JISC HistoricBooks

Quick Reference Guide

JISC Historic Books enables you to cross search and download over 360, 000 late 15th to 19th century texts from the following 3 historical collections for the first time. You will find a wide range of subject areas covered from literature to science, religion and philosophy. Works include bibles, sermons, news stories, tracts, books and monographs.

Which collections does it include?

- **British Library 19th Century Collection** *(titles published between1800-1917)*
  Recently digitized titles in partnership with Microsoft. Includes thousands of rare and previously inaccessible titles which have never been available online before.
- **Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)** *(titles published between1700-1800)*
  Add text
- **Early English Books Online (EEBO)** *(titles published between1473-1700)*
  Add text

What format are the books available in?

You can view online, and download in PDF format, the digital page images for every title in JISC Historic Books. For the BL and ECCO collections there is also full text available for each title, which has been created by digitally scanning either the original pages (BL), or microfilm of the pages (ECCO), using optical character recognition (OCR) software. For EEBO there are manual text transcriptions for around 25% of the collection, the rest of the collection in JISC Historic Books has digital page images only currently. We are adding further manual text transcriptions as they are made available to us via the text creation partnership. If full text is not available then the text links and the page text download options will be greyed out and the search within the book option in the page viewer will not be visible.

You can download individual page images, a range of page images as well as whole books in PDF format. You can also download the full text in the same options for titles with full text available.

Searching by meaning

JISC Historic Books uses conceptual searching, providing a new way to discover potentially previously hidden connections between related historical materials. It understands the meaning behind your search terms and looks for results that are relevant conceptually and contextually as well as just matching the keywords themselves.
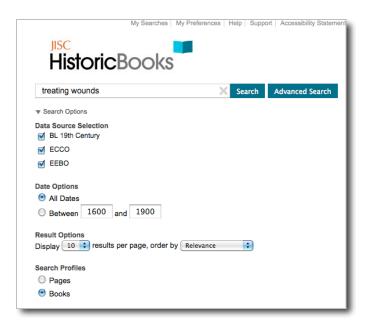
_Mimas powering knowledge

Serendipitous browsing

You can browse serendipitously through your search results using the unique concept cloud, which clusters the results into concepts, with the most prominent concepts in larger bolder type, enabling you to explore conceptually to discover relevant materials. Each search result also has a show similar link which suggests other conceptually and contextually related records that may be of interest to you.

Search

Enter up to 20 search terms in the search box, the more terms you enter the more conceptually and contextually relevant the results will be. The title and author fields are biased so if your search terms match an author or title they will be listed at the top of the results list. Viewing results by "book" is the default view but you can change the view to "pages" to show every page match, which may show multiple results for the same book.

Or jump straight to the Advanced Search if you want to search for something specific.

<Add arrows and text to image>

Advanced Search

Use the section in grey at the top of the page to enter terms that you want, or do not want, to find in your results. Use the section at the bottom of the page to target your search terms to particular bibliographic fields. The section in the middle enables you to set your display preferences and select particular collections or date ranges. For further control, you can also edit your search terms directly in

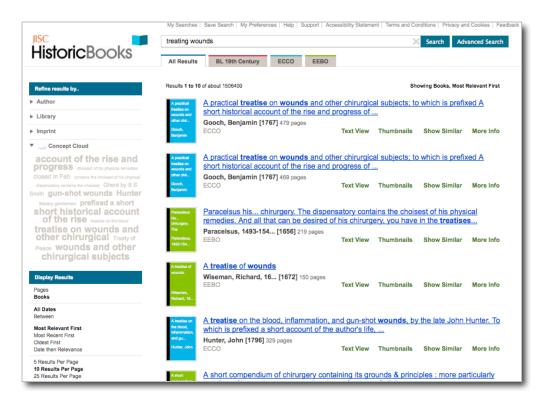the search box on the results page, instead of returning to edit the search from the Advanced Search page.

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Results

To view the digital page image for a search result simply click on the title hyperlink to open the page viewer. You can refine your search, save your search terms to re-run later and browse serendipitously through the results by concepts (using the concept cloud) or viewing conceptually and contextually similar records (show similar lnk).
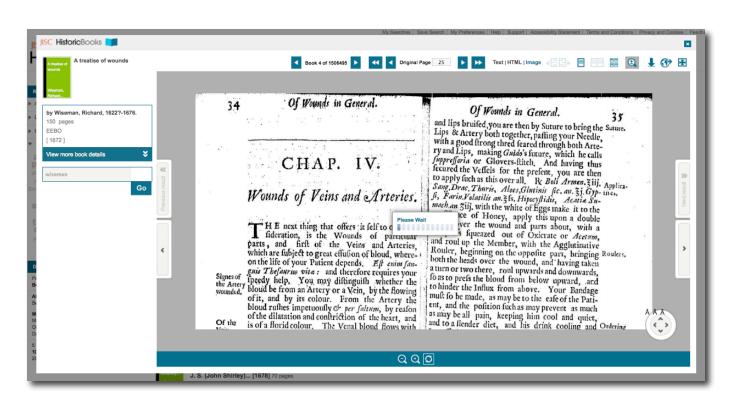
<Add arrows and text to image>

Page viewer
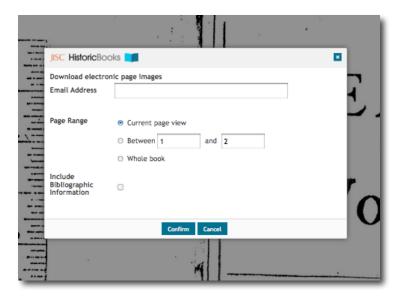
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