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Women's History in the Digital World

Women's History in the Digital World 2013

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Digital Diaries, Digital Tools: A Comparative Approach to Eighteenth-Century Women's History

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Connecticut College

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Stanford University

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[Digital Diaries, Digital Tools]

Bridget Baird
Connecticut College
Computer Science

Cameron Blevins
Stanford University
History

Elizabeth Drinker, 1735-1807

Martha Ballard, 1735-1812

First Day, drank Tea at Jos. Howell's; call'd
to see M. Foulk, who was lyeing in; with
her Daughter Elizabeth.

Elizabeth Drinker
8 Oct 1758

mr Ballard left home bound for Oxford. I
had been Sick with the Collic. mrs Savage
went home. mrs Foster Came at evening.
it snowd a little.

Martha Ballard
1 Jan 1785

Elizabeth Drinker

8,178 entries

975,131 words

Martha Ballard

9,879 entries

417,323 words

Elizabeth Drinker

8,178 entries

975,131 words

Martha Ballard

9,879 entries

417,323 words

Jane Austen

Sense and Sensibility

119,394 words

- 5/7 Clear 11 Mrs Wing, Melly & Geryh^m Cox -
 came here Find & Frank of a poll savage to sea
 space savage Find^m began to snow at 2 o'clock -
 Lucy & Hannah went to Brooks, Jolly to Esq Howard
- 6 B Clear 11 Mr Ballard & of Dr. Gaugh^m went to Mr Weston
 & Mr Dollard's at evening
- 7 2 Clear & pleat Biah, Joan, Betsy Mrs Stack Pole
 & Jolly Find here Betsy of hommas here afternoon
 Gov^r & Capt Wadlow here & Capt
 Lucy & I went to Col North's with Mr H^r
 Mrs Comings & Mrs Jacob there
- 8 3 Clear Daughter Joan went home Mr Ballard & I
 went to Job Coney's on Publick Business & was at home
 all day Double Cyrus' Cottⁿ gun & night my pocket
- 9 4 Snow 11 Mr Ballard brought home a pack of
 oxen which he brought by Wagon white
 I was at home all day Hannah twist Cyrus' gun
- 10 5 Cloudy snow Clear after Mr Forbes & John
 here made Eph^m's coat & waist coat
 Hannah wash & was at home all day

5	7	Clear Morn. mrs Wing, Suelle & Gershm Cox came here, Dind & Drank Tea. Poll Savage to Tea. Isaac Savage Dind. it Began to Snow at 1 oClok. Lucy & hannah went to Brookss, Dolly to Esqr Howards.	
6	B	Clear. mr Ballard & I & Daughter Town went to mr Westons & mr Pollards at Evening.	
7	2	Clear & Pleast. Biah Town, Betsy, mrs Stackpole & Sally Dind here. Betsy Thommas here Afternoon. Jon ^o & Carpt Winslow here & Supt. Lucy & I went to Colo Norths with mrs Stpl. mrs Comings & mrs Suole there.	
8	3	Clear. Daughter Town went home. mr Ballard went To Doct Coneys on Publik Buisness. I was at home all day, Doubled Cyruss Cott ⁿ yarn. finisht my [].	
9	4	Snowd. mr Ballard brought home a yoak of oxen which he Brought of Moses White. I was at home all day. Hannah twist ^d Cyruss yarn.	
10	5	Cloudy morn, Clear aft ^m . mr Forbes & John here, made Eph ^{ms} Coat & waist Coat. Hannah washt. I was at home all Day.	

<p>5 Rid 11 Miles to Yunkins at the foot of Chesnutt Hill –
Breakfasted and then put forward, reaching</p>

<center> -- 144 -- </center>

<p>home about Dinner time.</p>

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<center> -- 144 -- </center>

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[1771, 9, 5]

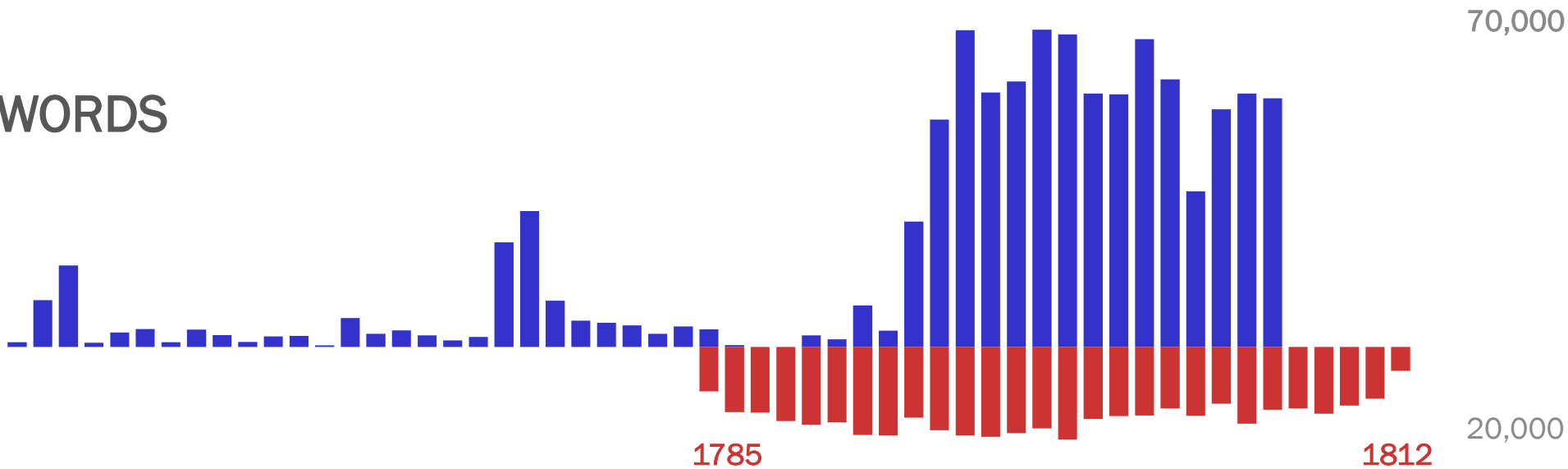
Rid 11 Miles to Yunkins at the foot of Chesnutt Hill – Breakfasted
and then put forward, reaching home about Dinner time.

“DAUGHTER”

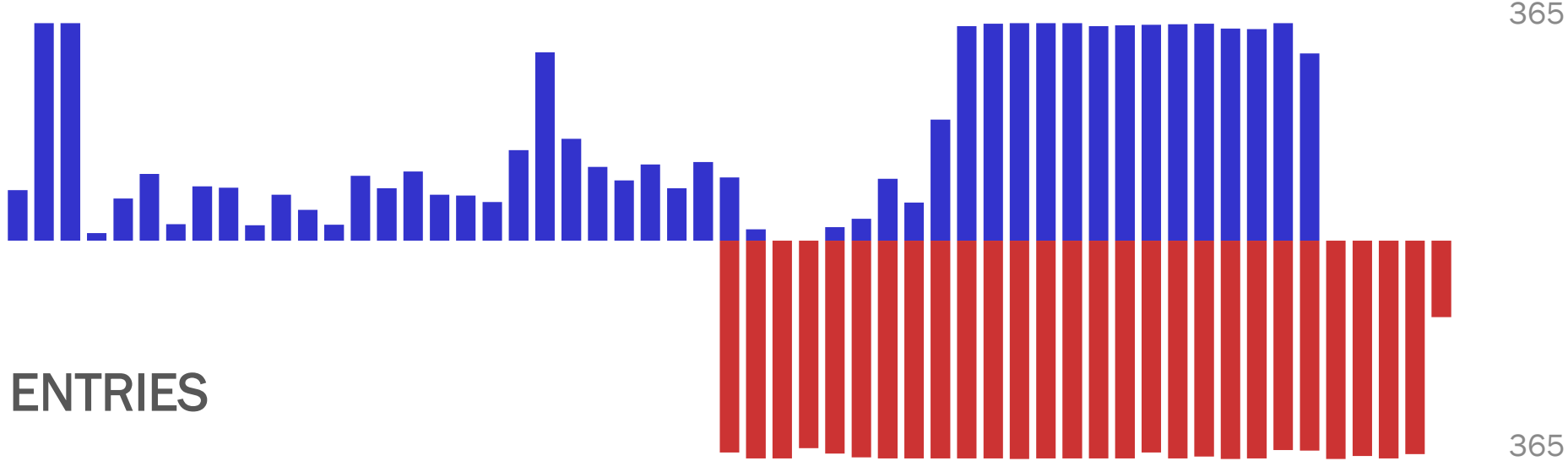
Dagt
Daugts DagtDats
Daughter Daughts
Dt DaughtDaugtDgt
DaughtersDatrDaugtr
Dafters Dafter Dtr
Dagts DafttrDaug

Drinker Ballard

WORDS



1758



god



tea

Drinker

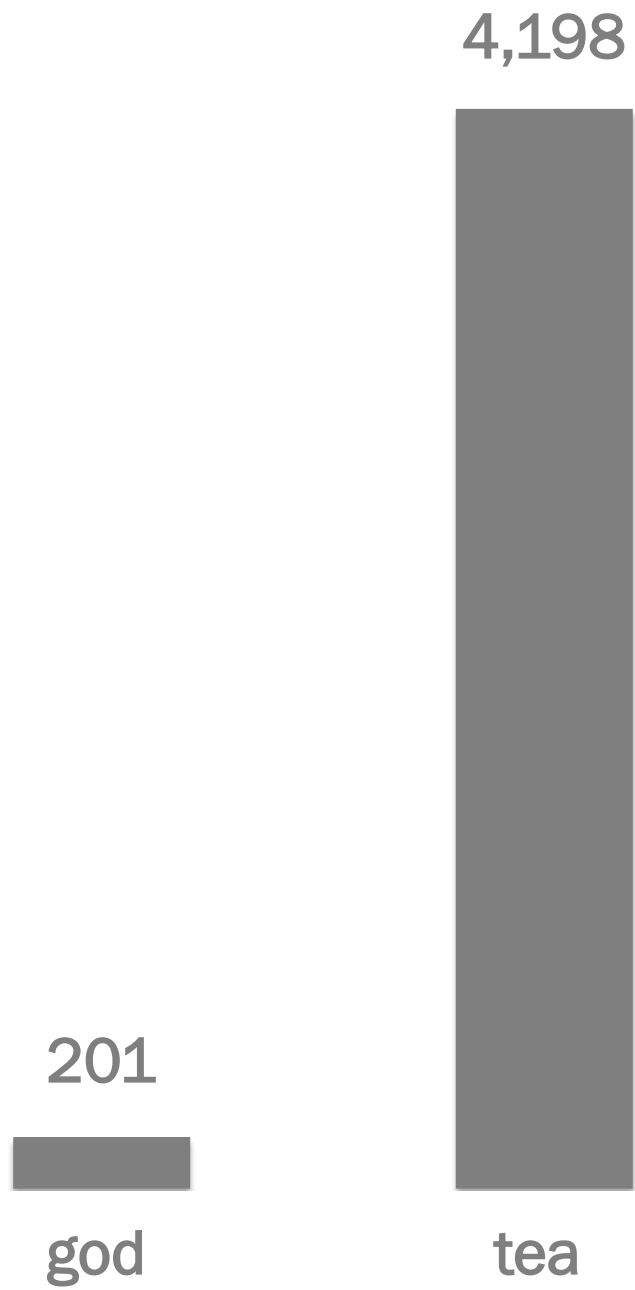


3,015

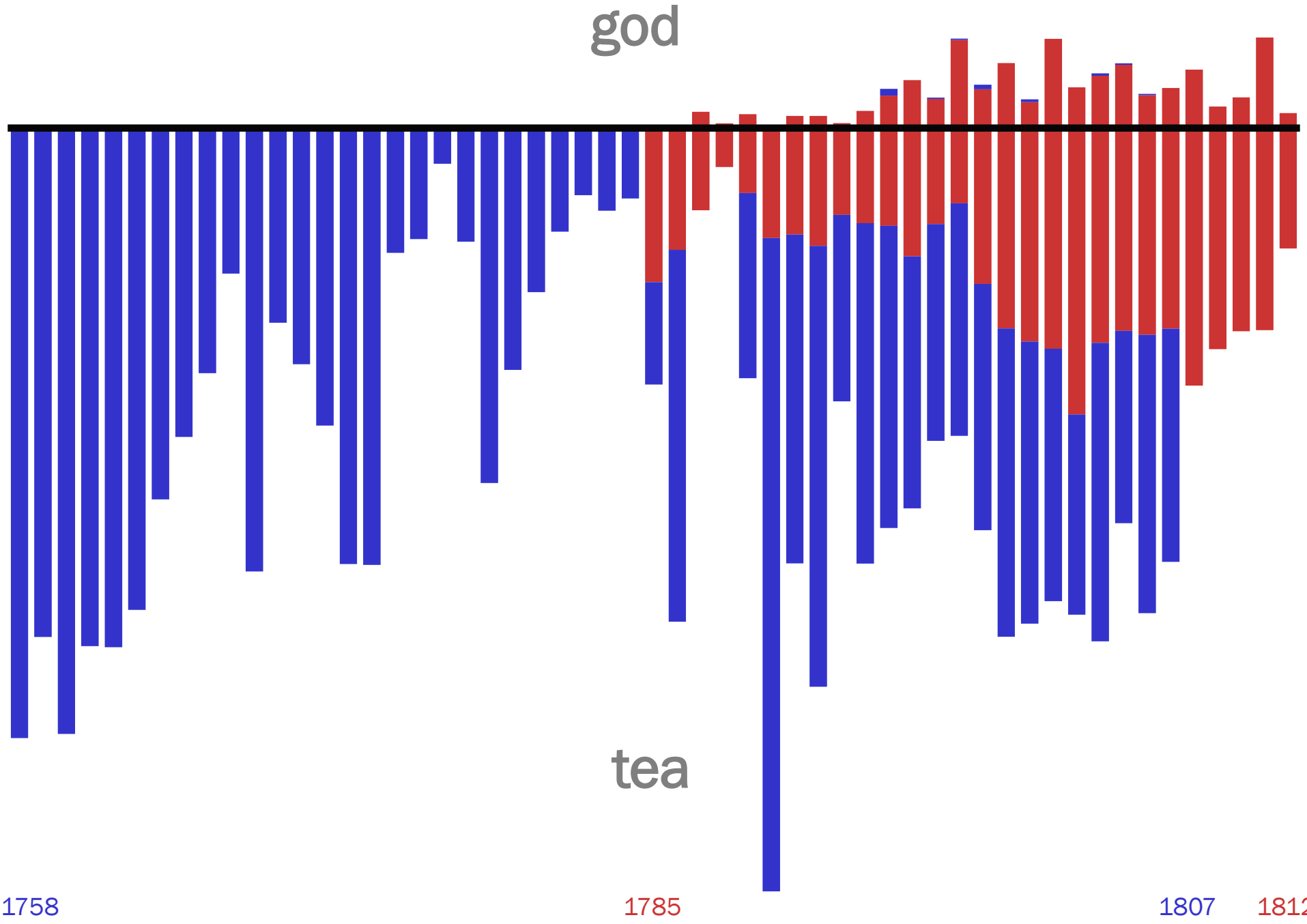
Ballard



763



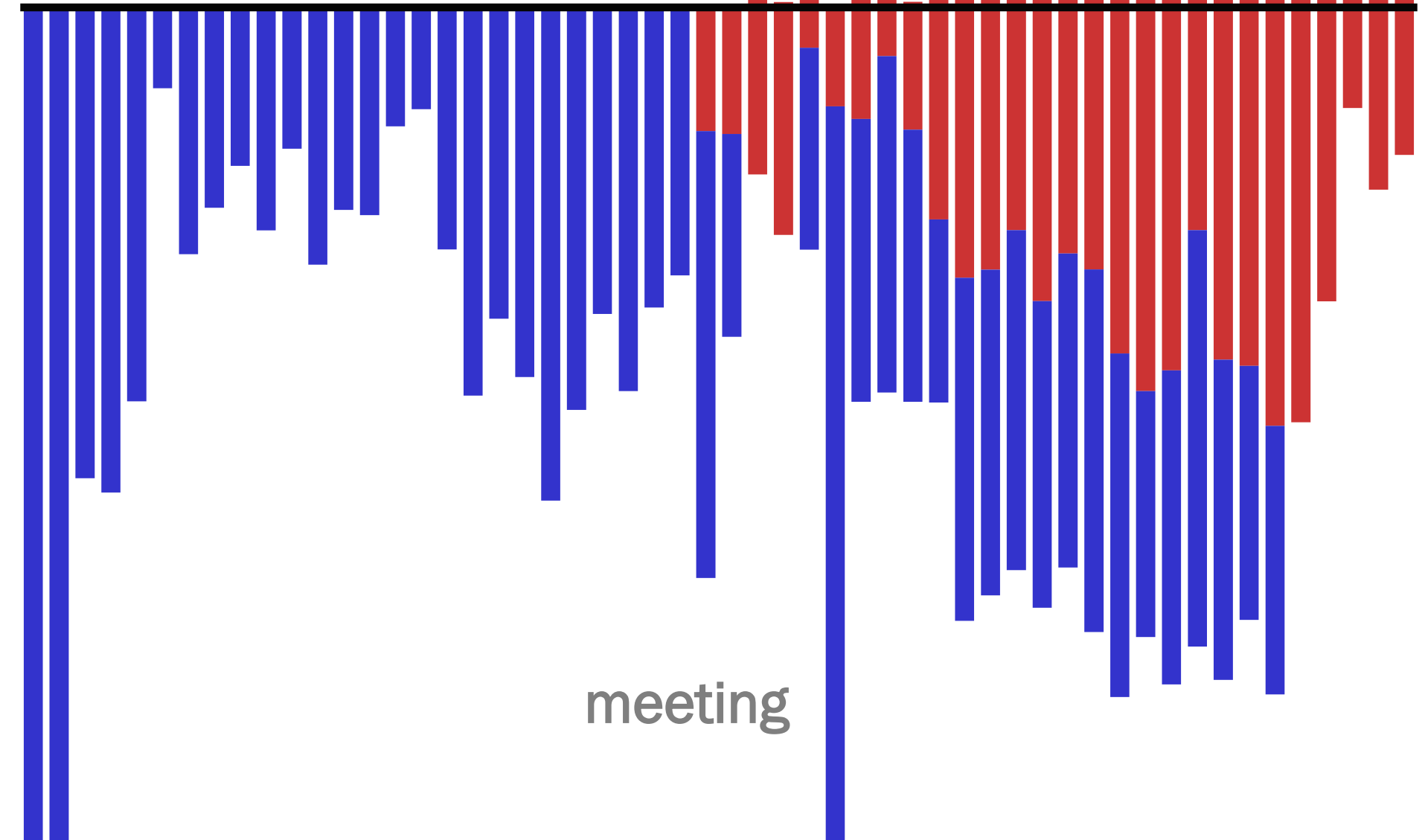
Drinker Ballard



Drinker Ballard

god

meeting



1758

1785

1807

1812

Topic Modeling

A "topic" consists of a cluster of words that frequently occur together. Using contextual clues, topic models can connect words with similar meanings and distinguish between uses of words with multiple meanings.

- MALLET Project, UMass-Amherst

Topics

blood cough face bad sore throat poorly
forenoon hard breast arm ounces dear
thinks cold order tooth eye worse side

ILLNESS

GARDENING

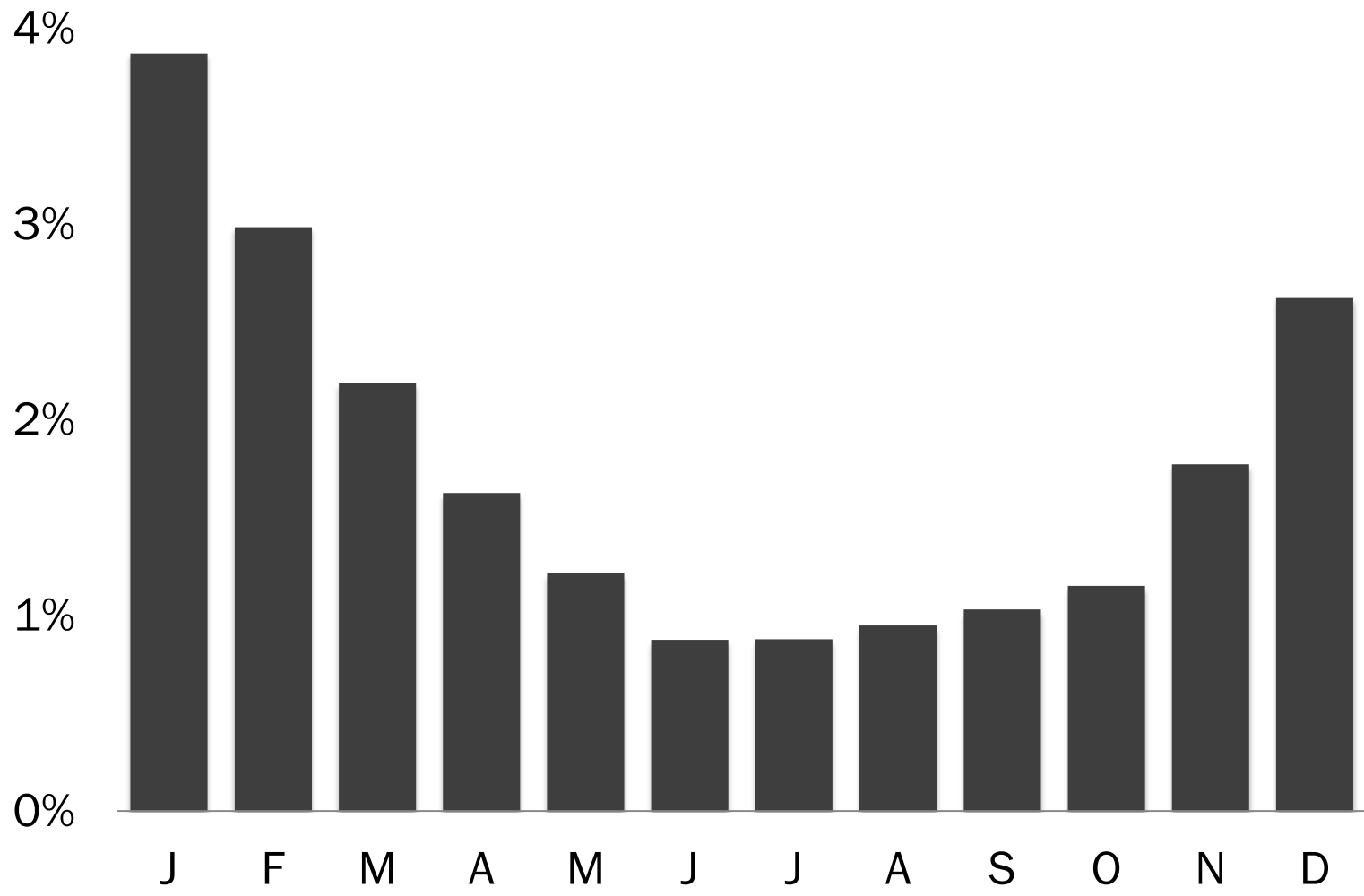
gardin worked work sett beens corn
planted clear wk foren washt cucumbers
removd cleand potatoes matters gatherd
plants houghd sowd

SHOPPING & SUPPLIES

lb made brot bot sugar butter paid oz
pork store chees mill candles beef wheat
snuff spirit killd

cold clear night day evening winter sleigh high windy
colder caught birthday runing winters slippery
sleighs legacy engaged coldest

cold clear night day evening winter sleigh high windy
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sleighs legacy engaged coldest



years mother death life friend age died burial departed father
buried children married year bury upwards funeral dead ago lived

years mother death life friend age died burial departed father
buried children married year bury upwards funeral dead ago lived

Rachel Pemberton departed this Life

24 Feb 1765

HD. went to the Burial of Amy Jones, aged 88 years.

21 Oct 1781

Amos Partridge buried his youngest child.

23 Jul 1809

died, W. W. kindrick in this Town, aged 14 years.

28 Apr 1811

years mother death life friend age died burial departed father
buried children married year bury upwards funeral dead ago lived

rather Hazy, soft weather, a little snow this Afternoon, wind S. W --
HD. MS. Eth. S. went meeting. It is 10 years this day since the
marriage of our Son HS. D – Nancy out forenoon, Molly went
with her to several places.

11 Dec 1804

Cloudy & Some Snow. this is the anniversary of my Marriage,
56 years Since. Son Lambard, Barny and Wm Ballard Sleep here.
I have part made a gound, done Some washing [&] hemd a hand
kerchief.

19 Dec 1810

MIDWIFERY

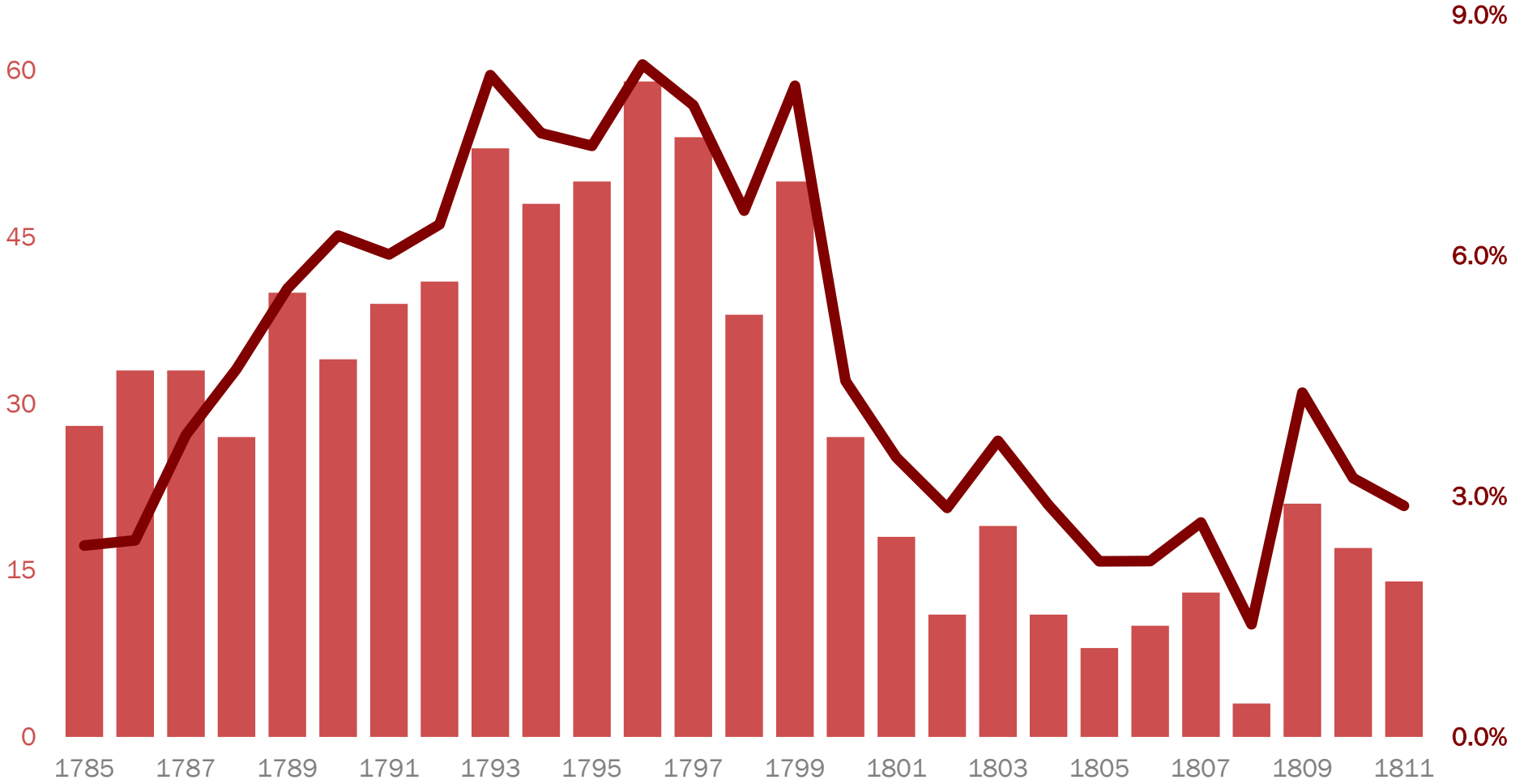
called birth morn received del safe shee pm cleverly labour left
carried returned infant reward arrived patient born recd expected

Clear and Pleasant. I was Calld at 9h morn by John Carlo to go and See his wife, Shee was in Labour and was Safe Deld of a Dagt, her 11th Child, at 8h 30m Evn. I receivd _ a kentle of Cod fish for my Service, and returnd home at 11 / OClok. left mother and infant as well as Could be Expected.

19 Oct 1798

Manual Tabulation of Deliveries

“MIDWIFERY” Topic



813 Deliveries
29 Per Year

calld birth morn receivd deld safe
shee pm cleverly labour left tarried
returnd infant reward arivd patient

Drinker	Ballard	Words in Topic
3.53%	0.33%	call drank din tea pleasants number thos
3.53%	0.51%	spent evening afternoon call morning hour uncle
3.17%	0.40%	back frankford horse return carriage chaise ride
2.81%	0.15%	called wind dined dinner forenoon tea returned
2.77%	1.09%	day stay till night seventh sixth fourth
2.74%	0.71%	weather day evening fine afternoon morning spent
2.72%	0.46%	dinner return left set morning breakfast tea
...
...
0.57%	4.08%	home clear sleeps cyrus coart makeing soap
0.48%	4.01%	home work cyrus rainy wool hay carried
0.38%	4.26%	calld ditto shee gave find tarried returnd
0.27%	4.26%	calld shee wife returnd pitts morn find
0.26%	4.31%	gardin worked work sett beens corn planted
0.55%	4.32%	home knit finisht pair snowd mending began
0.25%	4.75%	calld birth morn receivd deld safe shee

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0.55%	4.32%	home knit finisht pair snowd mending began
0.25%	4.75%	calld birth morn receivd deld safe shee

Clear and cold all day wind N. W. Our little William, little is improper, for he is a stout boy, he left us before 11 o'clock -- with a good wind -- WD. went this Afternoon to JDs and JSs -- they were well, only E. Downing had something of the toothach -- it clear'd up last night before 11. -- a clear moon light night.

Elizabeth Drinker
11 Nov. 1807

Clear the most of ye day & very Cold & windy. Dagt Ballard and a Number of her Children here, mrs Partridg & Smith allso. Revd mr Tappin Came and Converst Swetly and made A Prayer adapted to my Case.

Martha Ballard
7 May 1812