WRITING, RECEPTION, INTERTEXTUALITY: NETWORKING WOMEN’S WRITING

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Women Writers Project

NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks
Keeping the Public Sphere Open
March 24, 2017
The Women Writers Project and Women Writers Online

- 392 texts written, translated by, or attributed to women
- Primarily print texts that were first published between 1526 and 1850
- Encoded in TEI & published through the WWO interface
(But what is “TEI”?)

The Text Encoding Initiative Guidelines are a language for representing the structure and content of humanities research materials in digital form.

<epigraph>
  <quote>
    <lg type="couplet">
      <l>0, 'tis the curse in love, and still approved,</l>
      <l>When women cannot love where they're beloved.</l>
    </lg>
  </quote>
  <bibl><author><persName>Shakspeare</persName></author></bibl>
</epigraph>
Cultures of Reception and Women Writers in Review

- 690 texts responding to works written or translated by women
- Literary and theatrical reviews, publication notices, textual extracts, &c.
- First published between 1770 and 1830
- Encoded in TEI & published through the Women Writers in Review interface
Two corpora focused on women’s texts

**Women Writers Online**
- First published 1999
- Designed as a reading interface
- Encoded texts are very generically & chronologically diverse

**Women Writers in Review**
- First published 2016
- Interface foregrounds discovery & exploration
- Encoded texts tend to be brief, represent a more constrained set of genres & publication dates
THE Monthly Magazine on Hannah Adams

ART. XXVIII.


THE history of our native country justly merits the highest place in our regard; if not on account of the magnitude and singularity of its revolutions, yet for the unbounded influence of these revolutions on the happiness of us and our posterity. It constitutes an instructive and inestimable spectacle, because it relates, in some sort, to ourselves; because we are fully qualified to understand it; because its lessons are of indispensable use in teaching us our duty, as citizens of a free state, as guardians of our own liberty and happiness, and of still wanting.

Hannah Adams, the writer of the work before us, has presented us with a narrative more comprehensive than any we have seen. It relates to five of the most ancient and populous states, and deduces their history to the period of the adoption of the federal government. Colonial incidents will gratify local curiosity, but revolutionary, and post-revolutionary events, have relation to the whole, and will claim attention, therefore, from every citizen.

This narrative is designed to be merely a summary, compiled from the collections of more laborious authors, and from fugitive or miscellaneous publications. A succinct, clear, comprehensive, and judicious view of the subject she has chosen, seems to have been the only scope of her ambition. Minute details and intricate inquiries, were foreign to her plan. To the praise
<head>ART XXVIII. <title>A SUMMARY HISTORY OF <placeName>NEW-ENGLAND</placeName>, from the first Settlement at Plymouth, to the Acceptance of the Federal Constitution.</title> By <persName>Hannah Adams</persName>. Pp. 514. <placeName>Dedham</placeName>. <persName>Mann</persName> and <persName>Adams</persName>. 1799.</head>

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<p>Several domestic writers have undertaken to discuss our history. Some foreign ones (<persName>Robertson</persName>, <persName>Stedman</persName>, <persName>Gordon</persName>, &amp;c.) have pursued the same tracks; but both foreign and domestic historians have hitherto confined themselves, either to a limited period, or to narrow local boundaries. The colonial transactions of most of the American states, have been separately discussed, with different degrees of skill. The revolution, an event in which all were somewhat, though unequally, concerned, has been copiously related by severel writers. National occurrences, since that period, remain, for the most part, still dispersed in public offices, fugitive pamphlets, diurnal gazettes, and in private manuscript collections; and an historian of the United States, in the fullest sense of that term, is still wanting.</p>
1799-12: The Monthly Magazine on Adams's A Summary History of New England


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Women Writers in Review: Goals

• Make these materials easy to browse and search
• Provide extensive linking among texts and authors
• Support discovery and exploration
• Offer a clean and readable display
• Make materials navigable, despite their obscurity and complexity

Helping researchers answer questions like:
• How has Hannah Cowley been reviewed in British and American periodicals?
• What changes are evident in the British Critic over time?
• How did periodicals in this period discuss questions of women’s authorship?
Navigation through metadata

Most reviews are anonymous or pseudonymous, and unlikely to be searched by their titles, so we needed to give each one labels that would be useful & intelligible, eg:

1817-09: *The Edinburgh Magazine* on Edgeworth’s *Comic Dramas*

Both sources and reviewed works tend toward the verbose:
*A View of Religions, in two Parts. Part i. Containing an Alphabetical Compendium of the various Religious Denominations which have appeared in the World, from the beginning of the Christian Æra to the present Day. Part ii. Containing a brief Account of the different Schemes of Religion now embraced among Mankind. The whole collected from the best Authors, ancient and modern*
For example:

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      Young Persons</title>
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      and J. West." "12 mo. pp. 185."
    </note>
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      </publisher>
      <pubPlace>
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      </pubPlace>
      <date when="1805"/>
    </imprint>
  </monogr>
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Different views in WWiR

A SUMMARY HISTORY OF NEW ENGLAND, FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT AT PLYMOUTH, TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION

Author: Adams, Hannah
Publisher: Mann and Adams
Publication Place: Dedham, Massachusetts, United States of America
Publication Date: 1799

AN ABRIDGEMENT OF THE HISTORY OF NEW ENGLAND FOR THE USE OF YOUNG PERSONS

Author: Adams, Hannah
Publisher: Newell
Publication Place: Boston, Massachusetts, United States of America
Publication Date: 1805

1799-12: The Monthly Magazine
on Adams's A Summary History of New England

1805-07: Panoplist
on Adams's An Abridgement of the History of New England for the Use of Young Persons

1805-08-01: The Monthly Anthology
on Adams's An Abridgement of the History of New England for the Use of Young Persons

1805-10-01: The Monthly Anthology
on Adams's An Abridgement of the History of New England for the Use of Young Persons