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## Women of the Founding Era: Crowdsourcing a Digital Edition

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# Women of the Founding Era: Crowdsourcing a Digital Edition



Susan H. Perdue, Documents Compass, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities

## Introduction

*Women of the Founding Era* is the first born-digital edition of the leading women of the Founding Era, 1750-1820.

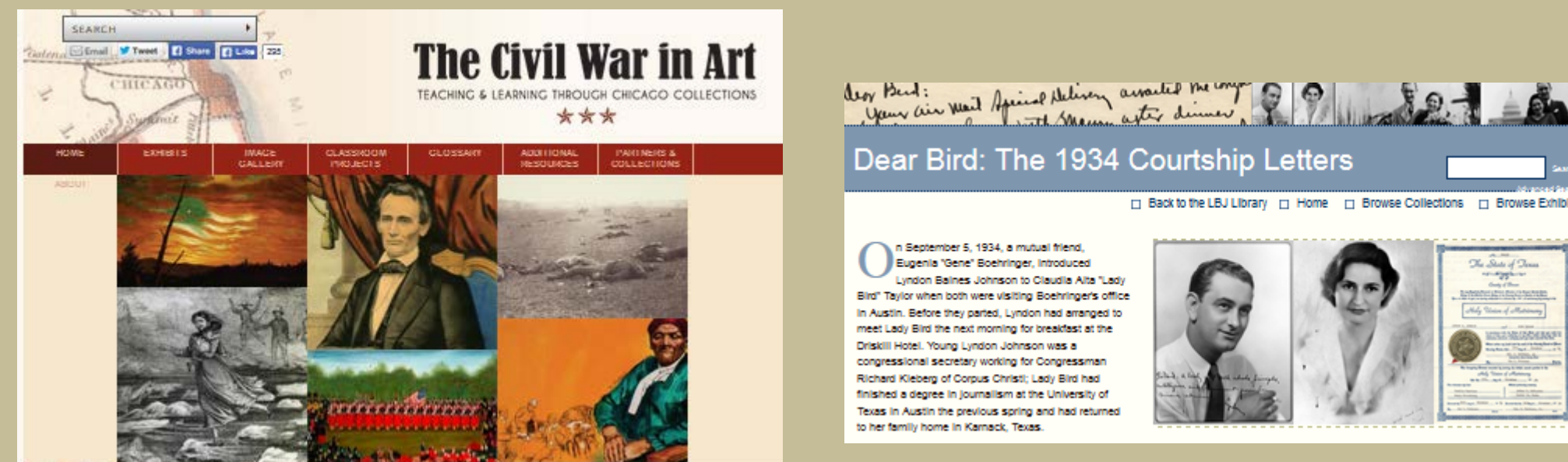
3,000 documents (letters, diaries, and writings) will be transcribed using crowdsourced labor.

## Platform

The project archive will be built in Omeka which is a free, flexible, and open source web-publishing platform.

Omeka is widely adopted and has a growing user community, including:

THE ALBERT M. GREENFIELD DIGITAL CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION



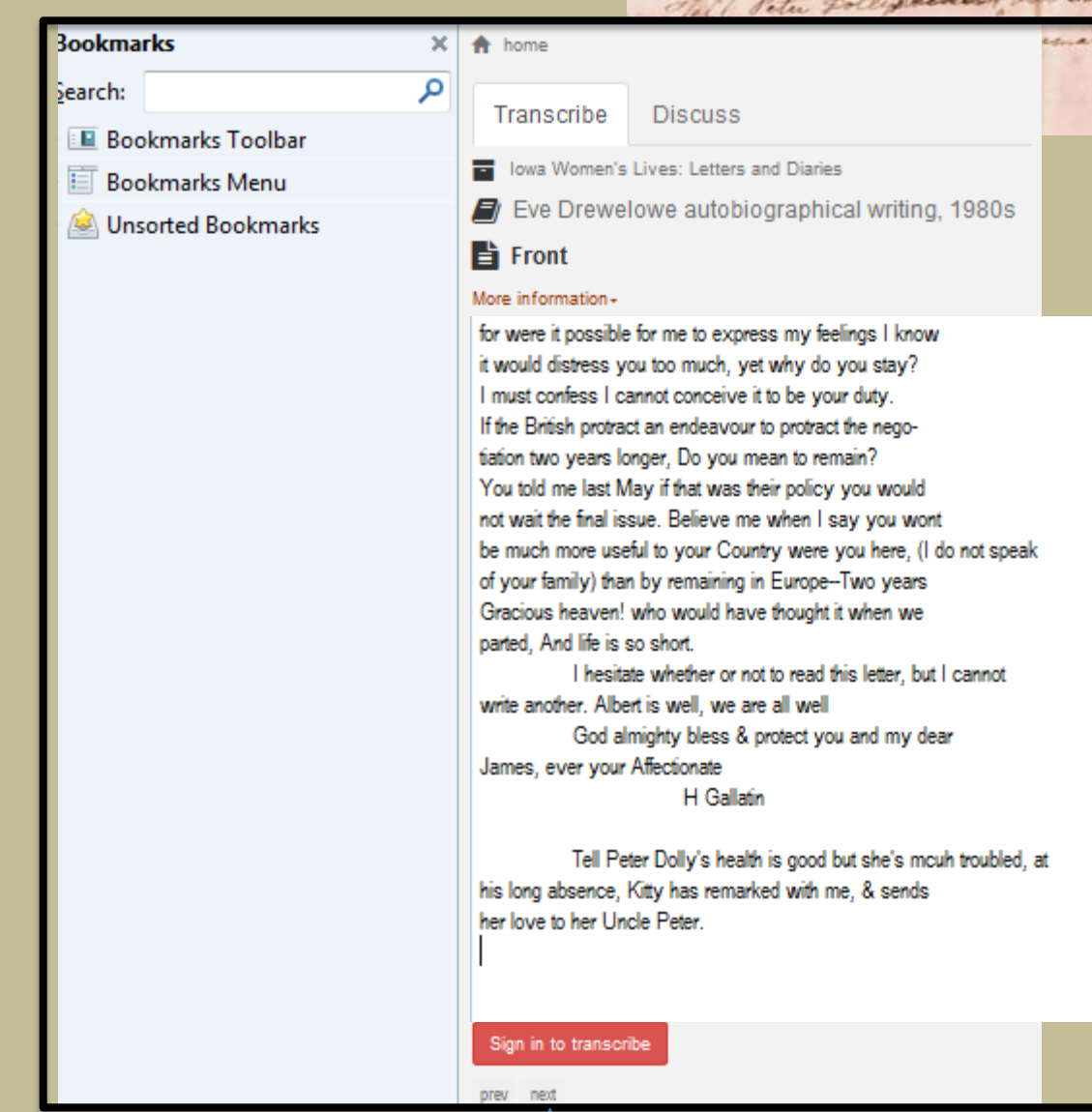
This project will bring together the dispersed writings of each person in the cohort to form a single "virtual" collection highlighting connections between them.

## TRANSCRIPTION PANE

Transcribers create an account and select documents for transcription using Scripto, an open source plug-in in Omeka



Manuscript image  
Hannah Gallatin to Albert Gallatin, 1 Dec. 1814

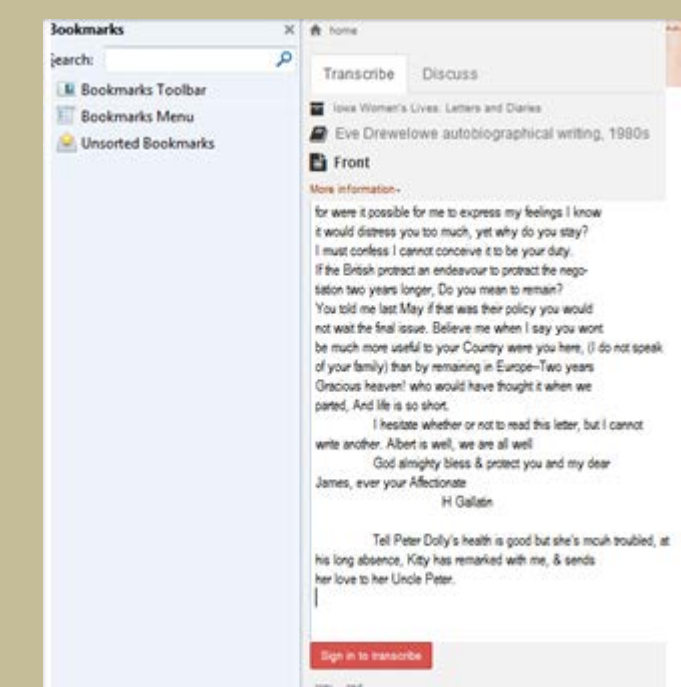


WYSIWYG editor and Transcription guidelines

## ENGAGEMENT PANE

Transcribers will select the topic that best describes the subject of this document, These might include

- War of 1812
- Treaty of Ghent
- Albert Gallatin
- Letters between husband and wife



Who else is mentioned in this document?  
Are there other letters from this person not included in Women of the Founding Era?

## QUALITY ASSURANCE

Each document will be vetted and reviewed by editors and resulting in an official version that will be locked to further changes but returned for use in the archive.

CORRESPONDENCE    EVENTS



GEOGRAPHICAL    PEOPLE

VISUALIZING THE NETWORKS

Future women to be included are Anne Willing Bingham, Angelica Schuyler Church, Sarah Bowdoin Dearborn, Esther DeBerdt Reed, and Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton

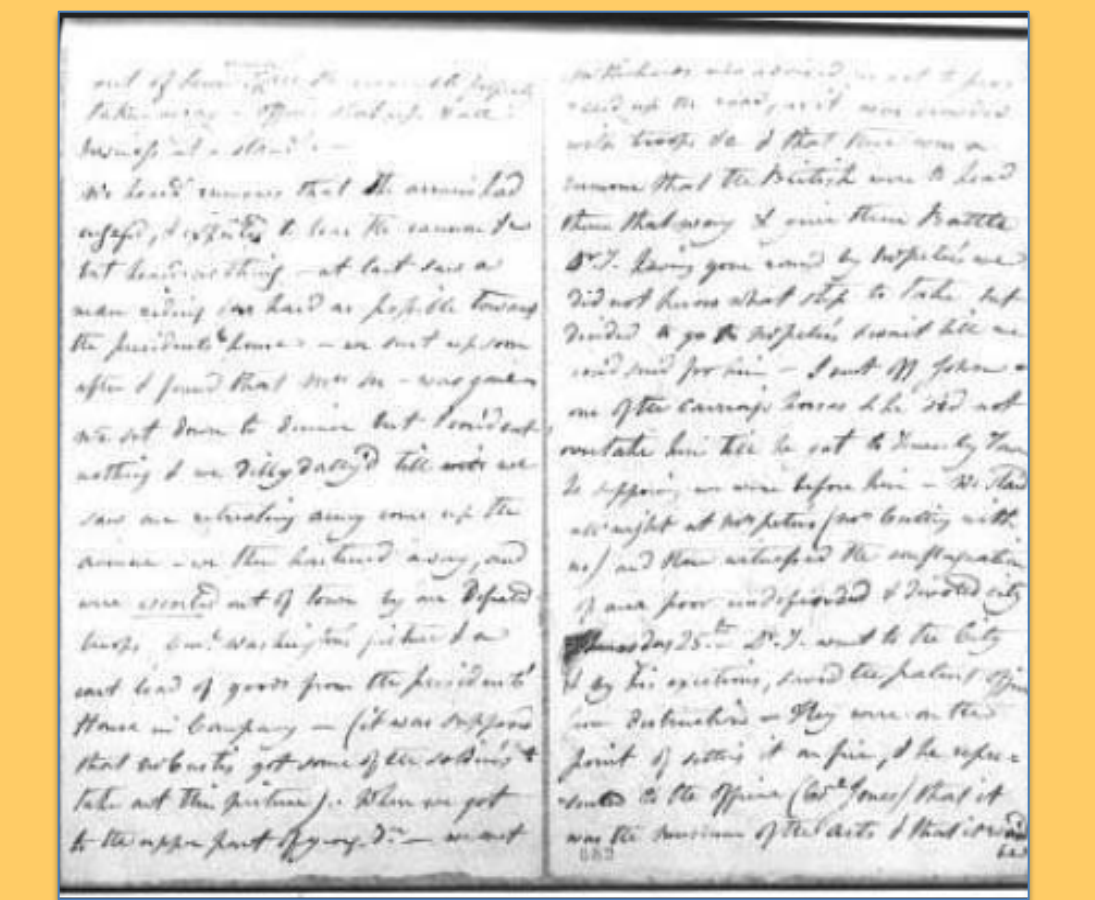
## Project Outcomes:

Engage a new audience in women of the period and their writings

3,000 documents made available in the first two years—more to be added as the project expands

White Paper on crowdsourcing

Cost benefit analysis of using the crowd to create first pass transcriptions for a scholarly edition



Are you Interested in being part of *Women of the Founding Era*?

Go to [www.DocumentsCompass.org](http://www.DocumentsCompass.org) and sign up!

Project Participants  
Susan Perdue, Documents Compass  
Sharon Leon, CCHNM  
Cassandra Good, Editor,  
Papers of James Monroe

