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New Internet Archive on Slavery and Abolition in the United States

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New Internet Archive on Slavery and Abolition in the United States

Dickinson College and Millersville University



Dickinson College and Millersville University announced the launch of the digital project *Slavery & Abolition in the U.S.: Select Publications of the 1800s*, available at: <http://deila.dickinson.edu/slaveryandabolition/>.

This new service provides a digital collection of books and pamphlets that demonstrate the varying ideas and beliefs about slavery in the United States as expressed by Americans throughout the nineteenth century. The works in this collection reflect arguments on both sides of the slavery debate and include first person narratives, legal proceedings and decisions, anti-slavery tracts, religious sermons, and early secondary works. The 77 titles in the collection represent the works of over 70 authors and/or organizations, published between 1787 and 1911. The publications are all drawn from the holdings of Millersville University Library and the Dickinson College Library, as well as each of their respective Special Collections Departments. The collection includes more than 15,000 individual pages of printed text and corresponding searchable transcriptions. This online resource is made freely available to the public, and we hope that providing these rare and important research materials will enhance teaching and learning about this complex issue at all levels of instruction.

This collaborative digitization project was supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in association with Millersville University and Dickinson College. *Slavery & Abolition in the U.S.* utilizes 'Content' software to organize and present its materials online. The software makes it possible to view textual materials online, to display page images and full-text transcripts side by side, and to offer full-text searchability of the materials in the digital collection. According to Tracey Weis of Millersville University, "Access to the first person narratives, legal proceedings and decisions, anti-slavery tracts, religious sermons, and secondary works found in the *Slavery and Abolition in the U.S.* digital archive will allow scholars, educators, students, and others interested in the tumultuous debate on slavery to explore more than 14,500 pages of these rare research materials and to form their own opinions about the controversy that fractured our nation."