

# The impact of crowdsourced transcriptions from the Library of Congress

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## Abstract

Volunteers have transcribed over 630,000 pages of Library of Congress collections in the past five years through its [By the People](#) program. What happens to these transcriptions when they return to the Library's main website? And what impact does volunteering make on volunteers themselves? This presentation will address the multiple impacts that the crowdsourcing volunteer community of Library of Congress makes: the impact volunteers have on scholarship and research, the impact volunteers themselves experience as part of the co-production of knowledge, and the institutional impacts of inviting the public to contribute to the collections. The presenter will share ongoing research, bringing together volunteer survey data, research from web analytics tools, researcher interviews, reference data, and social media. Attendees will leave this session with a better understanding the impact that transcription initiatives can have for volunteers and institutions, and the ways that scholars, librarians, authors, teachers, genealogists and many others are using transcriptions in their work and research.

## About the authors:

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