

MEMBER MEETING & HATHITRUST COMMUNITY WEEK OCT. 22-29

# Locating Common Forms of Historical Primary Sources in the HTDL

Eamon Duffy 28 October 2020

#### 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 <u>conduct-reports@hathitrust.org</u>.

# 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



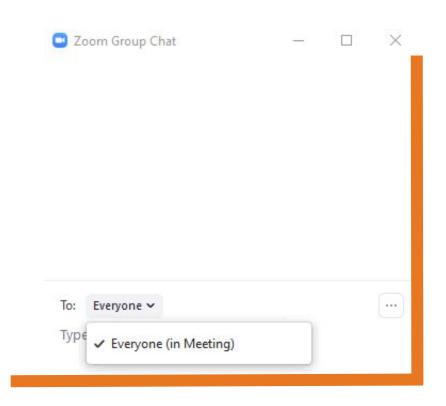
Picture of the Zoom layout, pointing out where the mute and start video buttons are located

#### 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



Picture of the Zoom Chat pop out window

#### Social Media

Please join the discussion online as well:

- Twitter: #HTCW20
- HathiTrust Community Slack space at <u>hathitrust-community.slack.com</u>: #2020-comm-week

# Locating Common Forms of Historical Primary Sources in the HTDL

#### Primary sources in historical research

- Situationally 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?

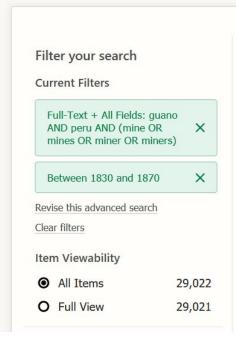
# 1,264,120

Number of 19th Century titles in the HTDL

Feedback





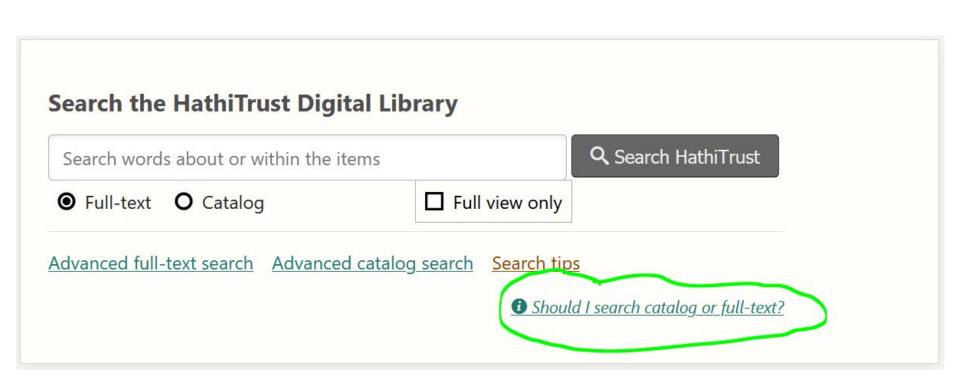


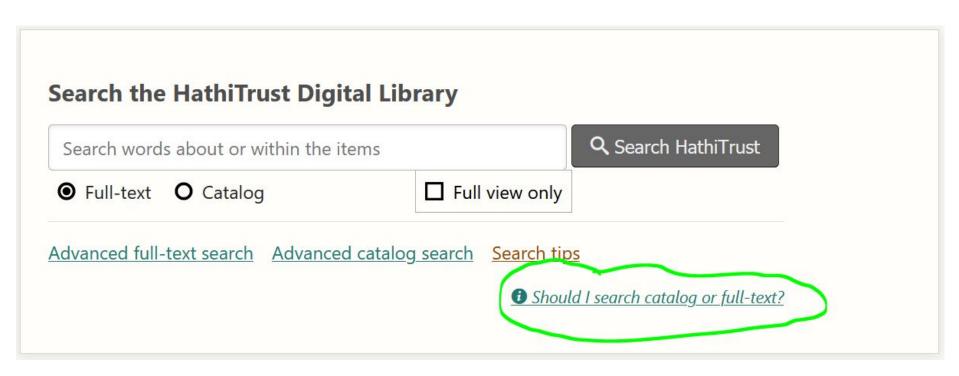


## Free-floating subdivisions

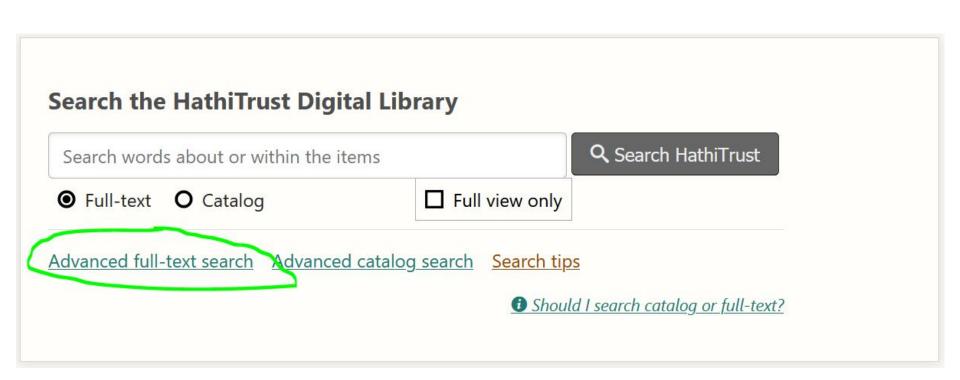
Signify document types rather than topics, and match closely with commonly suggested primary sources for undergraduates:

- Biography
- Correspondence
- Description and travel
- Diaries
- Interviews
- Personal narratives
- Sources (for published primary source anthologies)





Both at the same time!

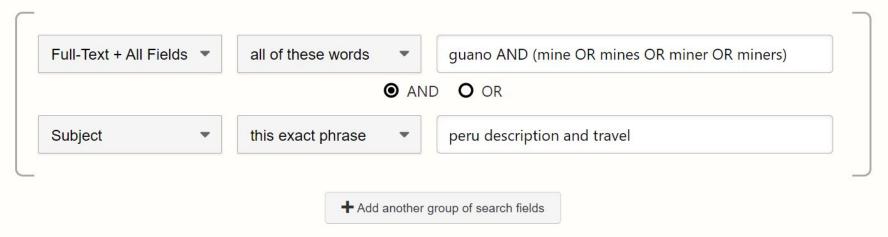


#### **Advanced Full-text Search**

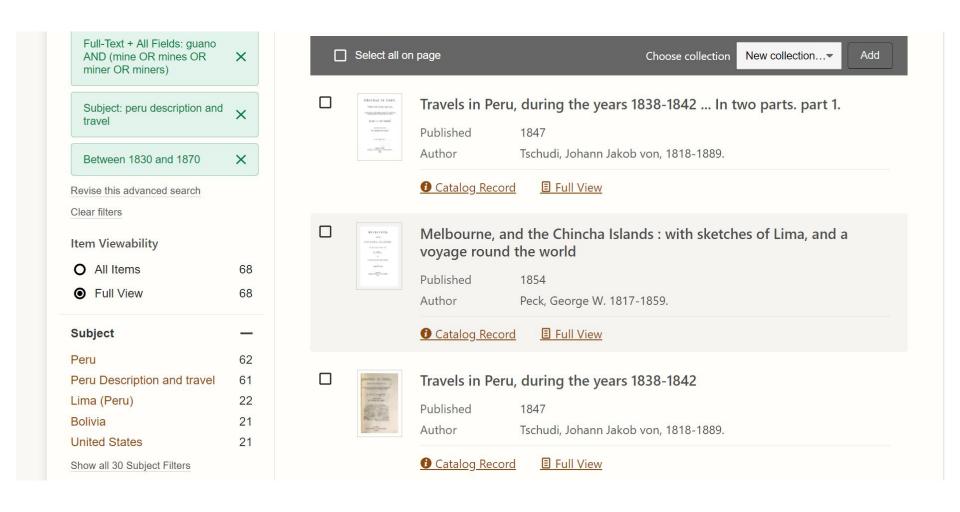
Search information within the item (Search Tips).

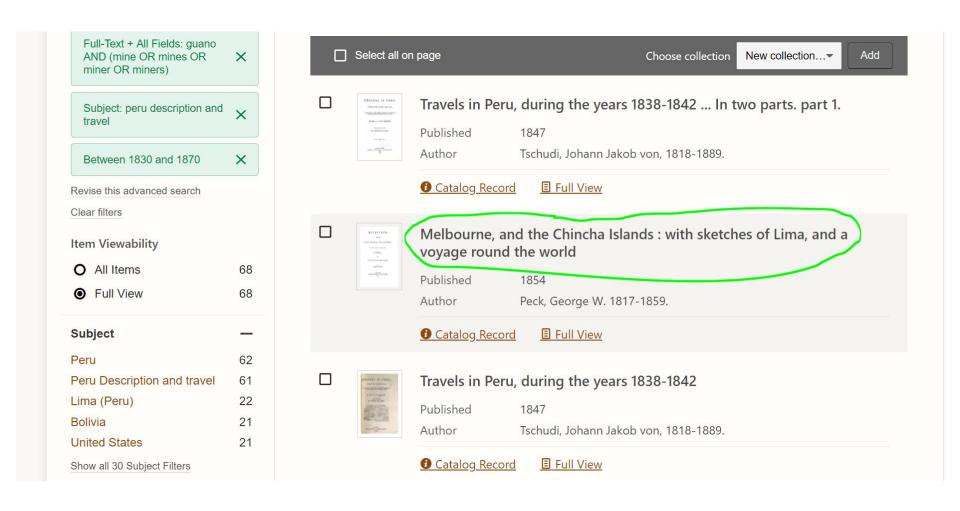
Prefer to search about the item in an Advanced Catalog search?

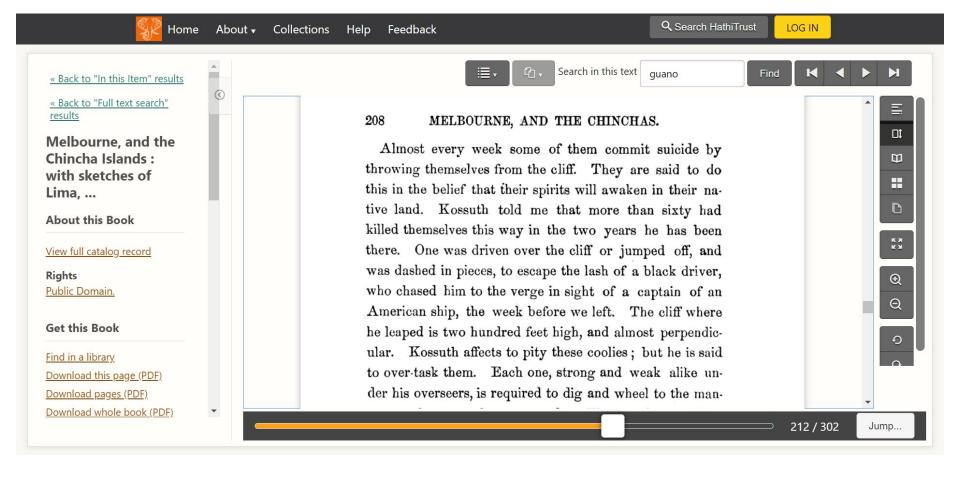
#### Search by field



Q Advanced Search







## 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!

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

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