

# Introduction to Historical Texts

Over 350, 000 late 15<sup>th</sup> to long 19<sup>th</sup> century texts (EEBO, ECCO & BL 19<sup>th</sup> Century)

# What is Historical Texts?

Historical Texts is a full text digital archive enabling you to cross search, view and download over 350,000 texts published in the late C15th to the long C19th.

It contains three collections:

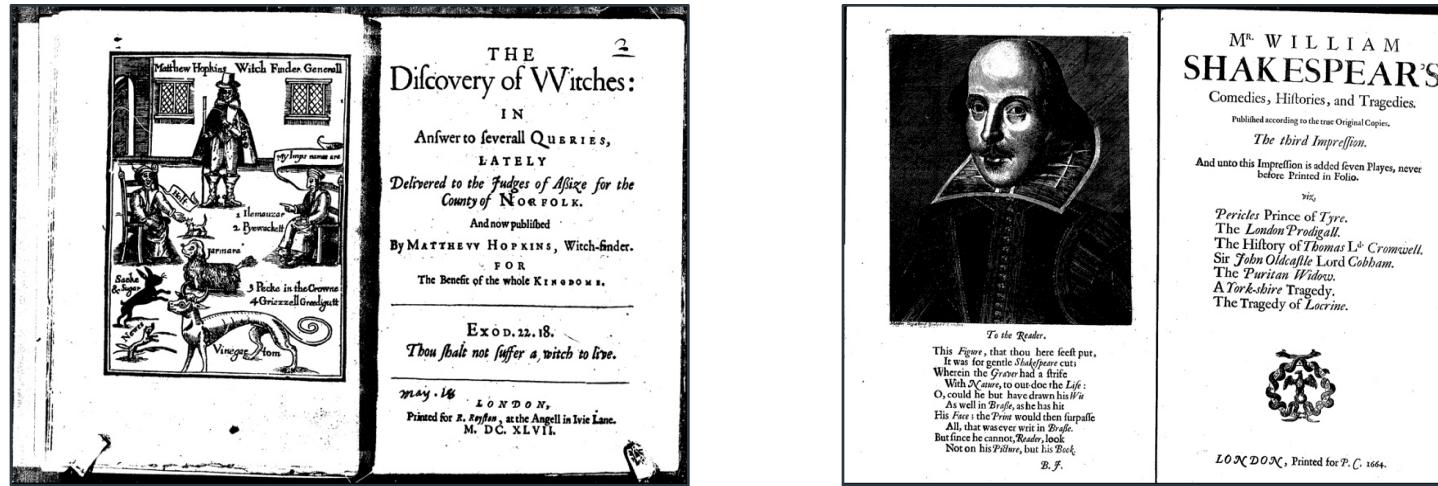
- » Early English Books Online (EEBO) (1473-1700)
- » Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO) (1701-1800)
- » 65,000 texts from the British Library 19<sup>th</sup> Century collection (1789-1914)

Including a wealth of content ranging from the Romantic to the Victorian period and coverage subject areas including English literature, history, geography, science, social science, religion and medicine.

Materials include books, pamphlets, sermons, almanacs, sheet music, broadsides, newsbooks.

# Early English Books Online (EEBO)

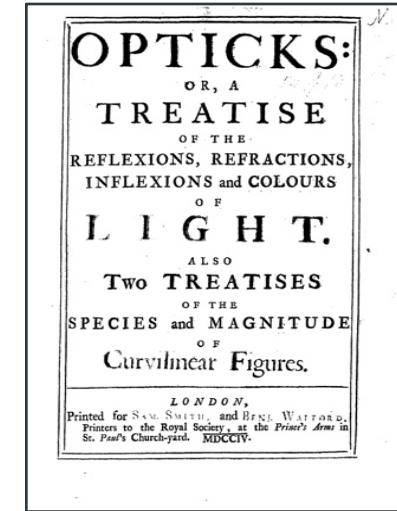
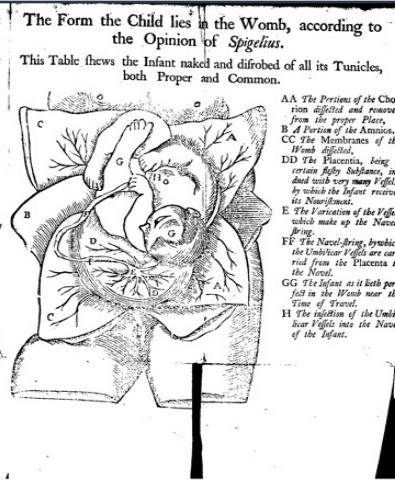
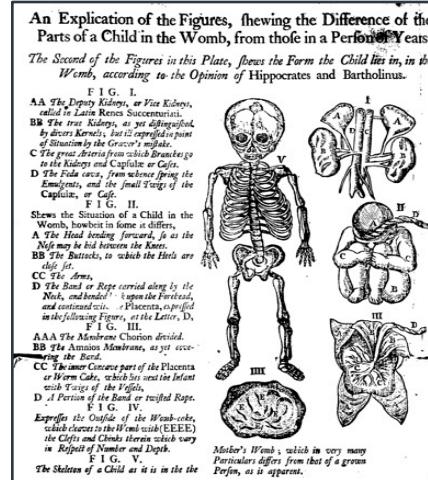
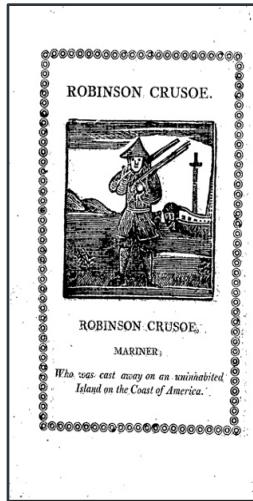
## (1473-1700)



- » The scanned images, and full-text digital versions where available, of over 125,000 books printed in Britain and British North America, and works in English printed elsewhere, from the first book published in England up to 1700.
- » Authors include Shakespeare, Galileo, Bacon, Chaucer, Spenser and Margaret Cavendish.

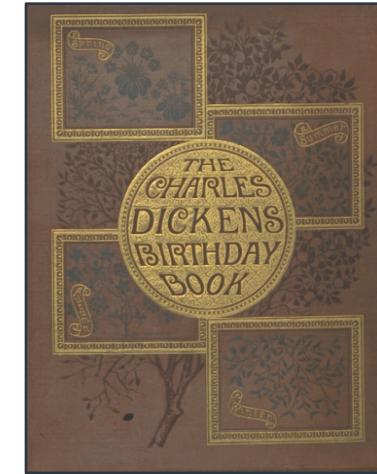
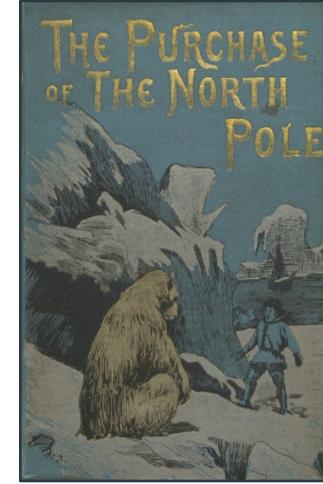
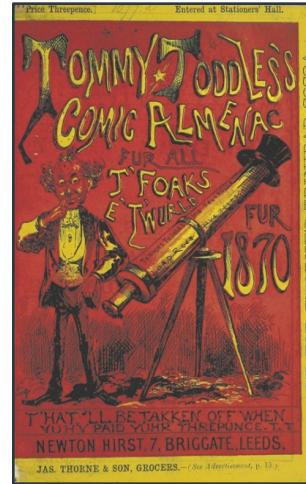
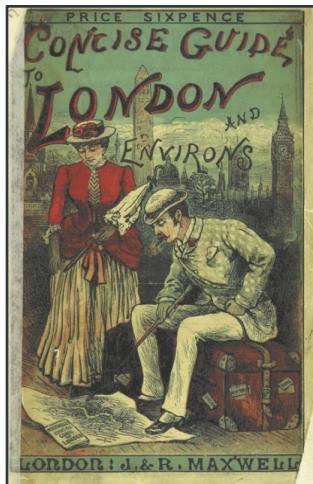
# Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)

## (1701-1800)



- » A digital collection of more than 180,000 titles published in Great Britain and its colonies during the eighteenth century, including works in languages other than English (e.g. French, German, Latin and Welsh)
- » Works include Daniel Defoe, Newton, Culpepper, Alexander Pope, Thomas Paine, Voltaire.

# 65,000 British Library 19<sup>th</sup> century texts (1789-1914)



- » Over 65,000 recently digitised editions from the British Library's 19th century collection, comprising over 25 million pages of previously rare and inaccessible titles.
- » Authors include Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, Jules Verne

# Key features

- » Cross-search EEBO, ECCO and 65,000 texts from the British Library C19th collection for the first time
- » View and search the full text (where available) as well as the bibliographic information for texts
- » View images and full text side by side
- » Download whole publications (PDF) and individual images (JPEG)
- » View publication date histogram for search results

# Search

Screenshot of the Jisc Historical Texts search interface. The search term "discovery of witches" has been entered into the search bar. The results page shows a sidebar with search filters and a main content area featuring historical illustrations and text snippets.

**Select a field to search** (points to the sidebar dropdown menu)

**Number of results** (points to the "Matched 744 hits" message)

**Show advanced search options** (points to the "Advanced Search" button)

**EEBO**  
1473-1700  
Early English Books Online (EEBO) contains the scanned images, and full-text digital versions where available, of over 125,000 books published in English up to 1700.

**ECCO**  
1701-1800  
Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO) is a digital collection of more than 180,000 titles published in Great Britain and its colonies during the eighteenth century.

**Historical Texts** brings together three historically significant collections for the first time: Early English Books Online (EEBO), Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO) and 65,000 texts from the British Library 19th Century collection.

Historical Texts is available to UK HE and FE Institutions and Research Councils via [subscription](#).

**Contact Us**  
For any enquiries contact our helpdesk:  
[historicaltexts@jisc.ac.uk](mailto:historicaltexts@jisc.ac.uk)

# Advanced search

The screenshot shows the Jisc Historical Texts advanced search interface. The search term 'discovery of witches' is entered in the search bar. A dropdown menu titled 'Variants, Forms' is open, showing several search refinement options:

- Fuzzy
- Variant Spellings
- Variant forms
- Misspellings
- Printer replacements

The results list contains numerous variations of the words 'discovery', 'witches', and 'of'. A red box highlights this dropdown menu.

Below the search bar, there are several refinement sections:

- Date: All (radio button selected), Including undated (dropdown), e.g. 1600, 1620-1650, 1654, 1712-1738
- Collections: All (radio button selected), EEBO (1473-1700) (checkbox), Thomason Tracts (checkbox), ECCO (1701-1800) (checkbox), ECCO II (checkbox), BL 19th Century (1789-1914) (checkbox)
- Text: All (radio button selected), Search within: Description (radio button), Full Text (radio button)
- Publications: All (radio button selected), Illustrated (radio button), Not Illustrated (radio button)

At the bottom left, there are buttons for '+ New row' and 'Reset'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Advanced Search' button with a dropdown arrow.

Red annotations provide instructions:

- An annotation points to the 'Variants, Forms' dropdown with the text "Select variant / fuzzy options".
- An annotation points to the 'Refine your search' section with the text "Refine your search".
- An annotation points to the 'Advanced Search' button with the text "Hide advanced search options".
- An annotation points to the '+ New row' button with the text "Add new rows to build up more complex searches".

# Browse

The screenshot shows the Jisc Historical Texts website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, About, Browse (which is currently selected), Support, My Texts, and various icons for search and download. A red box highlights the 'Browse' dropdown menu, which includes options for Author, Date, and Printer/Publisher, along with two specific sections for 'Thomason Tracts' and 'Thomason Tracts Broadsides'. Another red box highlights the 'Volume' tab in the main search interface, with a red arrow pointing to it from the left. Below this, there's a section titled 'Browse all collections' with a red arrow pointing to it from the left. On the left side, there's a sidebar with filter options for Printer/Publisher, Author, Date, Subject, Text type, Genre, and Collection. A red arrow points to the 'Collection' filter option. In the main content area, there are two historical document entries. The first entry is for 'An ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament' (Volume 1, page 1) and the second is for 'Hulls managing of the kingdoms cause: or, A brief historicall relation of the several plots and attempts against ...' (Volume 2, page 1). Both entries show thumbnail images of the documents and detailed bibliographic information.

Historical Texts

Fuzzy and Variants ▾

Thumbnail images: On Off

Filter results by

- Printer/Publisher
- Author
- Date
- Subject
- Text type
- Genre
- Collection

Results Author Printer/Publisher Volume Date

Author Date Printer/Publisher

Thomason Tracts Thomason Tracts Broadsides

Volumes 1 - 50 (631 items in 50 volumes)

Volumes 51 - 100 (1700 items in 50 volumes)

Volume 51 (12 items)

An ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament

Printer/Publisher Printed for Edward Husbands  
Publication date June 14, 1644  
Publication place London  
Bibliographic number/identifier

- E1862. (Wing 2nd ed., 1994)
- E.51[1]. (Thomason)

5 pages Series: Thomason Tracts / Volume: 51 / Issue: 1 EEBO

Hulls managing of the kingdoms cause: or, A brief historicall relation of the several plots and attempts against ...

Printer/Publisher Printed for Richard Best at Grayes-Inne gate  
Publication date June 18, 1644  
Publication place London  
Bibliographic number/identifier

- H3362. (Wing 2nd ed.)
- E.51[11]. (Thomason)

16 pages Series: Thomason Tracts / Volume: 51 / Issue: 11 EEBO

More Information ▾

Matched 400817 hits

Advanced Search ▾

Save Search

My Saved Items 0

Browse all collections

Browse EEBO Thomason Tracts

Browse results

# Results

Thumbnail images: On Off

Results Author Printer/Publisher Volume Date My Saved Items 0 Save Search

Filter results by

Printer/Publisher

Author

Date

Subject

- Literature and Language (146)
- Religion and Philosophy (58)
- General Reference (52)
- History and Geography (48)
- Witchcraft (37)
- Social Sciences (21)
- England (19)
- Medicine, Science and T... (19)
- Great Britain (14)
- Law (12)
- History (10)
- Society of Friends (7)
- Demonology (6)
- Catalogs, Booksellers' (5)
- Christian life (5)
- Politics and government (5)
- Bible (4)
- Conduct of life (4)
- Fine Arts (4)
- Magic (4)

Text type

Genre

Collection

Sort by: Relevance Date Range

View mode: List Grid

Change sort order

Switch between list and grid view

A confirmation and discovery of witchcraft

Author: Sterne, John (17th cent)

Printer/Publisher

Publication date

Publication place

Bibliographic number/identifier

70 pages EEBO Full Text

Matches within text More Information

The discovery of vwitches

Author: Hopkins, Matthew (d. 1647)

Printer/Publisher

Publication date

Publication place

Results per page: 30

View text snippets from pages with search term matches

Filter by subject

# Saving searches, items and settings

The screenshot shows the Jisc Historical Texts search interface. A red box highlights the 'My Texts' button in the top right corner, which opens a dropdown menu for 'Saved Searches', 'My Saved Items', and 'My Tags'. Another red box highlights the 'Save Search' button in the top right corner of the main search area. A third red box highlights the 'My Saved Items' button in the middle of the page. Red arrows point from the numbered steps to these specific buttons.

1. Tick checkbox to select publication to save  
A red box highlights the checkbox next to the first result in the list, with an arrow pointing to it.
2. Choose where to save publication  
A red arrow points to the 'My Saved Items' button.
3. View previously saved searches, publications and tags  
A red box highlights the 'My Texts' dropdown menu.

Change display / search settings  
A red arrow points to the gear icon in the top right corner.

Save current search  
A red arrow points to the 'Save Search' button.

A confirmation and discovery of witchcraft  
Author: Sterne, John (17th cent)  
Printer/Publisher: Printed by William Wilson  
Publication date: 1648

# Viewer

The screenshot shows the Jisc Historical Texts viewer interface. The main content area displays the title page of the book 'The Discovery of Witches' by Matthew Hopkins. The page features a woodcut illustration of a man in a top hat and coat standing next to a dog, with another figure and a cat below. The title text is in large, bold, capital letters. Below the title, there is a block of text providing details about the publication.

Annotations on the interface:

- Open side panel**: Points to the 'Details' button in the top right corner of the side panel.
- Download options**: Points to a dropdown menu in the top right corner of the main content area, which includes options to download the page as a JPEG image, the publication as a PDF, and the citation as RIS.
- Full screen view**: Points to the full-screen icon in the top right corner of the main content area.
- Stable URL**: Points to the URL in the address bar at the top of the browser window.
- Open side panel**: Points to the 'Details' button in the top right corner of the side panel.

Other visible elements include the Jisc logo and navigation links at the top, and a sidebar on the left containing search and zoom controls.

# Viewer (side panels open)

The discovery of vvitches

Jisc [GB] https://data.historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk/view?pubId=eebo-99862000e&terms=discovery%20of%20witches&pageTerms=discovery%20of%20witches&pageId=eebo-99862000e-16023...

## Historical Texts

Pages Thumbnails Publications

Click to close side panel

Drag to re-size side panel

The discovery of vvitches in answer to s  
queries, lately delivered to the judges of  
for the county of Norfolk. /

Author:  
Hopkins, Matthew (d. 1647)

Printer/Publisher:  
Printed for R. Royston, at the Angell in Ivi

Publication date:  
M. DC. XLVII. 1647

Publication place:  
London

Bibliographic number/identifier:  
H2751. (Wing 2nd ed.)  
E.388[2]. (Thomason)

13 pages Thomason Tracts/388/2  
EEBO  
Full Text

Main Title:  
The discovery of vvitches in answer to se  
queries, lately delivered to the judges of t  
the county of Norfolk. /

Physical description:  
4, 10, 2 p ill

Type or Genre of Publication:  
Book  
Early works to 1800

Notes:  
Annotation on Thomason copy: "May 18'  
Frontis. = ill.  
Reproduction of the original in the British  
The final leaf is blank.  
Electronic reproduction.

# Viewer (search panel)

The discovery of witches

Jisc [GB] https://data.historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk/view?pubId=eebo-99862000e&terms=discovery%20of%20witches&pageTerms=discovery%20of%20witches&pageId=eebo-99862000e-16023...

Historical Texts

Pages Thumbnails Publications

discovery of witches Search

Fuzzy, Illustrated and Variants

Search within text

Relevance 3 pages

View thumbnails / other matching publications

Matthew Hopkins, Witch Finder General

THE Discovery of Witches: IN Answer to several QUERIES, LATELY Delivered to the Judges of Assize for the County of NORFOLK. And now published By MATTHEV HOPKINS, Witch-finder. FOR The Benefit of

any of our deadly enemies *discovery*, and didst promise to avenge and slay all those, we pleased, that

We must needs argue, he is of a long standing, above 6000. years, then he must needs be the best

Scholar in all knowledges of arts and tongues, & so have the best skill in Physicke, judgment in

Physiognomie, and knowledge of what disease is reigning or predominant in this or that mans body, (and so

for cattell too) by reason of his long experience. This subtle tempter knowing such a man lyable

wilde Colt, or Hawke, &c. Ans. In the infancy of this *discovery* it was not only thought fitting

*discovery*, and the meaning of walking of them at the highest extent of cruelty, was only they to walke

up with the *Witches*, be the creature Cat, Rat, Mouse, & c. Quer. 8. When these Paps are fully oftentimes have so happened; and never or seldom did any Witch ever complaine in the time of their keeping for want of rest, but after they had beat their heads together in the Goale; and after this

Matthew Hopkins, Witch Finder General

THE Discovery of Witches: IN Full text available

Answer to several QUERIES, LATELY Delivered to the Judges of Assize for the County of NORFOLK. And now published By MATTHEV HOPKINS, Witch-finder. FOR The Benefit of the whole KINGOME.

Exod. 22.18. Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

May 18 LONDON Printed for R. Reijon, at the Angell in Ivie Lane. M. D. C. XLVII.

# Viewer (details panel)

Return to results list →

View bibliographic information →

Details    Contents    Text    Tags →

**View & create tags**

Certaine *Querries* answered, which have been and are likely to be objected against MATTHEW HOPKINS, in his way of finding out Witches.

**QUERIE I.**

*Hath he must needs be the greatest Witch, Sorcerer, and Wizzard himselfe, else hee could not doe it.*

*Answ.* If Satans kingdome be divided against it selfe, how shall it stand?

*Querie 2.* If he never went so farre as is before mentioned, yet for certaine he met with the Devil, and cheated him of his Booke, wherein were written all the Witches names in England, and if he looks on any Witch, he can tell by her countenance what she is; so by this, his helpe is from the Devil.

*Answ.* If he had been too hard for the devil, and got his book, it had been to his great commendation, and no disgrace at all: and for judgement in Phisiognomie, he hath no more then any man else whatsoever.

*Querie 3.* From whence then proceeded this his skill? was it from his profound learning, or from much reading of learned Authors concerning that subject?

*Answ.* From neither of both, but from experience, which though it be meaneely esteemed of, yet the surest and safest way to judge by.

*Querie 4.* I pray, Where was this experience gained? and why gained by him and not by others?

*Answ.*

**Plain Text | Formatted Text**

**Q[A]ERIE I.**

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*Answ.* From neither of both, but from experience, which

# Benefits for researchers

- » Time saving – reducing need to travel to holding libraries to view texts
- » Access to rare and, in some cases, previously inaccessible texts
- » Full text searching across the 65,000 texts from the BL C19<sup>th</sup> collection for the first time
- » View ECCO full text for the first time
- » Cross search EEBO, ECCO and 65,000 BL 19<sup>th</sup> century texts in one place to quickly discover related material
- » View full text and images side by side for first time



# Further information

- » Website: <http://historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk>
- » Support materials: <http://historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk/support>
- » Development roadmap: <http://historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk/developmentroadmap>
- » Helpdesk: [historicaltexts@jisc.ac.uk](mailto:historicaltexts@jisc.ac.uk)

