

By the People:

A User-centered Approach to Digital Collections at the Library of Congress

Victoria Van Hying, PhD

Senior Innovation Specialist and Community Manager

crowd@loc.gov, @Crowd_LOC

Outline

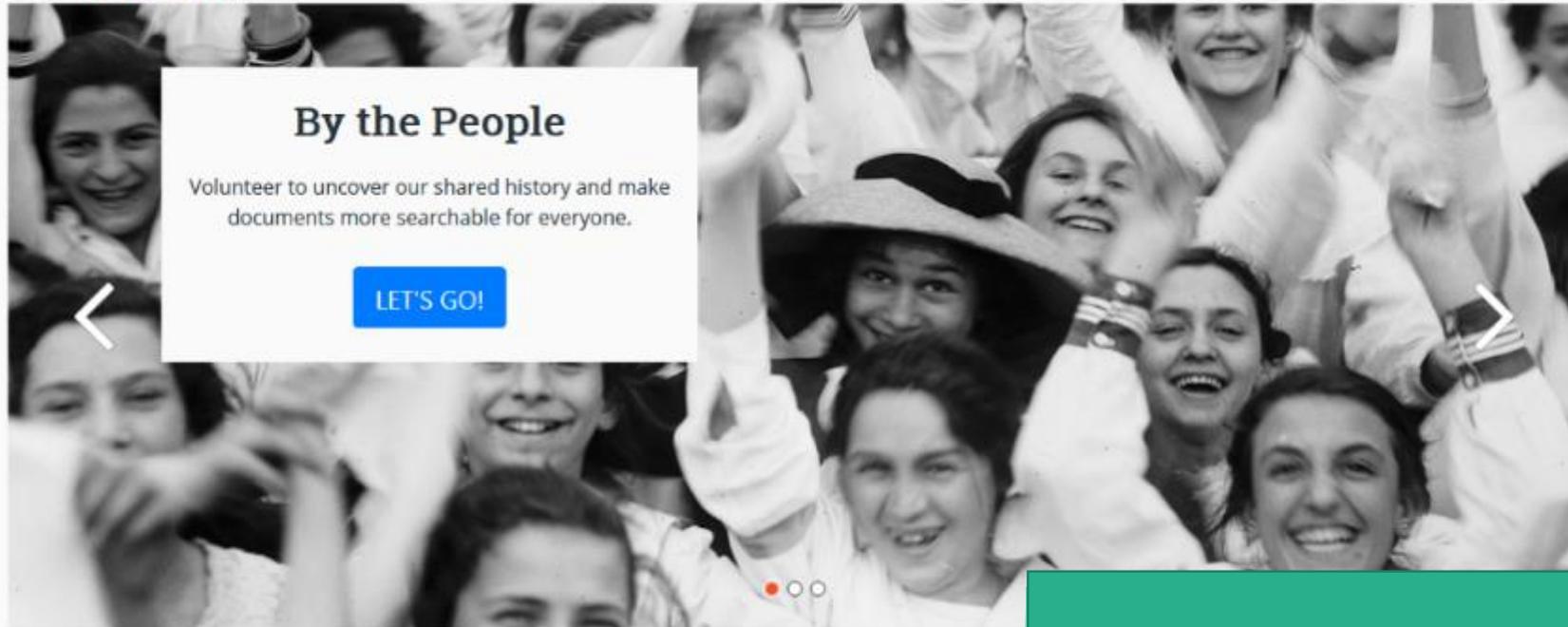
- Fulfilling (part of!) the Digital Strategy
- Trust and approachability: we welcome the public and value their time and abilities
- . An overview of *By the People*
- Build on existing processes and technologies
- Ongoing/iterative design that responds to users' needs
- Publish reviewed transcriptions on Library website and acknowledge the work of volunteers



[Detail] The Adam Forepaugh & Sells Brothers. America's shows consolidated. Representative riders of every class and color.

Digital Strategy for the Library of Congress

The Library of Congress's mission is to engage, inspire, and inform the Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity. To accomplish that mission, the Library is adopting a digital-forward strategy that harnesses technology to bridge geographical divides, expand our reach, and enhance our services. This document describes how we will secure the Library's position in an increasingly digital world as we realize our vision that **all Americans are connected to the**



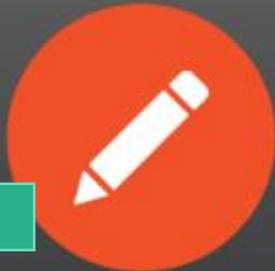
By the People

Volunteer to uncover our shared history and make documents more searchable for everyone.

LET'S GO!

Registered users

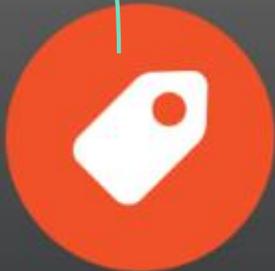
Anyone Can Contribute



TRANSCRIBE
Type what you see on the page.



REVIEW
Register to edit and complete transcriptions.



TAG
Register to add tags and share what you find.

Anonymous or not logged in users

**All content is generated and
reviewed by volunteers.**

**No staff review
(yet)**



Co-Lab

Challenges

Transcription challenges

Translation challenges

Tagging challenges

Description challenges

Guidelines

Start Tutorial

The Call to Duty: Canada's Nursing Sisters

The First World War saw a major mobilization of soldiers, equipment, supplies and medical staff. Between 1914 and 1918, 2,003 women enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) and went overseas. The war was perceived as exclusively male, but the presence of nursing sisters near the front and close to the line of fire has shattered this misperception and highlighted the importance of female caregivers during the war. These women looked after almost 540,000 soldiers and worked near the battlefields under difficult conditions.

Check out the letters, diaries and photographs of Canadian nursing sisters who served during the Great War. Follow these nurses as they witness the destruction of war, participate in social events, and help patients, as you transcribe, translate, tag and/or describe their writings and photographs.



Alice Isaacson

Type of Material:

Photographs

Language of material:

English

Contains 1188 image(s)

Transcription

65% completed

CAMPAIGNS: CHOOSE WHAT TO TRANSCRIBE



Branch Rickey: Changing the Game



Civil War Soldiers: "Disabled but not disheartened"



Clara Barton: "Angel of the Battlefield"



Letters to Lincoln



Mary Church Terrell: Advocate for African Americans and Women

Letters to Lin

The Abraham Lincoln Papers at by or to Abraham Lincoln, lawyer these, 20,000 items are available transcribe the remaining materi by a large number of correspon well-known political figures an

Page 1 Go < > View on www.loc.gov [Fullscreen](#) [Find a new page --](#)

⊕ 🔍 ↺ ↻ 🖼️ 🗑️

⚠️ Another user is transcribing this page
Transcribe this page.

Go ahead, start typing. You got this!

Nothing to transcribe ?

Save

Submit for Review

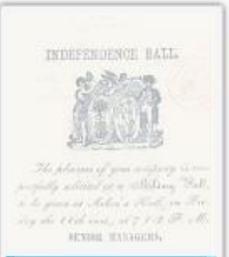
Tags

Want to tag this page? [Register](#) or [login](#) to add tags.

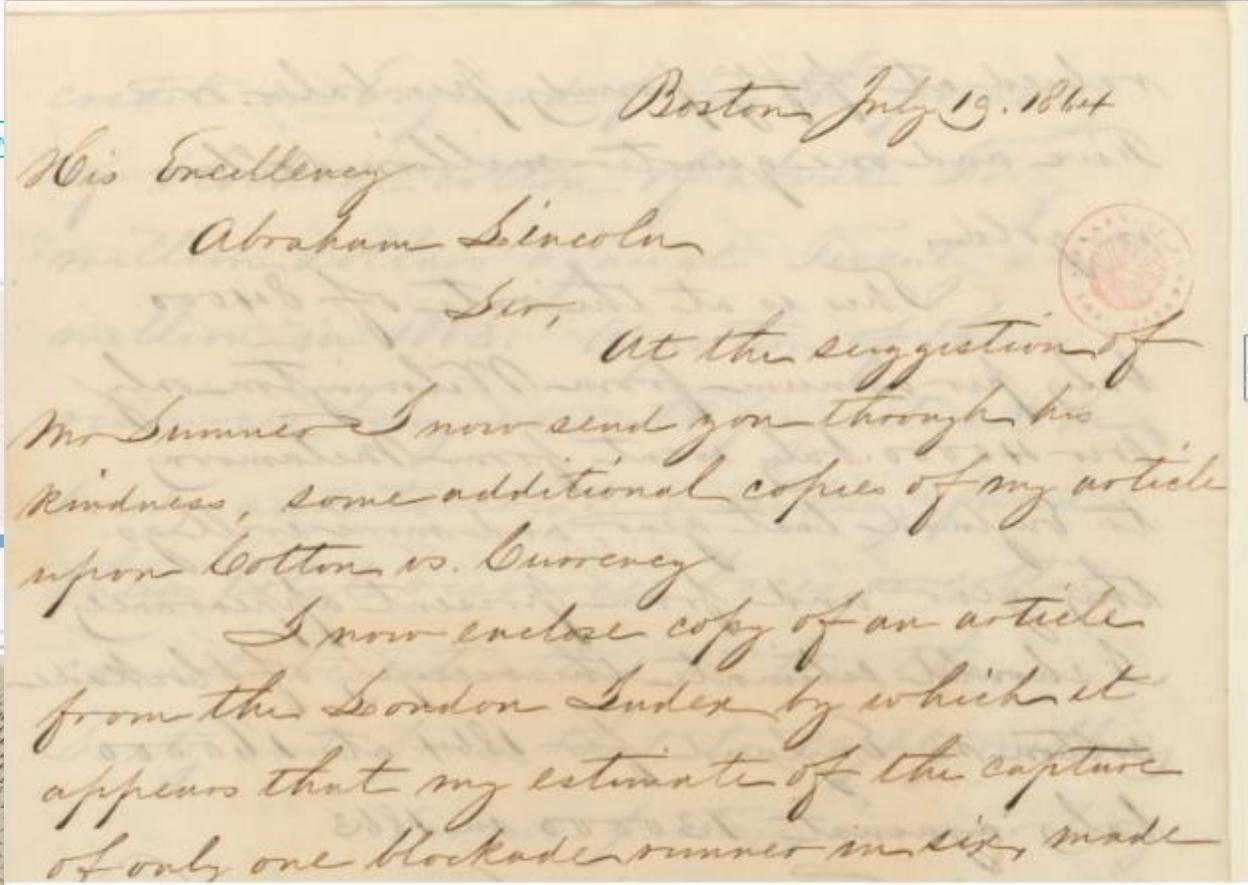
All Not Started In Pr



1830-1839: First forays in politics and law



1861: Secession, inauguration, start of Civil War



Need help?

Quick Tips

Questions?

Stats so far

- 3,700 registered users
- >27,000 pages transcribed, >5,000 complete
- 781 pages published on loc.gov in Lincoln papers
- Twitter ([@Crowd_LOC](https://twitter.com/Crowd_LOC)): 1684 followers
- 3,586 page views on History Hub discussion forum Jan 1-31, 2019, average time on site = 6mins57secs



All Places >
CROWD

[https://historyhub.history.gov/ community/crowd-loc](https://historyhub.history.gov/community/crowd-loc)

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ASK CROWD

SEARCH EXISTING POSTS

FEATURED CONTENT

- [Re: What are best practices for transcribing non-Standard English characters?](#)
- [Re: Introduce yourself and meet the crowd.loc.gov community.](#)
- [About this space](#)
- [Media coverage and blog posts about By the People](#)

From user query to new feature

Hi,
I did a little digging on the internet to see if I could identify names of battles that I couldn't make out in the letters I transcribed. I was able to find references to Bermuda Hundred and Chester Station that I'd like to put into a letter I transcribed. How can I pull that out of review status and make those edits? The transcription currently has [??] in it for those words.
Thanks!



Allow registered users to reopen/edit an asset they submitted for review #690

 Closed lalgee opened this issue on Dec 6, 2018 · 11 comments

 lalgee commented on Dec 6, 2018 Collaborator ...

Is your feature request related to a problem? Please describe.
As a user I transcribed a page and submitted it for review, but then realized that I made a mistake or did not complete the asset. Currently, any other registered user could reopen this asset for editing, but I cannot.

Describe the solution you'd like
When an asset is in "Submitted for review" state, any registered user should be able to reopen it for editing -- including the last person to edit/submit. The "Edit" button should be enabled for them when viewing that item while it is "In Review". The last person to edit/submit an asset should still not have access to the "Accept" button.

Additional context
Community managers have received this question many times. The current solution is for a CM to reopen the item for the volunteer.

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<https://github.com/LibraryOfCongress/concordia/issues/690>

Web development in the open

<https://github.com/LibraryOfCongress/concordia/>

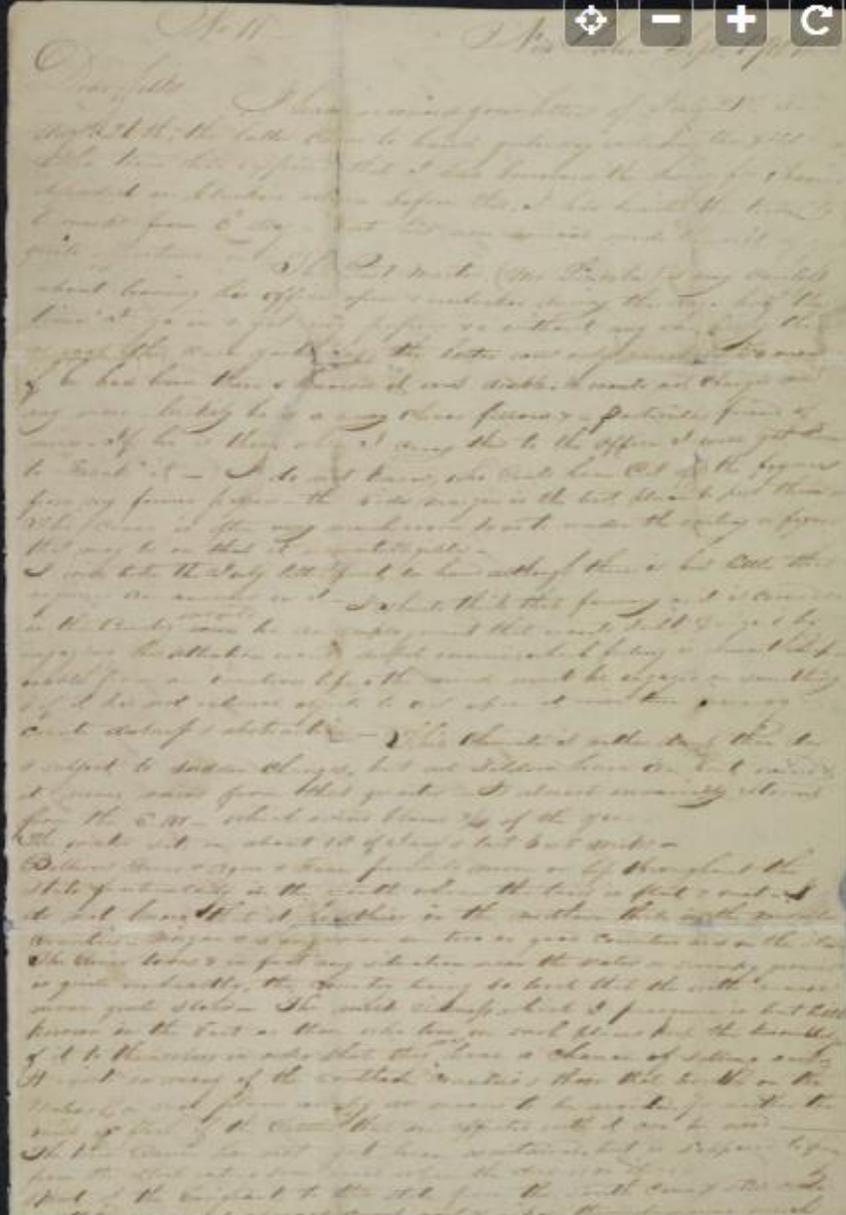
The time had affirmed that I [strike out text] borrowed the money for having depended on Clarke's return before this. I had limited the time to 6 weeks from 3 Aug but his non arrival made [] of [] quite opportune.

The Post Master (Mr Lincoln) is very careful about leaving his office open & unlocked during the day...half the time I go in & get my papers +c (etc.) without any one being there as was the case yesterday. The letter was only marked 25 & even if he had been there & known it was double. He would not charged me any more - luckily he is a very clever fellow & a particular friend of mine - If he is there when I carry this to the office I will get him to "Frank" it - I do not know who could have cut off the figures from my former papers - the side margin is the best place to put them. The cover is often very much room so as to render the conting or figures that may be on that it unintelligible -

I will take the July letter first in hand although there is but little that requires an answer in it. I should think that farming as it is carried on in this Country would be an employment that would suit George & by engaging his attention would dispel ennui, which feeling is almost as if enabled from an inactive life, the mind must be engaged on something & if it has not external objects to act upon it will turn inwardly & create [du?] + abstraction--This climate is rather damp than dry & subject to sudden changes, but we seldom have an East wind & it never rains from that quarter- It almost invariably storms from the S. W--which wind blows 3/4 of the year--The winter sets in about 1st of Jany & last 6 or 8 weeks -- Billious Fever + Ague + Fever prevailing more or less throughout the state

...in the South where the land is flat. I don't know that it is

Transcribed and reviewed by volunteers participating in the *By The People* project at crowd.loc.gov.



Engaging volunteers to forge connections

Christian Mobley @Mo... · 10 Dec 2018
Replying to @Crowd_LOC
I have been transcribing today to help keep my mind off of the chronic pain I am having. I enjoy doing the long letters and difficult ones.

6th graders loved transcribing for the @librarycongress through @Crowd_LOC - really brought primary sources to life, and they thought it was so cool to actually get to preserve the nation's history.



Henry M. Rosenberg @DoctorHenryCT · 13 Nov 2018
It's very rewarding to know I am contributing to preserving history.

Beth Graham @zagraham · 13 Nov 2018
I feel exactly the same way. A bonus is that I'm personally learning so much about U.S. history.

LOC Crowdsourcing @Crowd_LOC · 17 Dec 2018
A @Georgetown Lincoln History class shares #LettersToLincoln insights, including complexities of 19th c. politicking and trash talk. Which Lincoln rival was alternately described as "weak", "lame" and full of "chicanery"? go.usa.gov/xEcyC



LOC Crowdsourcing ... · 29 Nov 2018
Our favorite holiday treats: volunteers sharing what you're working on and learning!

Kristina Killgrove @DrKillgrove
My 9yo is ridiculously excited to help the @librarycongress transcribe records from the Civil War. She's learning about the "Left Handed Penmanship" contest for veterans who lost use of their right hands.

Check it out at crowd.loc.gov/



Show this thread

Kristina Killgrove @DrKillgrove

Replying to @Crowd_LOC
I've also been doing the Lefthanded Penmanship Contest transcriptions, since I'm both left-handed and interested in disease and disability in the past. Your project is great, and now I'm going to see what other citizen-STEAM projects I can get my girls involved in.

Thanks for listening! Be in touch!

@Crowd_LOC * crowd@loc.gov

vvanhyning@loc.gov