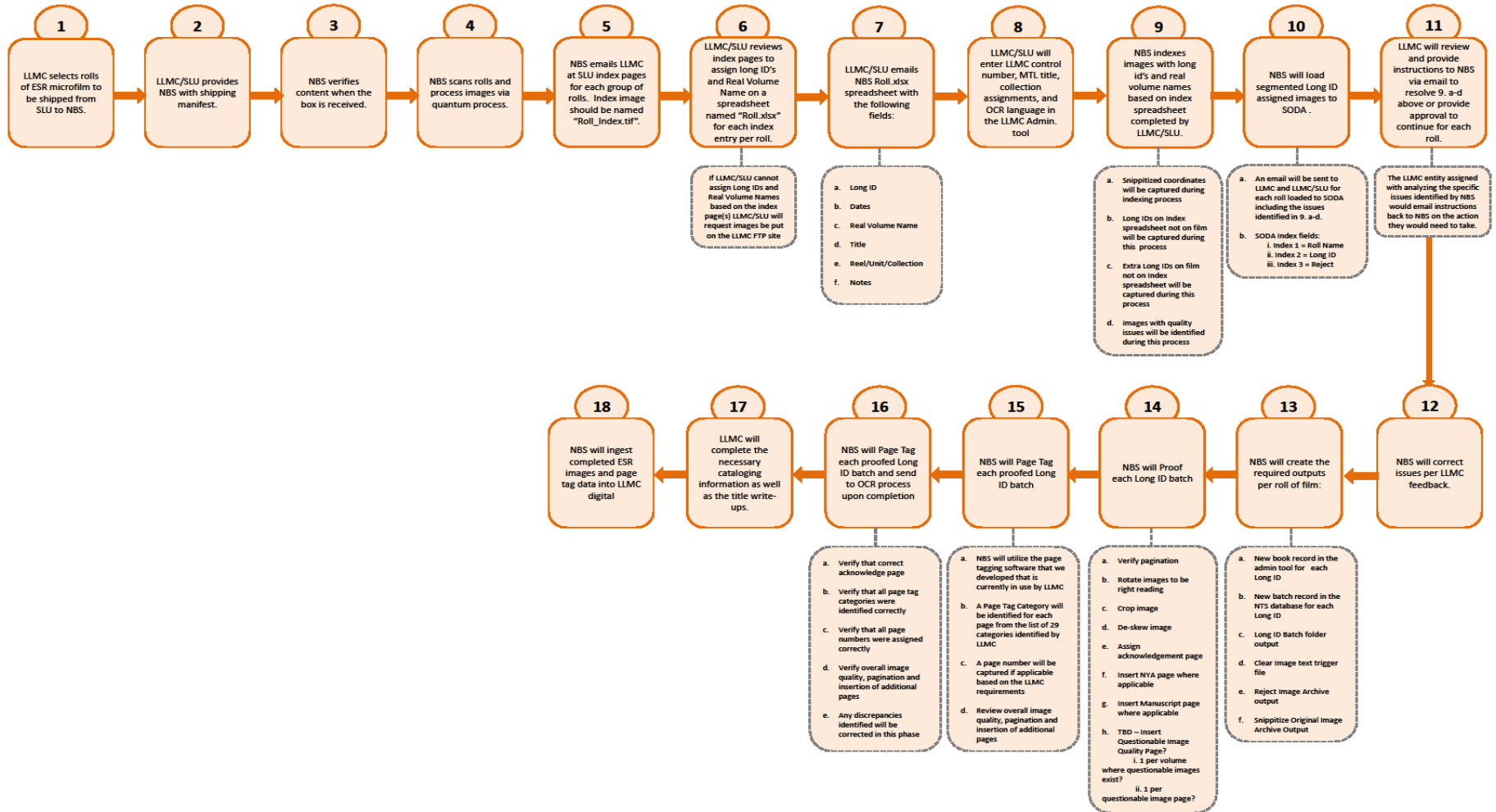
Vol. 9 Recapture of Florida...(translation and transcript)                      49, 22 p. MS  
NHI original in Royal Library, Madrid.

Unit 5

Vol. 11 Florida papers.                      [19]p. MS NHI



### Early State Records (ESR) Workflow



## Saint Louis

1. Microfilm:  
SLU → Minnesota

3. Creates spreadsheet of  
volumes with titles & coverage

5. Cataloging & abstracts

## Minnesota

2. NBS/OSG scans film. FTPs  
images & index to SLU

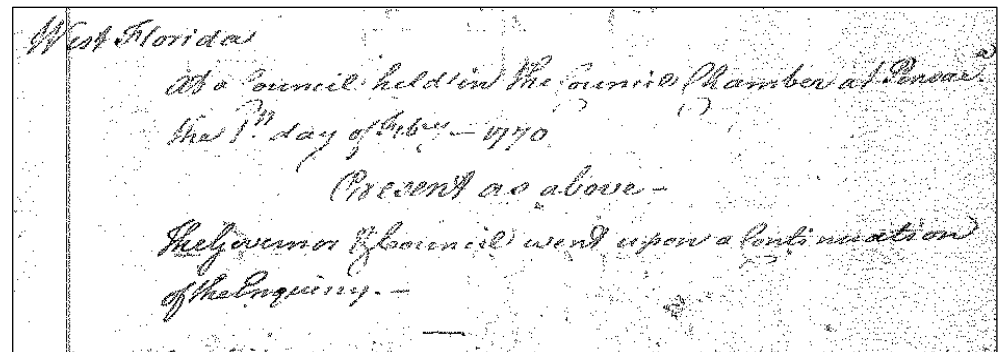
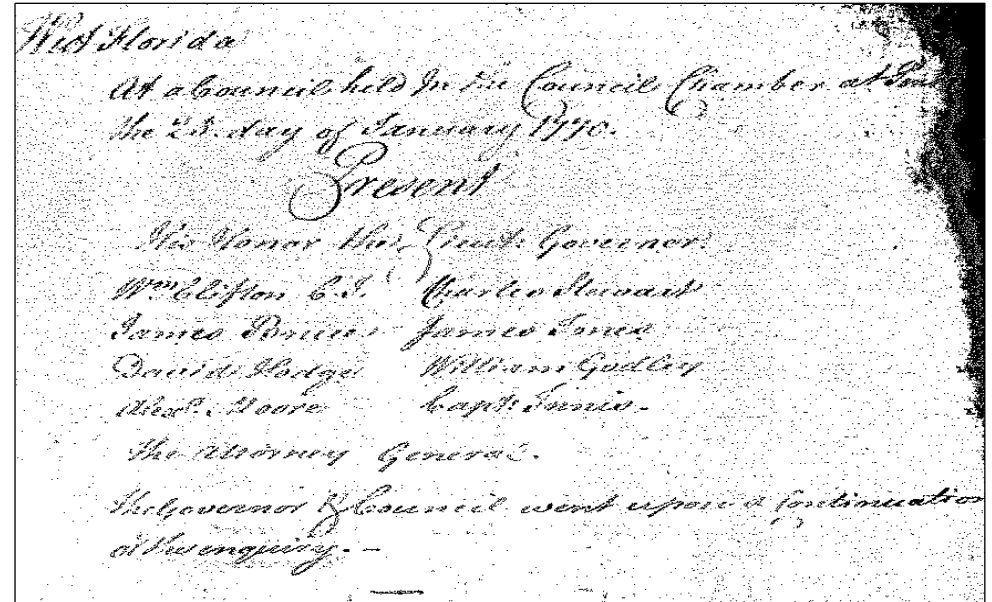
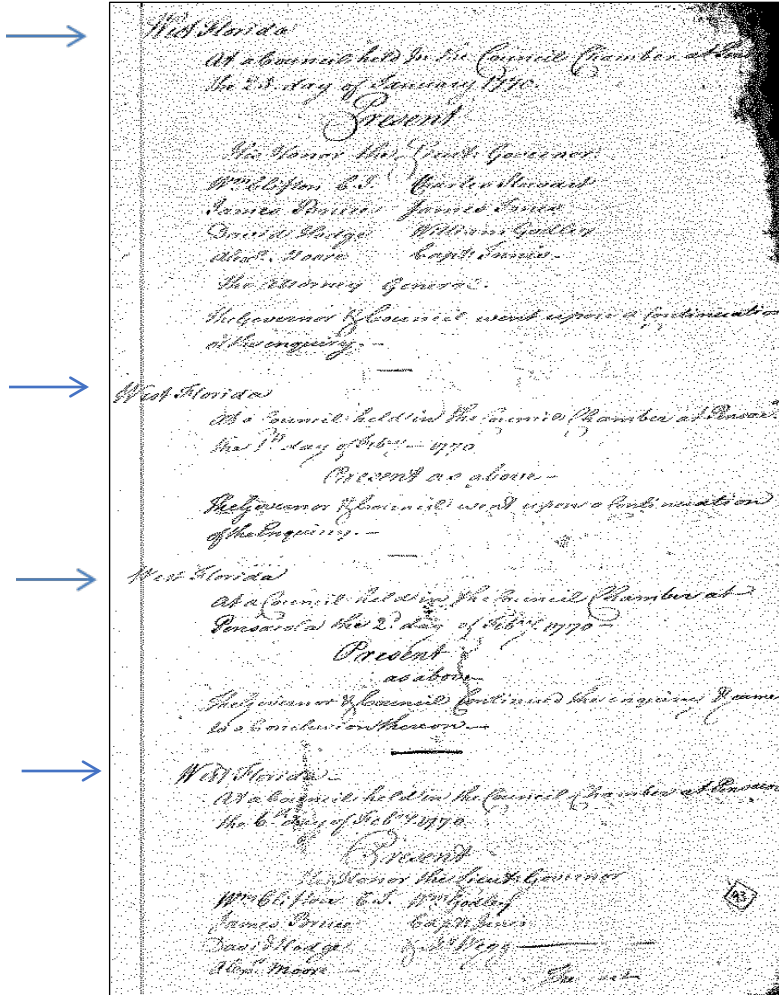
4. Isolating volumes. Page  
tagging. Loading images into  
Admin. module

6. Bibliographic data loaded into  
database

**And, voilà! The title is available online.**



- Some images contain multiple documents.
- Each document needs to be a unique image.



**LongID, Start image number, End image number, Volume name/designation, Title, Reel name, Note**

LONG ID	START IMAGE NUMBER	END IMAGE NUMBER	VOLUME NAME	TITLE	Reel/ Unit	Notes
40815.1792.060	16	46	1792 June	1792- , Kentucky, Senate Journals	A_1b_Reel1/1	
40815.1793.110	52	65	1793 Nov (inc.)			NB Note at bottom of p. 14
40815.1794.110	66	121	1794 Nov			
40815.1795.110	123	169	1795 Nov			
40815.1798.010	171	244	1798 Jan			
40815.1801.110	249	361	1801 Nov		A_1b_Reel1/2	
40815.1803.110	365	482	1803 Nov (inc.)		A_1b_Reel1/3	
40815.1804.110	485	600	1804 Nov			
40815.1805.110	603	731	1805 Nov			
40815.1806.110	735	884	1806 Nov		A_1b_Reel1/4	
40815.1807.120	886	1048	1807 - 1808 Feb			
40815.1808.120	1049	1273	1808 - 1809 Feb		[A_1b_Reel1/5]	
40815.1809.120	1280	1465	1809 - 1810 Jan			
40815.1810.120	1469	1665	1810 - 1811 Jan		A_1b_Reel1/6	
40815.1811.120	1867	1890	1811 - 1812 Feb			

A  
**DECLARATION**

By the Representatives of the  
**United Colonies**  
OF NORTH-AMERICA, now met in  
*General Congress*  
AT PHILADELPHIA,  
Setting forth the CAUSES and NECESSITY  
OF THEIR TAKING UP  
**A R M S.**

A View of that great and flourishing City of  
**BOSTON**, when in its purity, and out of the  
Hands of the Philistines.



LLMC 39208, Reps. of the United Colonies. Declarations, 1775-07-06 (Philadelphia printing).

July 6, 1775 A declaration by the representatives of the United Colonies of North American, which met in the General Congress at Philadelphia; it set forth the causes and necessity of taking up arms. The document was by order of Congress with John Hancock as the president and printed in Philadelphia. See LLMC #20864 for the New York printing. (Digitized from a microfilm copy of the title originally held by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Library).

# After considering the scope of Early State Records collection and the methodology:

Examples covered the spectrum of historical documents

- **Newspapers**
- **Proclamations by a governor**
- **Treatise**
- **Official Civil War report**
- **Pamphlets**

- **Most newspapers contained**
  - **National news (at times official documents)**
  - **Local news and events**
  - **Editorials**
  - **Poetry and/or stories**
  - **And as always – advertisements**
- **Important to realize that these articles are not always evident without close reading, as the print on microfiche (and thus scanned document) shows six-column pages.**

## Arizona Miner, August 1, 1868, page 4

- Transcript of the veto resulting in future Jim Crowe laws
- President Johnson's veto of the Arkansas bill regulating readmittance of the Confederate states into the Union
  - Specifically, Johnson found unconstitutional a section which required the state constitution to never be "so amended or changed as to deprive any citizen or class of citizen of the US of the right to vote who are entitled to vote by the constitution herein recognized, except as a punishment for crimes as are now felonies to all inhabitants of said State."
- Johnson stated that imposing a fundamental right was the right of state constitution, not the federal government.

- **Voter's qualification oath contained the clause of equality:**
- **"that I accept the civil and political equality of all men, and agree not to attempt to deprive any person or persons, on account of race, color or previous condition, of any political or civil right, privilege, or immunity enjoyed by any other class of men."**

**Versus**

- **Johnson's position that the US Congress not able to limit state representations and constitutions**
- **His biases:" It is well known that a very large portion of the electors in all the States,...do not believe in or accept the political equality of Indians, Mongolians, or Negroes with the race to which they belong."**

**San Francisco's Evening Bulletin,  
October 20, 1857, page 2**

- **Use and dangers of chloroform**
- **An article detailing need for chloroform for painful surgery in Sacramento. However, the patient died from its use**
- **Postmortem found the patient had a serious heart issue**
- **Article assured the readers that those “free from organic diseases” would do well.**
- **Of course pre-surgery checks still needed to be developed**



## **Battle of Springfield, Missouri, August 1861**

- **Casualty lists of those killed, wounded, and missing by Union regiments**
- **Official field reports by regiments**
- **Congressional resolution in honor of the Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon killed in action in the defense of US during this battle**

# Contrasts in the style of the reports

- **Official describing troops movements and engagements**
  - Maj. Haldeman of the First Regiment
- **More personal and emotional**
  - Col. Blair of the Second Regiment
- **Advantage to more fully appreciate the battle**

## Journal of the Assembly of California, 1869-70 session, pages 55 & 101

- **“The people of the State [of California] have so often and so emphatically expressed their hostility to the importation of Chinese laborers that their representatives will doubtless leave no legitimate means untried to execute the popular will in this respect.”**
- **“Mr. Haile offered a concurrent resolution in reference to instructing our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use all the means in their power, by the passage of laws or otherwise, to prevent the immigration of Chinese, Japanese and other inferior races.”**

- **“The life and property of our citizens, and those of the Chinese as well, who are engaged in our midst in peaceful occupations, are entitled to and must receive the equal protection of the laws of our Territory.”**
- **“And I warn those organizations and committees having in view the forcible expulsion of the Chinese, or any other persons now pursuing their peaceful labor, against such acts of violence, with the assurance that the law will hold those who may engage in such deeds responsible individually and collectively, for the results of their acts.”**

- **Pamphlet on Utah affairs by “Veritas” in 1874**
- **Desert News, Salt Lake City, April 20, 1874  
Letter to the editor on jury selections**
- **Desert News, Salt Lake City May 1, Letter to the editor by “Veritas” against the proposal which would allow the governor, not court, to make up jury lists**
- **And biblical and other religious justification for polygamy**

**Nevertheless, Utah waited  
four decades to become a  
state until the Mormon  
church renounced  
polygamy**

# So why are these examples significant?

- **The documents provide detail unavailable in historical summaries found in textbooks.**
- **Primary sources contextualize isolated incidents**
- **Digital access makes the process easier by putting all the material in one catalog**
  - **abstracts for all these documents making them keyword searchable; provides access to manuscripts**
  - **the source library for where each document is provided should a researcher wish to view the original**
- **Thanks to the CLIR grant, LLMC now makes these treasured Early State Records available in open access.**



**“...Our aim would be to compile and preserve the record of the fortitude which had gone into building of a nation, for the benefit of more stately mansions in the world of the future.”**

**William S. Jenkins on the *Microfilm Collection of Early State Records***



*Thank You!*

**CLIR, organizers and attendees of CLIR  
Digitizing Hidden Collections  
Symposium!**

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