



## North American Women's Letters and Diaries

<b>Vendor:</b> Alexander Street Press		
<b>Description</b> Includes published letters and diaries dating from Colonial times to 1950, plus 4,000 pages of previously unpublished materials. Drawn from more than 1,000 sources, including journal articles, pamphlets, newsletters, monographs, and conference proceedings. All age groups and life stages, ethnicities, many geographical regions, the famous and the not so famous are represented in the database. When complete, the database will include approximately 150,000 pages.		
<b>Dates of Coverage:</b> 1705 to 1950		
<b>Type of Coverage:</b> Full-text		
<p><b>Default Search</b> Users are taken to home page where they must choose type of search:</p> <p>Find Sources</p> <p>Find Authors</p> <p>Search Texts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple search</li> <li>• Diaries only</li> <li>• Letters only</li> <li>• Advanced search</li> </ul> <p>Each type of search is unique.</p>	<p><b>Phrase Search</b> In Simple Search</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type phrase</li> </ul> <p>Advanced Search Diaries Only, Letters Only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type phrase (The default search option is Single Term and Phrase Search)</li> </ul> <p>e.g. <b>women's suffrage</b></p>	<p><b>Truncation/Wildcards</b></p> <p>. (period) matches a single character</p> <p>*(asterisk) matches a string of characters at end or beginning of word</p> <p>.? (period question mark) matches up to one more character after the period; can use internally</p> <p>e.g. gentlem.n *habit hon.?r</p>
<p><b>Boolean Operators</b></p> <p>  (vertical line) is OR</p> <p><b>Space</b> is AND (Only works in Advanced Search, Letters Only, Diaries Only when you choose Proximity Searching in the same Sentence or Paragraph)</p>	<p><b>Proximity</b></p> <p>Advanced Search Diaries Only Letters Only allows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search for words in the same sentence (You can determine how many words you want to separate your search terms)</li> <li>• Search for words in the same paragraph</li> </ul>	<p><b>Limiting</b></p> <p>Simple Search</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit by Author; Year Written; Document Type; Subject Headings</li> </ul> <p>Advanced Search, Letters Only, Diaries Only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit by Author; Age When Writing; Marital Status; Race; Religion; Occupation and many more</li> </ul>

### **Other Search Tips**

- ≈ Table of Contents allows you to find Authors, Places, Personal Events, and Historical Events in the database
- ≈ **[a-z]** matches a single character or any letters within the brackets  
e.g. [c-f]at will find cat, eat, fat but not sat
- ≈ **#** (hash mark) matches capitalized words only  
e.g., #bacon will retrieve Bacon, but not bacon.
- ≈ **E** (capital letter) matches all accented and non-accented forms
- ≈ Biographical information available on many authors

Creator: Cindy Ingold  
Last modified: 6/03