

Project designed by Zachary Conn
Designed for high schools students but could be adapted for college underclassmen
If you use the project, please let me know at zconn@uidaho.edu

AGE OF REVOLUTIONS BIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH PROJECT OVERVIEW

In this project, which will occupy us for the remainder of the school year, Grade 10 Cultural History students will, with my guidance, conduct the secondary source research necessary to contextualize, analyze, and explain the significance a primary source (provided by the instructor) created by a leading figure in the Age of Revolutions.

In this document, you will find: information about your two options for your final product (formal essay or creative project + artist's statement); requirements for your five secondary sources); a list of the remaining deadlines for the project; the paragraph outline for those writing a research paper; the paragraph outline for those writing an artist's statement; a list of the historical figures you are studying; a list of the questions for your research notes (also found on the Google Doc I distributed earlier); and, finally, each of the primary sources you have been assigned.

Final Product Options

After completing your research, you have two options for a Final Product. The first option is a formal research paper (similar to the two formal essays you wrote earlier in the year but longer and based on your own research). Make sure that your essay follows the paragraph outline below exactly. Your second option is a creative project accompanied by a short artist's statement. If you plan to do a creative project (visual art, music, creative writing, video, etc.), please get your plan approved by me first. Make sure that what you produce is genuinely related to the research you have done and reflects at least a few hours of work.

Sources

You must use at least 5 secondary sources. At least one—and at most two— of those sources must be an encyclopedia article. At least one must be a journal article found using JSTOR (I will show you how to do this). At least one must be a non-encyclopedia book (can be from the classroom library or found on your own – if the latter, please get my approval). You need to provide information about each source on your Research Journal Google Doc.

Deadlines for remainder of this project (all deadlines at 11:59 PM)

- By Thursday June 1st, you should have identified all 5 of your sources, and answered at least 5 of the questions in your Research Notes

- By Thursday June 8, you should have completed your Research Journal and Research Notes
- By Friday June 9, you MAY send me a rough draft of your research paper or artist's statement for feedback. THIS IS OPTIONAL AND UNGRADED
- By Thursday, June 15, you should turn in your research paper or artist's statement

Paragraph Outline for Research Paper Option

Introduction: Who was this person? What source will you be examining? Include a 1-2 sentence thesis statement saying what you think is the main thing we can learn about your person from the primary source. (at least 4 sentences)

Main Body Paragraph 1: What biographical context do we need to know about to understand your primary source? (at least 6 sentences)

Main Body Paragraph 2: What larger historical context do we need to know about to understand your primary source? (at least 6 sentences)

Main Body Paragraph 3: What message is this person trying to send in the primary source you were assigned? (at least 6 sentences)

Main Body Paragraph 4: What can the primary source you were assigned tell us about how this person saw themselves and their role in the larger events in which they were participating? (at least 6 sentences)

Main Body Paragraph 5: How did people react to the primary source, or, if you cannot find information about this, to your person more generally? (at least 6 sentences)

Conclusion: With reference to your primary source, how do you think we should remember this person in the 21st century? (at least 4 sentences)

Paragraphs for Artist's Statement Option

Paragraph 1: Who was this person? What larger events were they part of? (at least 6 sentences)

Paragraph 2: What was happening at the time this person wrote the primary source you were assigned? What was the main message they were trying to communicate? (at least 6 sentences)

Paragraph 3: What steps did you take to create your creative project? What formal choices did you make? (at least 6 sentences)

Paragraph 4: How does your creative project reflect what you learned from your research about your person and your primary source? (at least 6 sentences)

Historical Figures

1. **Marquis de Lafayette:** French general and politician from an aristocratic family who played an important role in both the American and French Revolutions but was imprisoned during the latter due to his moderate beliefs
2. **Mary Wollstonecraft:** English writer and philosopher best known for her book *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, in which she made a pioneering, highly controversial feminist argument that women deserve the same rights as men
3. **Louis XVI:** Introverted French king descended from Louis XIV whose actions (in part) brought on the French Revolution; executed by guillotine during the Revolution's radical phase

4. **Marie Antoinette:** Famously glamorous Austria-born queen of France executed by guillotine during the French Revolution's radical phase
5. **Napoleon Bonaparte:** Brilliant Corsica-born general who rose up to become the leader, and eventually the emperor, of post-revolutionary France; conquered most of the European continent before his final defeat in 1815
6. **Klemens von Metternich:** Brilliant, cynical, very conservative Austrian statesman and diplomat who worked behind the scenes to bring a new conservative order to the European continent after the Napoleonic Wars
7. **Eli Whitney:** American inventor best known for creating the cotton gin, a machine that vastly increased the amount of cotton that could be grown and processed by enslaved people in the American South
8. **Tecumseh:** Native American general and statesman from the Shawnee tribe who in collaboration with his brother, a religious leader, created a large multi-tribal Indigenous coalition to fight the United States alongside the British during the War of 1812
9. **Olympe de Gouges:** French playwright, essayist, and political activist best known for being the leading feminist in the French Revolution
10. **Toussaint Louverture:** General and statesman born into slavery who was the leader of the Black population for most of the Haitian Revolution's revolt against slavery on the French island colony of Saint-Domingue; captured by the French and died in a French dungeon
11. **Jean-Jacques Dessalines:** General and statesman born into slavery who became the first leader of an independent Haitian Republic after Toussaint Louverture's capture
12. **Charles Babbage:** English mathematician, engineer, and inventor most famous for being the first to devise the concept of a digital programmable computer
13. **Simón Bolívar:** South American general and statesman born in what is now Colombia who was the most prominent leader of the wave of anti-Spanish revolutions that took place in Latin America during the Napoleonic Wars
14. **Catherine Beecher:** American writer and educator best known for pro-woman but anti-feminist books extolling the importance of mothers and housewives despite the fact that she remained single and worked outside the home
15. **Robert Owen:** British industrialist and activist who owned textile factories at the height of the Industrial Revolution but invested most of his money into an experimental socialist community in New Harmony, Indiana

Questions for Research Notes

Directions: Please use your secondary sources to answer each of the questions below. Each of the five sources must be used at least once. Each question has a minimum number of statements you need to write in the form of a “bullet point.” Each bullet point does not need to be a complete sentence. However, each should be a minimum of five words, and your average bullet point should be at least eight words. Next to each bullet point, write the AUTHOR of your source (or the name of the Encyclopedia if it's an unsigned encyclopedia article) and the PAGE NUMBER you used to provide that specific bullet point. All information from secondary sources should be paraphrased/summarized in your own words rather than directly quoted. You may, however, include primary source quotations that you find within the secondary sources – in that case, make sure to include the name of the person who said it and anything else you know about the context in which the original quote was uttered.

Question 1: What was your subject's full name? (1 bullet point)

Question 2: When and where were they born? (2 bullet points)

Question 3: What was their mother's name and background? (3 bullet points)

Question 4: What was their father's name and background? (3 bullet points)

Question 5: If they were married, what was their spouse's name and background? Why did they get married? Repeat as necessary if there were multiple spouses (3 bullet points per spouse)

Question 6: What jobs did they have? How long did they work in each job? (at least 2 jobs if applicable; at least 2 bullet points per job)

Question 7: What was one of your person's most impactful actions? Can be positive, negative, or both. (3 bullet points)

Question 8: What was another of your person's most impactful actions? Can be positive, negative, or both. (3 bullet points)

Question 9: Which revolution was your person part of? What do we have to know about that revolution in the big picture to understand your person's life and career, especially at the moment they created your primary source? (6 bullet points)

Question 10: What was going on in your person's life at the moment they created your primary source? (4 bullet points)

Question 11: What can you learn from secondary sources about your person's motivations for creating the source you were assigned? (4 bullet points)

Question 12: What can you learn about the intended audience of the source you were assigned? (4 bullet points)

Question 13: What can you learn about how people (including the intended audience or any other audience) reacted to the source you were assigned? (4 bullet points)

Question 14: When and where did your person die? (2 bullet points)

Question 15: What was their cause of death? (1 bullet point)

Question 16: What is the answer to one of the questions you posed on your first worksheet that you did not answer in one of the questions above? (1 bullet point for your question, 2 bullet points for the answer)

Question 17: What is the answer to another of the questions you posed on your first worksheet that you did not answer in one of the questions above? (1 bullet point for your question, 2 bullet points for the answer)

INDIVIDUALLY ASSIGNED PRIMARY SOURCES FOR RESEARCH PROJECT

Marquis de Lafayette to Johann Wilhem von Archenholz

Magdebourg, 27th March, 1793

Since my captivity, sir, only one piece of political news has reached me, and this your No. of February. You will admit that when fortune favors me with such kindness she could not have done more; I have enjoyed with profound satisfaction the justice you do to my feeling and the appreciation you express for my conduct. Your praise is incomparably beyond my deserts, but this kind exaggeration at the present time is so generous that I can but thank you for having enabled me to hear the voice of liberty honoring my tomb.

My situation is truly strange. I had sacrificed my republican inclinations to circumstances and to the will of the Nation; I served its sovereignty in the constitution which sprung from it; my popularity was great, the legislative corps protected me better the 8th of August than it protected

itself, but I had displeased the Jacobins by blaming their aristocracy which usurped to itself the legitimate authority; the priests of all classes, by asserting religious liberty in opposition to them all; the anarchists, by repressing them; the conspirators, by refusing their offers; such were the enemies who united with those whom foreign powers, the anti-revolutionists, and even the court, subsidized against me.

Remember, sir, the premeditated agitation of the 10th of August ; the force called out in the name of the law murdered in the name of the people; the citizens without distinction of age or sex massacred in the streets, thrown into the flames, dragged to prison and there assassinated in cold blood, the king's life only saved by his illegal suspension; the national guard disarmed; the earliest and most faithful friends of liberty and equality, among whom la Rochefoucauld, denounced to the murderers; the constitutional act converted into an engine of proscription; the press chained; opinion punished by death; letters violated and falsified; juries replaced by cutthroats, and the courts of justice given to their chief; the administrative and municipal corps at Paris broken up and reconstructed by a riot; the National Assembly compelled, the dagger at its throat, to give sanction to this madness; in a word, natural, civil, religious and political liberty stifled in blood — what could the man think or do who had never drawn breath except for it, who first in Europe had proclaimed the declaration of rights, had pronounced on the altar of the federation in the name of all Frenchmen the civic oath, and who looked then upon the constitution as, notwithstanding its defects, the best rallying point against our enemies ?

Although the national sovereignty was violated in the formation of the new representative body, as well as in the special commissions appointed, I was not willing that the army should fail in its obedience, and it was of the civil authorities within reach of the camp that I asked for orders; assuredly, I eagerly desired that a general protest should reestablish public liberty, that of constituted authority; and if while assuring the independence of elections and deliberations, the nation had desired to revise the lots against the revolution, mingled with those vile, bloodthirsty wretches who have so often defiled it; what chiefs are those for a free nation! May its legislators restore to it a constitution and legal order! May its generals prove incorruptible! If, however, after the convulsions of license there yet exist a spot where liberty still struggles, how I should curse my chains! I have abandoned all thought of living with my countrymen, but not of dying for them; but is it possible to escape from so many barriers, guards and chains? Why not? already a toothpick, a little lampblack, a scrap of paper, have deceived my jailers; already, at the peril of life, this letter shall have been carried to you; it is true that to the danger of getting out are to be added those of the voyage and delay. From Constantinople to Lisbon, from Kamchatka to Amsterdam (for I am not on good terms with the House of Orange) every Bastille awaits me. The Huron and Iroquois forests are peopled with my friends; the despots of Europe and their courts, these to me are the savages. Although at St. James I am not loved, there at least is a nation and laws, but I would avoid a country at war with my own. America, the country of my heart, would receive me with joy, yet my solicitude for news from France would incline me to Switzerland for a while.

But I have dwelt too much on this idea; instead of my thanks I have written a long letter, and I pray of you, sir, to receive with my adieu the expression of my gratitude and of my attachment.

Lafayette

Mary Wollstonecraft, Excerpt from *Letters Written during a Short Residence in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark* (1796)

LETTER VI.

As the Norwegians do not frequently see travellers, they are very curious to know their business, and who they are—so curious, that I was half tempted to adopt Dr. Franklin's plan, when travelling in America, where they are equally prying, which was to write on a paper, for public inspection, my name, from whence I came, where I was going, and what was my business. But if I were importuned by their curiosity, their friendly gestures gratified me. A woman coming alone interested them. And I know not whether my weariness gave me a look of peculiar delicacy, but they approached to assist me, and inquire after my wants, as if they were afraid to hurt, and wished to protect me. The sympathy I inspired, thus dropping down from the clouds in a strange land, affected me more than it would have done had not my spirits been harassed by various causes—by much thinking—musing almost to madness—and even by a sort of weak melancholy that hung about my heart at parting with my daughter for the first time.

You know that, as a female, I am particularly attached to her; I feel more than a mother's fondness and anxiety when I reflect on the dependent and oppressed state of her sex. I dread lest she should be forced to sacrifice her heart to her principles, or principles to her heart. With trembling hand I shall cultivate sensibility and cherish delicacy of sentiment, lest, whilst I lend fresh blushes to the rose, I sharpen the thorns that will wound the breast I would fain guard; I dread to unfold her mind, lest it should render her unfit for the world she is to inhabit. Hapless woman! what a fate is thine!

But whither am I wandering? I only meant to tell you that the impression the kindness of the simple people made visible on my countenance increased my sensibility to a painful degree. I wished to have had a room to myself, for their attention, and rather distressing observation, embarrassed me extremely. Yet, as they would bring me eggs, and make my coffee, I found I could not leave them without hurting their feelings of hospitality.

It is customary here for the host and hostess to welcome their guests as master and mistress of the house.

My clothes, in their turn, attracted the attention of the females, and I could not help thinking of the foolish vanity which makes many women so proud of the observation of strangers as to take wonder very gratuitously for admiration. This error they are very apt to fall into when, arrived in a foreign country, the populace stare at them as they pass. Yet the make of a cap or the singularity of a gown is often the cause of the flattering attention which afterwards supports a fantastic superstructure of self-conceit...

I never endured a winter in this rude clime, consequently it was not the contrast, but the real beauty of the season which made the present summer appear to me the finest I had ever seen. Sheltered from the north and eastern winds, nothing can exceed the salubrity, the soft freshness of the western gales. In the evening they also die away; the aspen leaves tremble into stillness, and reposing nature seems to be warmed by the moon, which here assumes a genial aspect. And if a light shower has chanced to fall with the sun, the juniper, the underwood of the forest, exhales a wild perfume, mixed with a thousand nameless sweets that, soothing the heart, leave images in the memory which the imagination will ever hold dear.

Nature is the nurse of sentiment, the true source of taste; yet what misery, as well as rapture, is produced by a quick perception of the beautiful and sublime when it is exercised in observing animated nature, when every beauteous feeling and emotion excites responsive sympathy, and the

harmonised soul sinks into melancholy or rises to ecstasy, just as the chords are touched, like the Æolian harp agitated by the changing wind. But how dangerous is it to foster these sentiments in such an imperfect state of existence, and how difficult to eradicate them when an affection for mankind, a passion for an individual, is but the unfolding of that love which embraces all that is great and beautiful!

When a warm heart has received strong impressions, they are not to be effaced. Emotions become sentiments, and the imagination renders even transient sensations permanent by fondly retracing them. I cannot, without a thrill of delight, recollect views I have seen, which are not to be forgotten, nor looks I have felt in every nerve, which I shall never more meet. The grave has closed over a dear friend, the friend of my youth. Still she is present with me, and I hear her soft voice warbling as I stray over the heath. Fate has separated me from another, the fire of whose eyes, tempered by infantine tenderness, still warms my breast; even when gazing on these tremendous cliffs sublime emotions absorb my soul. And, smile not, if I add that the rosy tint of morning reminds me of a suffusion which will never more charm my senses, unless it reappears on the cheeks of my child. Her sweet blushes I may yet hide in my bosom, and she is still too young to ask why starts the tear so near akin to pleasure and pain.

I cannot write any more at present. To-morrow we will talk of Tonsberg.

Louis XVI, "Declaration of the King Addressed to All the French About His Flight from Paris," (June 21, 1791)

As long as the king could hope to see order and the welfare of the kingdom rise again through the means employed by the National Assembly, and by his residence near that assembly in the capital of the kingdom, no personal sacrifice was too expensive; he would not even have asserted the nullity with which all proceedings since the month of October, 1789, are involved, owing to his complete lack of liberty, if that hope had been fulfilled; but today when the only recompense for so many sacrifices is to see the destruction of the monarchy, all authority held in contempt, property violated, the security of person everywhere placed in danger, crimes remaining unpunished, and a complete anarchy established above the laws, without even the prospect that the authority which the new constitution gives him will be sufficient to repair even one of the evils which afflict the kingdom; the king, after having solemnly protested against all the acts emanating from him during his captivity, believes that he ought to put before the eyes of the French and all the world a picture of his conduct and that of the government which is established in the kingdom...

But the more the king made sacrifices for the welfare of his people, the more the factious labored to depreciate the value thereof, and to represent the monarchy under the most false and odious colors...

The time when the States-General, assuming the name of the National Assembly, began to busy itself with the constitution of the kingdom, calls to mind the memoirs which the factious were cunning enough to cause to be sent from several provinces and the movements of Paris to cause the deputies to disregard one of the principal clauses contained in all their *cabiers*, which provided that *the making of the laws should be done in concert with the king*. In defiance of that clause, the assembly put the king entirely outside the constitution, in refusing to him the right to grant or to withhold his sanction to the articles which it regarded as constitutional, while reserving to itself the right to reckon in that class those which it thought belonged there, and by restraining for those regarded as

purely legislative the royal prerogative to a right of suspension until the third legislature; a purely illusory right, as so many examples prove only too fully.

What remains to the king, beyond the vain similitude of royal power? . . .

The king does not think that it would be possible to govern a kingdom of so great extent and importance as France through the means established by the National Assembly, as they exist at present. His Majesty, in granting to all the decrees without distinction the sanction, which he well knew could not be refused, was induced thereto by the desire to avoid all discussion, which experience had shown to be at least useless; he feared, moreover, that it would be thought he desired to retard or to bring about the failure of the labors of the National Assembly, to whose success the nation attached so great an interest; he put his confidence in the wise men of that assembly. . . .

But the nearer we see the assembly approach the end of its labors, the more we see the wise men lose their credit, the more we see increased measures which make difficult or even impossible the carrying on of the government and create for it lack of confidence and disfavor; other regulations, instead of applying balm to the wounds which still bleed in many provinces only increase the uneasiness and provoke discontent...

Love for their kings is one of the virtues of the French, and His Majesty has received personally too many proofs thereof to be able ever to forget them. The factious know well that as long as this love abides, their work can never achieve success; they know, likewise, that in order to enfeeble that it is necessary, if it be possible, to destroy the respect which has always accompanied it; and that is the source of the outrages which the king has received during the past two years, and of all the evils which he has suffered. His Majesty would not trace here the distressing picture of them, if he did not desire to make known to his faithful subjects the spirit of these factions who rend the bosom of the fatherland, while feigning to wish its regeneration. . . .

In view of all these reasons and the impossibility for the king, from the position in which he is placed, effecting the good and preventing the evil which is perpetrated, is it astonishing that the king has sought to recover his liberty and to put himself and his family in safety?

Frenchmen, and especially Parisians, you inhabitants of a city which the ancestors of His Majesty were pleased to call the good city of Paris, distrust the suggestions and lies of your false friends; return to your king; he will always be your father, your best friend: what pleasure will he not take in forgetting all his personal injuries, and in beholding himself again in the midst of you, when a constitution, which he shall have freely accepted, shall cause your religion to be respected, the government to be established upon a firm footing and made useful by its operation, the property and status of each person no longer disturbed, the laws no longer violated with impunity, and, finally, liberty founded upon firm and immovable foundations.

Signed,
LOUIS.

Napoleon Bonaparte, "Proclamation of Napoleon, March 1, 1815"

Frenchmen, the defection of the Duke of Castiglione delivered Lyon without defense to our enemies; the army, of which I had confided to him the command, was, by the number of its battalions, and the bravery and patriotism of the troops who composed it, in a condition to fight the

Austrian army which was opposing it and to reach the rear of the left flank of the hostile army which was threatening Paris.

The victories of Champ-Aubert, Montmirail, Château-Thierry, Vauchamp, Mormans, Montereau, Craone, Reims, Arcy-sur-Aube and Saint-Dizier, the insurrection of the brave peasants of Lorraine, Champagne, Alsace, Franche-Comté and Bourgogne, and the position which I had taken at the rear of the hostile army, separating it from its magazines, its reserve parks, its convoys and all its equipment, had placed it in a desperate position. Frenchmen were never at the point of being more powerful, and the flower of the hostile army was lost beyond recovery; it would have found its grave in those vast countries which it had so pitilessly plundered, but that the treason of the Duke of Raguse gave up the capital and disorganized the army. The unexpected conduct of these two generals, who betrayed at one and the same time their fatherland, their prince and their benefactor, changed the destiny of the war. The disastrous situation of the enemy was such, that at the end of the affair which took place before Paris, they were without ammunition, through separation from their reserve parks.

Under these new and difficult circumstances my heart was torn, but my soul remained steadfast. I only thought of the interest of the fatherland; I exiled myself upon a rock in the midst of the sea; my life was and must still be useful to you. I did not allow the greater part of those who wished to accompany me to share my lot; I thought their presence was useful in France, and I only took with me a handful of valiant men as my guard.

Raised to the throne by your choice, everything that has been done without you is illegitimate. During the last twenty-five years, France has acquired new interests, new institutions, and a new glory, which can only be guaranteed by a national government and by a dynasty born under these new circumstances. A prince who should reign over you, who should be seated upon my throne by the power of the very armies who have devastated our territory, would seek in vain to support himself by the principles of feudal rights and he could only assure the honor and the rights of a small number of individuals, enemies of the people, who, for twenty-five years past, have condemned them in our national assemblies. Your internal peace and your foreign prestige would be forever lost.

Frenchmen! In my exile I have heard your complaints and your desires: you were claiming that government of your choice, which alone is legitimate. You were complaining of my long sleep, you reproached me with sacrificing to my own repose the great interests of the fatherland.

I have crossed the seas in the midst of perils of every sort; I arrive among you in order to reclaim my rights, which are yours. Everything which individuals have done, written or said since the taking of Paris, I will forever ignore; that will not in the least influence the recollection which I have of the important services that they have rendered; for there are events of such a nature that they are beyond human organization.

Frenchmen! There is no nation, however small it may be, which has not had the right to withdraw and which may not be withdrawn from the dishonor of obeying a prince imposed upon it by a momentarily victorious enemy. When Charles VII re-entered Paris and overthrew the ephemeral throne of Henry VI he recognized that he held his throne by the bravery of his soldiers and not from a prince regent of England.

It is therefore to you alone; and to the brave men of the army, that I consider and shall always consider it glorious to owe everything.

[Signed] NAPOLEON

Marie Antoinette, Letter to Madame Elisabeth, October 16, 1793

16th October, 4.30 A.M.

It is to you, my sister, that I write for the last time. I have just been condemned, not to a shameful death, for such is only for criminals, but to go and rejoin your brother. Innocent like him, I hope to show the same firmness in my last moments. I am calm, as one is when one's conscience reproaches one with nothing. I feel profound sorrow in leaving my poor children: you know that I only lived for them and for you, my good and tender sister. You who out of love have sacrificed everything to be with us, in what a position do I leave you! I have learned from the proceedings at my trial that my daughter was separated from you. Alas! poor child; I do not venture to write to her; she would not receive my letter. I do not even know whether this will reach you. Do you receive my blessing for both of them. I hope that one day when they are older they may be able to rejoin you, and to enjoy to the full your tender care. Let them both think of the lesson which I have never ceased to impress upon them, that the principles and the exact performance of their duties are the chief foundation of life; and then mutual affection and confidence in one another will constitute its happiness. Let my daughter feel that at her age she ought always to aid her brother by the advice which her greater experience and her affection may inspire her to give him. And let my son in his turn render to his sister all the care and all the services which affection can inspire. Let them, in short, both feel that, in whatever positions they may be placed, they will never be truly happy but through their union. Let them follow our example. In our own misfortunes how much comfort has our affection for one another afforded us! And, in times of happiness, we have enjoyed that doubly from being able to share it with a friend; and where can one find friends more tender and more united than in one's own family? Let my son never forget the last words of his father, which I repeat emphatically; let him never seek to avenge our deaths.

I have to speak to you of one thing which is very painful to my heart, I know how much pain the child must have caused you. Forgive him, my dear sister; think of his age, and how easy it is to make a child say whatever one wishes, especially when he does not understand it. It will come to pass one day, I hope, that he will better feel the value of your kindness and of your tender affection for both of them. It remains to confide to you my last thoughts. I should have wished to write them at the beginning of my trial; but, besides that they did not leave me any means of writing, events have passed so rapidly that I really have not had time.

I die in the Catholic Apostolic and Roman religion, that of my fathers, that in which I was brought up, and which I have always professed. Having no spiritual consolation to look for, not even knowing whether there are still in this place any priests of that religion (and indeed the place where I am would expose them to too much danger if they were to enter it but once), I sincerely implore pardon of God for all the faults which I may have committed during my life. I trust that, in His goodness, He will mercifully accept my last prayers, as well as those which I have for a long time addressed to Him, to receive my soul into His mercy. I beg pardon of all whom I know, and

especially of you, my sister, for all the vexations which, without intending it, I may have caused you. I pardon all my enemies the evils that they have done me. I bid farewell to my aunts and to all my brothers and sisters. I had friends. The idea of being forever separated from them and from all their troubles is one of the greatest sorrows that I suffer in dying. Let them at least know that to my latest moment I thought of them.

Farewell, my good and tender sister. May this letter reach you. Think always of me; I embrace you with all my heart, as I do my poor dear children. My God, how heart-rending it is to leave them forever! Farewell! farewell! I must now occupy myself with my spiritual duties, as I am not free in my actions. Perhaps they will bring me a priest; but I here protest that I will not say a word to him, but that I will treat him as a total stranger.

Klemens von Metternich to King Frederick William IV of Prussia (letter), Vienna, June 11, 1840

Providence has now called Your Majesty to the high burden of the throne, to which Your Highness was born! You will be equal to the task; you have already won universal trust, and you will also know how to justify it. It is not Your Majesty that I congratulate on the assumption of the throne; it is your realm that deserves this felicitation.

If governing is a task that is difficult to accomplish at any time, it is all the more true in times like ours. Your Majesty knows what I mean by governing, and I entertain the sure conviction that the views and feelings of your mind and your heart are in complete harmony with those of mine.

Your Highness knows the faithful reverence that I showed to the king who has now become immortal; he never doubted me, just as I always relied on him. The task of my ministry for more than thirty years was to bind Austria and Prussia intimately together as the true center of the salvation of our world. My sense tells me that I accomplished this task to the best of my ability. Now this legacy, too, shall pass to Your Majesty, and I know what you thought about its importance years ago. May Your Highness accept the assurance that this knowledge gives me a strength that I honor for all it is worth.

May Your Majesty graciously deign to permit me to remain henceforth towards Your Highness on a footing on which the immortal monarch allowed me to express my views freely! Austria and Prussia have been called to be the sustaining powers with respect to both Europe and Germany. They must get along, for that it is the only way in which great dangers can be mitigated. As long as the heart is healthy, there is hope for life, and in Europe these two realms assume the place of the heart.

May Your Highness deign graciously to accept this outpouring in a moment of heavy burden, and to permit the tribute of deep reverence with which I remain

Your Majesty's humbly obedient
Prince Metternich

Eli Whitney, Jr. to his Father, 11 September 1793.

Eli Whitney to Eli Whitney, Senr

New Haven, Sept. 11th, 1793.

Dear Parent,

I received your letter of the 16th of August with peculiar satisfaction and delight. It gave me no small pleasure to hear of your health and was very happy to be informed that your health and that of the family has been so good since I saw you. I presume, sir, you are desirous to hear how I have spent my time since I left College. This I conceive you have a right to know and that it is my duty to inform you and should have done it before this time; but I thought I could do it better by verbal communication than by writing, and expecting to see you soon, I omitted it. As I now have a safe and direct opportunity to send by Mr. Robinson, I will give you a summary account of my southern expedition.

I went from N. York with the family of the late Major General Greene to Georgia. I went immediately with the family to their Plantation about twelve miles from Savannah with an expectation of spending four or five days and then proceed into Carolina to take the school as I have mentioned in former letters. During this time I heard much said of the extreme difficulty in ginning Cotton, that is, separating it from its seeds. There were a number of very respectable Gentlemen at Mrs. Greene's who all agreed that if a machine could be invented which would clean the cotton with expedition, it would be a great thing both to the Country and to the inventor. I involuntarily happened to be thinking on the subject and struck out a plan of a Machine in my mind, which I communicated to Miller, (who is agent to the Executors of Genl. Greene and resides in the family, a man of respectability and property) he was pleased with the Plan and said if I would pursue it and try an experiment to see if it would answer, he would be at the whole expense, I should loose nothing but my time, and if I succeeded we would share the profits. Previous to this I found I was like[ly] to be disappointed in my school, that is, instead of a hundred, I found I could get only fifty Guineas a year. I however held the refusal of the school untill I tried some experiments. In about ten Days I made a little model, for which I was offered, if I would give up all right and title to it, a Hundred Guineas. I concluded to relinquish my school and turn my attention to perfecting the Machine. I made one before I came away which required the labor of one man to turn it and with which one man will clean ten times as much cotton as he can in any other way before known and also cleanse it much better than in the usual mode. This machine may be turned by water or with a horse, with the greatest ease, and one may and a horse will do more than fifty men with the old machine. It makes the labor fifty times less, without throwing any class of People out of business.

I returned to the Northward for the purpose of having a machine made on a large scale and obtaining a patent for the invention. I went to Philadelphia soon after I arrived, made myself acquainted with the steps necessary to obtain a Patent, took several of the steps with Secretary of State Mr. Jefferson agreed to send the Patent to me as soon as it could be made out—so that I apprehended no difficulty in obtaining the Patent—Since I have been here I have employed several workmen in making machines and as soon as my business is such that I can leave it a few days, I shall come to Westboro'. I think it is probable I shall go to Philadelphia again before I come to Westboro', and when I do come I shall be able to stay but few days. I am certain I can obtain a patent in England. As soon as I have got a Patent in America, I shall go with the machine which I am not making, to Georgia, where I shall stay a few weeks to see it at work. From thence I expect to go to England, where I shall probably continue two or three years. How advantageous this business will eventually prove to me, I cannot say. It is generally said by those who know anything about it, that I shall make a Fortune by it. I have not expectation that I shall make an independent

fortune by it, but think I had better pursue it than any other business into which I can enter. Something which cannot be foreseen may frustrate my expectations and defeat my Plan; but I am now so sure of success that ten thousand dollars, if I saw the money counted out to me, would not tempt me to give up my right and relinquish the object. I wish you, sir, not to show this letter not communicate anything of its contents to any body except My Brothers and Sister, *enjoining* it on them to keep the whole a *profound secret*.

Mr. Robinson came into town yesterday and goes out tomorrow, this has been such a bustling time that I have not had opportunity to say six words to him. I have told him nothing of my business—perhaps he will hear something about it from some body else in town. But only two or three of my friends know what I am about tho' there are many surmises in town—if Mr. Robinson says anything about it, you can tell him I wrote you concerning it, but wished not to have it mentioned. I have been considerably out of health since I wrote you last; but now feel tolerably well. I should write to my Brothers and Sister but fear I shall not have time—hope they will accept my good wishes for their happiness and excuse me.

With respects to Mama I am,
kind Parent, your most obt. Son
Eli Whitney, Junr.

Tecumseh, Address to William Henry Harrison (1810)

Houses are built for you to hold councils in. Indians hold theirs in the open air. I am a Shawnee. My forefathers were warriors. Their son is a warrior. From them I take my only existence. From my tribe I take nothing. I have made myself what I am. And I would that I could make the red people as great as the conceptions of my own mind, when I think of the Great Spirit that rules over us all. I would not then come to Governor Harrison to ask him to tear up the treaty [the 1795 Treaty of Greenville, which gave the United States parts of the Northwest Territory].

But I would say to him, "Brother, you have the liberty to return to your own country." You wish to prevent the Indians from doing as we wish them, to unite and let them consider their lands as a common property of the whole. You take the tribes aside and advise them not to come into this measure. You want by your distinctions of Indian tribes, in allotting to each a particular, to make them war with each other. You never see an Indian endeavor to make the white people do this. You are continually driving the red people, when at last you will drive them into the great lake [Lake Michigan], where they can neither stand nor work.

Since my residence at Tippecanoe, we have endeavored to level all distinctions, to destroy village chiefs, by whom all mischiefs are done. It is they who sell their land to the Americans. Brother, this land that was sold, and the goods that was [sic] given for it, was only done by a few. In the future we are prepared to punish those who propose to sell land to the Americans. If you continue to purchase them, it will make war among the different tribes, and, at last I do not know what will be the consequences among the white people.

Brother, I wish you would take pity on the red people and do as I have requested. If you will not give up the land and do cross the boundary of our present settlement, it will be vary hard and produce great trouble between us.

The way, the only way to stop this evil, is for the red people to unite in claiming a common and equal right in the land, as it was at first, and should be now -- for it was never divided, but belongs to all.

No tribe has the right to sell, even to each other, much less to strangers.

Sell a country?! Why not sell the air, the great sea, as well as the earth? Did not the Great Spirit make them all for the use of his children?

How can we have confidence in the white people? We have good and just reasons to believe we have ample grounds to accuse the Americans of injustice, especially when such great acts of injustice have been committed by them upon our race, of which they seem to have no manner of regard, or even to reflect. When Jesus Christ came upon the earth you killed him and nailed him to the cross. You thought he was dead, and you were mistaken. You have the Shakers among you, and you laugh and make light of their worship. Everything I have told you is the truth. The Great Spirit has inspired me.

Olympe de Gouges, excerpt from "Political Testament of Olympe de Gouges" (1793)

Oh divine providence! You who have always guided my steps, I invoke you and you alone: men are no longer capable of hearing my words. Take charge of my life; hasten its end. My tired eyes can no longer bear the horror of seeing the sad dissension of men, of witnessing their criminal intrigue. If I must die by the sword of the counterrevolutionaries on all sides then inspire my last moments and fill me with the courage and strength to confound the wicked and serve once more, if I can, my country, before my last hour! You who from a distance prepares revolutions and destroys tyrants! You whose penetrating gaze scrutinizes the depths of the murkiest consciences; it is time to strike and unveil this drawn-out and mysterious iniquity; crime is at its height. Or, if you need the pure and spotless blood of a few innocent victims to bring forward your days of terrible retribution, add to this great campaign the blood of a woman. You know whether I have ever sought a glorious death!

Glad to have been the first woman to serve the cause of the people; glad to have sacrificed my fortune to the triumph of liberty; glad to have ultimately given, through my son, a true defender of the Motherland, I only sought a quiet obscure retirement; the philosopher's retreat, a worthy and tender reward for virtue! Given that my writings, my efforts to recall men to the dearest and touching fraternity that alone could save the motherland, were powerless I wept in silence for a son who had spilt his blood on the country's borders on its behalf; by a miracle that only you, oh providence, could control, my son was returned to me. Pulled out from under the bodies and horses of the enemy, this son in the French army, believed to have been sacrificed thanks to his burning civic duty, carried among the dead to a hospital and effaced, in a word, from the list of survivors, stripped of everything by his enemies, flies to Paris to find his mother and seek further employment. I had fled the capital seeking only to remain secluded and unknown in the countryside where I had planned to live. On hearing that the heavens have given me back my son, and that he is in Paris, destiny, that it would be useless for me to obstruct, takes me back within the city walls where, no doubt, an end awaits me that befits my perseverance and my arduous labour...

My son, the world's riches, the universe prostrate at my feet, the daggers of every assassin raised above my head, nothing could put out the civic ardour that burns in my soul, nothing could make me betray my own conscience. What have you done, men led astray by delirious passions, what

incalculable harm have you piled up on Paris, on the whole of France? It is said that you risked all for all; you flattered yourselves into believing that in order to save the commonwealth a great proscription was all that was needed; that the départements, suffused in terror, would blindly adopt your horrible measures. If you are right and thirty-two victims can extinguish all hatred and passion, if they can make the foreign powers declare the republic independent and destroy the army of the counterrevolutionaries, then hurry up and make their blood flow on the scaffolds and I'll offer you an extra victim...

But if, by one last effort, I can yet save the commonwealth, I want those who sacrifice me to envy my fate even as they immolate me. And if French women, one day, are designated by posterity, maybe I will be remembered as the equal of Roman women. I have planned it all, I know that my death is inevitable; but, when an ignominious death threatens all good citizens, how glorious and beautiful it is for a noble soul to perish for her dying motherland...

How is it possible to vehemently preach what one does not believe? How can one so audaciously mislead the people by blaming others for the effects of one's own crimes? If these men dominate that will be the end of liberty and equality. Our dissension is allowing tyranny to advance with giant strides. Citizens! You can take my life but, despite yourselves, you will remember my predictions and my civic virtue.

Now I must enumerate my bequests, to which society may not be altogether indifferent, and in which I will allow myself a little of that gaiety that I have always included in affairs that are important to me.

I leave my heart to my country, my probity to men (they need it). My soul to women, not an indifferent gift; my creative genius to playwrights, they are sure to find it useful, especially my theatrical logic to the distinguished Chesnier [sic]; my compassion to the ruthless, my philosophy to the persecuted, my spirit to the fanatics, my religion to the atheists, my guileless gaiety to women past their prime, and all the sad debris of an honest fortune to my natural heir, my son, if he survives me...

Oh French, here are my last words, heed me in this piece and look into the depths of your hearts: can you find there the serious virtue and compassion of republicans? Respond: who loves and serves the motherland the best, you or I? Nearly all of you are of bad faith. You want neither liberty nor perfect equality. Ambition devours you and the vulture that ceaselessly gnaws and tears at you drives you to the heights of excess. Amiable people, you are too aged, your reign is over unless you can halt it on the edge of the abyss. You were at you greatest, your most sublime, when you kept a majestic calm in the midst of the agitators' recent sanguinary tempests. Keep in mind that the same traps can be laid again but that if you can maintain your calm and august watchfulness you will save Paris, the whole of France and the republican government.

Jean-Jacques Dessalines, "Liberty or Death," 1804

"Liberty or Death. Proclamation. Jean Jacques Dessalines" Connecticut Herald, New Haven Connecticut, 12 June 1804, Volume: I; Issue: 33; Page: 2.

LIBERTY OR DEATH
PROCLAMATION
JEAN JACQUES DESSALINES,

Governor-General, to the Inhabitants of Hayti

CRIMES, the most atrocious [*sic*], such as were until then unheard of, and would cause nature to shudder, have been perpetrated. The measure was overheaped. At length the hour of vengeance has arrived, and the implacable enemies of the rights of man have suffered the punishment due to their crimes.

My arm, raised over their heads, has too long delayed to strike. At that signal, which the justice of God has urged, your hands, righteously armed, have brought the axe upon the ancient tree of slavery and prejudices. In vain had time, and more especially the infernal politics of Europeans, surrounded it with triple brass; you have stripped it of its armour; you have placed it upon your hearts, that you may become (like your natural enemies) cruel and merciless. Like an overflowing might torrent that tears down all opposition, your vengeful fury has carried away every thing in its impetuous course. Thus perish all tyrants over innocence, all oppressors of mankind!

What then? bent for many ages under an iron yoke; the sport of the passions of men, of their injustice, and of the caprice of fortune; mutilated victims of the cupidity of white Frenchmen? after having fattened with out toils these insatiate blood-suckers, with a patience and resignation unexampled, we should again have seen that sacrilegious horde make an attempt upon our destruction, without any distinction of sex or age; and we, men without energy, of no virtue, or no delicate sensibility, should not we have plunged in their breast the dagger of desperation? – Where is that vile Haytian, so unworthy of his regeneration, who thinks he has not accomplished the decrees of the Eternal, by exterminating these bloody thirsty tigers! If there is one, let him fly; indignant nature discards him from our bosom; let him thirsty his shame far from hence; the air we breathe is not suited to his gross organs; it is the pure air of Liberty, august and triumphant.

Yes, we have rendered to these true cannibals war for war, crime for crime, courage for courage [should be “outrage for outrage”]; Yes, I have saved my country – I have avenged America. The avowal I make of it in the face of earth and heaven, constitutes my pride and my glory. – Of what consequence to me is the opinion which contemporary and future generations will pronounce upon my conduct? I have performed my duty; I enjoy my own approbation; for me that is sufficient...

Blacks and Yellows, whom the refined duplicity of Europeans has for a long time endeavoured to divide; you, who are now consolidated, and make but one family; without doubt it was necessary that our perfect reconciliation should be sealed with the blood of your butchers. Similar calamities have hung over your proscribed heads; a similar ardour to strike your enemies has signaled you: the like fate is reserved for you, and the like interest must therefore render you for ever one, indivisible and inseparable. Maintain the precious concord, that happy harmony amongst yourselves; it is the pledge of your happiness, your salvation, and your success: it is the secret of being invincible. It is necessary, in order to strengthen these ties, to recal [*sic*] to your remembrance the catalogue of atrocities [*sic*] committed against our species: the massacre of the entire population of this Island, mediated in the silence and sang froid of the cabinet: the execution of that abominable project, to me unblushingly proposed, and already begun by the French with the calmness and serenity of a countenance accustomed to similar crimes...

Sooner or later Divine Justice will unchain on earth some mighty winds, above the weakness of the vulgar, for the destruction and terror of the wicked; tremble, tyrants, usurpers, scourges of the new

world! our daggers are sharpened; your punishment is ready! sixty thousand men, equipped, inured to war, obedient to my orders, burn to offer a new sacrifice to the manes of their assassinated brothers. Let that nation come who may be mad and daring enough to attack me...I wait for them with firmness and with a steady eye. I abandon to them freely the sea-shore, and the places where cities have existed; but woe to those who may approach too near the mountains! It were better for them that the sea received them into its profound abyss, than to be devoured by the anger of the children of Hayti.

“*War and Death to Tyrants!*” this is my motto;
“*Liberty! Independence!*” this is our rallying cry

Generals, officers, soldiers, a little unlike him who has preceded me, the ex-general TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE, I have been faithful to the promise which I made to you when I took up arms against tyranny, and whilst the last spark of life remains in me I shall keep my oath. *Never again shall a colonist or an European set his foot upon this territory with the title of master or proprietor.* This resolution shall henceforward form the fundamental basis of our constitution...

The Governor-General
(Signed) DESSALINES
A true Copy. *The Sec'y-General*
JUSTE CHANLATTE

Charles Babbage, Excerpt from *A Letter to Sir Humphry Davy, Bart., President of the Royal Society, Etc. Etc., on the Application of Machinery to the Purpose of Calculating and Printing Mathematical Tables, from Charles Babbage, Esq. M.A. (A Letter to Sir Humphrey Davy for short).* (1822)

A Letter to Sir Humphrey Davy, President of the Royal Society

My Dear Sir,

The great interest you have expressed in the success of that system of contrivances which has lately occupied a considerable portion of my attention, induces me to adopt this channel for stating more generally the principles on which they proceed, and for pointing out the probable extent and important consequences to which they appear to lead. Acquainted as you were with this inquiry almost from its commencement, much of what I have now to say cannot fail to have occurred to your own mind: you will however permit me to re-state it for the consideration of those with whom the principles and the machinery are less familiar.

The intolerable labour and fatiguing monotony of a continued repetition of similar arithmetical calculations, first excited the desire, and afterwards suggested the idea, of a machine, which, by the aid of gravity or any other moving power, should become a substitute for one of the lowest operations of human intellect. It is not my intention in the present Letter to trace the progress of this idea, or the means which I have adopted for its execution; but I propose stating some of their general applications, and shall commence with describing the powers of several engines which I have contrived: of that part which is already executed I shall speak more in the sequel.

The first engine of which drawings were made was one which is capable of computing any table by the aid of differences, whether they are positive or negative, or of both kinds. With respect to the number of the order of differences, the nature of the machinery did not in my own opinion, nor in that of a skilful [sic] mechanic whom I consulted, appear to be restricted to any very limited number; and I should venture to construct one with ten or a dozen others with perfect confidence. One remarkable property of this machine is, that the greater the number of differences the more the engine will outstrip the most rapid calculator.

By the application of certain parts of no great degree of complexity, this may be converted into a machine for extracting the roots of equations, and consequently the roots of numbers: and the extent of the approximation depends on the magnitude of the machine.

Of a machine for multiplying any number of figures (m) by any other number (n) I have several sketches; but it is not yet brought to that degree of perfection which I should wish to give it before it is to be executed.

I have also certain principles by which, if it should be desirable, a table of prime numbers might be made, extending from 0 to ten millions.

Another machine, whose plans are much more advanced than several of those just named, is one for constructing tables which have no order of differences constant.

A vast variety of equations of finite differences may by its means be solved, and a variety of tables, which could be produced in successive parts by the first machine I have mentioned, could be calculated by the latter one with a still less exertion of human thought. Another and very remarkable point in the structure of this machine is, that it will calculate tables governed by laws which have not been hitherto shown to be explicitly determinable, or that it will solve equations for which analytical methods of solution have not yet been contrived...

I am aware that the statements contained in this Letter may perhaps be viewed as something more than Utopian, and that the philosophers of Laputa may be called up to dispute my claim to originality. Should such be the case, I hope the resemblance will be found to adhere to the nature of the subject rather than to the manner in which it has been treated. Conscious, from my own experience, of the difficulty of convincing those who are but little skilled in mathematical knowledge, of the possibility of making a machine which shall perform calculations, I was naturally anxious, in introducing it to the public, to appeal to the testimony of one so distinguished in the records of British science. Of the extent to which the machinery whose nature I have described may be carried, opinions will necessarily fluctuate, until experiment shall have finally decided their relative value: but of that engine which already exists I think I shall be supported, both by yourself and by several scientific friends who have examined it, in stating that it performs with rapidity and precision all those calculations for which it was designed.

Whether I shall construct a larger engine of this kind, and bring to perfection the others I have described, will in a great measure depend on the nature of the encouragement I may receive.

Induced, by a conviction of the great utility of such engines, to withdraw for some time my attention from a subject on which it has been engaged during several years, and which possesses charms of a

higher order, I have now arrived at a point where success is no longer doubtful. It must however be attained at a very considerable expense, which would not probably be replaced, by the works it might produce, for a long period of time, and which is an undertaking I should feel unwilling to commence, as altogether foreign to my habits and pursuits.

I remain, my dear Sir,
With the greatest respect,
Faithfully yours,

C. Babbage

Simón Bolívar, "Decree of War to the Death" (1813)

Venezuelans: an army of brothers, sent by the sovereign Congress of New Granada, has come to free you, and it is already amongst you, after evicting the oppressors from the provinces of Mérida and Trujillo.

We are the ones sent to destroy the Spaniards, to protect the Americans, and to reestablish the republican governments that formed the Confederation of Venezuela. The states covering our arms (weapons) are once again ruled by their old constitutions and magistrates, fully enjoying their liberty and independence; for our mission is only to break the chains of servitude, which still oppress some of our peoples, not claiming to create laws, or enforce acts of domination, which the right of war could authorize us to do.

Touched by your misfortunes, we could not indifferently watch the afflictions inflicted to you by the barbaric Spaniards, who have annihilated you with robbery and destroyed you with death, infringed the most solemn treaties and capitulations; in one word, committed every crime, reducing the Republic of Venezuela to the most horrific desolation. It is so that justice demands vindication, and necessity forces us to take it. May the monsters that infest Colombian soil, and have covered it with blood disappear for good; may their punishment be equal to the magnitude of their treason, so that the stain of our ignominy is washed off, and to show the nations of the universe that the sons of America cannot be offended without punishment.

In spite of our just resentments against the iniquitous Spaniards, our magnanimity still deigns itself to open, for the last time, a route to conciliation and friendship; we still invite them to live peacefully among us, if, hating their crimes and turning to good faith, they cooperate with us in the destruction of the intruding government of Spain, and the reestablishment of the Republic of Venezuela.

All Spaniards who do not conspire against tyranny in favor of our just cause, using the most effective and active resources, will be considered enemies, and will be punished as traitors to the homeland, and therefore, will be promptly executed. On the other hand, a general and absolute pardon is issued to all Spaniards who pass into our army, with or without their weapons; to those who offer aid to the good citizens working hard to shake off the shackles of tyranny. War officers and magistrates that proclaim the government of Venezuela and join our cause will keep their destinies and work positions; in one word, all Spaniards who perform service for the State will be reputed and treated as Americans.

And you, Americans, who have been separated from the road of justice by error and perfidy, know that your brothers forgive you and seriously regret your misdeeds, intimately persuaded that you cannot be guilty, and that only the ignorance and blindness imposed on you by the authors of your crimes could cause you to perpetrate them. Do not fear the sword that comes to avenge you and cut the ignominious bindings which tie you to your executioners' fate. Rely on absolute immunity for your honor, life and properties; the mere title of Americans will be your warranty and safeguard. Our weapons have come to protect you, and will never be used against a single one of our brothers. This amnesty extends to the very traitors who have most recently committed their acts of felony; and will be so religiously carried out that no reason, cause or pretext will be enough to make us break our offer, no matter how extraordinary the reasons you give us to excite our adversity. Spaniards and Canarians, count on death, even if indifferent, if you do not actively work in favor of the independence of America. Americans, count on life, even if guilty.

**Toussaint L'Ouverture, Excerpt from *Autobiography of General Toussaint L'Ouverture*.
Written by Himself. (1803)**

It is my duty to render to the French Government an exact account of my conduct. I shall relate the facts with all the simplicity and frankness of an old soldier, adding to them the reflections that naturally suggest themselves...

I have neglected nothing at Saint Domingo for the welfare of the island; I have robbed myself of rest to contribute to it; I have sacrificed everything for it. I have made it my duty and pleasure to develop the resources of this beautiful colony. Zeal, activity, courage, – I have employed them all...

I was also exposed to the greatest dangers; several times I narrowly escaped being made prisoner; I shed my blood for my country; I received a ball in the right hip which remains there still; I received a violent blow on the head from a cannon-ball, which knocked out the greater part of my teeth, and loosened the rest. In short, I received upon different occasions seventeen wounds, whose honorable scars still remain. Gen. Laveaux witnessed many of my engagements; he is too honorable not to do me justice: ask him if I ever hesitated to endanger my life, when the good of my country and the triumph of the Republic required it.

If I were to record the various services which I have rendered the Government, I should need many volumes, and even then should not finish them; and, as a reward for all these services, I have been arbitrarily arrested at St. Domingo, bound, and put on board ship like a criminal, without regard for my rank, without the least consideration. Is this the recompense due my labors? Should my conduct lead me to expect such treatment?

I was once rich. At the time of the revolution, I was worth six hundred and forty-eight thousand francs. I spent it in the service of my country. I purchased but one small estate upon which to establish my wife and family. To-day, notwithstanding my disinterestedness, they seek to cover me with opprobrium and infamy; I am made the most unhappy of men; my liberty is taken from me; I am separated from all that I hold dearest in the world, – from a venerable father, a hundred and five years old, who needs my assistance, from a dearly-loved wife, who, I fear, separated from me, cannot endure the afflictions which overwhelm her, and from a cherished family, who made the happiness of my life.

On my arrival in France I wrote to the First Consul and to the Minister of Marine, giving them an account of my situation, and asking their assistance for my family and myself. Undoubtedly, they felt the justice of my request, and gave orders that what I asked should be furnished me. But, instead of this, I have received the old half-worn dress of a soldier, and shoes in the same condition. Did I need this humiliation added to my misfortune?

When I left the ship, I was put into a carriage. I hoped then that I was to be taken before a tribunal to give an account of my conduct, and to be judged. Far from it; without a moment's rest I was taken to a fort on the frontiers of the Republic, and confined in a frightful dungeon.

It is from the depths of this dreary prison that I appeal to the justice and magnanimity of the First Consul. He is too noble and too good a general to turn away from an old soldier, covered with wounds in the service of his country, without giving him the opportunity to justify himself, and to have judgment pronounced upon him.

I ask, then, to be brought before a tribunal or council of war, before which, also, Gen. Leclerc may appear, and that we may both be judged after we have both been heard; equity, reason, law, all assure me that this justice cannot be refused me...

Upon landing at Brest, my wife and children were sent to different destinations, of both of which I am ignorant. Government should do me more justice: my wife and children have done nothing and have nothing to answer for; they should be sent home to watch over our interests. Gen. Leclerc has occasioned all this evil; but I am at the bottom of a dungeon, unable to justify myself. Government is too just to keep my hands tied, and allow Gen. Leclerc to abuse me thus, without listening to me.

Everybody has told me that this Government was just; should I not, then, share its justice and its benefits?

Gen. Leclerc has said in the letter to the minister, which I have seen in the newspaper, that I was waiting for his troops to grow sick, in order to make war and take back the command. This is an atrocious and abominable lie: it is a cowardly act on his part. Although I may not have much knowledge or much education, I have enough good sense to hinder me from contending against the will of my Government; I never thought of it. The French Government is too strong, too powerful, for Gen. Leclerc to think me opposed to it, who am its servant. It is true, that when Gen. Leclerc marched against me, I said several times that I should make no attack, that I should only defend myself, until July or August; that then I would commence in my turn. But, afterward, I reflected upon the misfortunes of the colony and upon the letter of the First Consul; I then submitted.

I repeat it again: I demand that Gen. Leclerc and myself be judged before a tribunal; that Government should order all my correspondence to be brought; by this means my innocence, and all that I have done for the Republic will be seen, although I know that several letters have been intercepted.

First Consul, father of all soldiers, upright judge, defender of innocence, pronounce my destiny. My wounds are deep; apply to them the healing remedy which will prevent them from opening anew; you are the physician; I rely entirely upon your justice and wisdom!

Catherine Beecher, Excerpts from *Treatise on Domestic Economy* (1841)

[Excerpt from Preface to the Third Edition]

The author of this work was led to attempt it, by discovering, in her extensive travels, the deplorable sufferings of multitudes of young wives and mothers, from the combined influence of *poor health, poor domestics, and a defective domestic education*. The number of young women whose health is crushed, ere the first few years of married life are past, would seem incredible to one who has not investigated this subject, and it would be vain to attempt to depict the sorrow, discouragement, and distress experienced in most families where the wife and mother is a perpetual invalid.

The writer became early convinced that this evil results mainly from the fact, that young girls, especially in the more wealthy classes, *are not trained for their profession*. In early life, they go through a course of school training which results in great debility of constitution, while, at the same time, their physical and domestic education is almost wholly neglected. Thus they enter on their most arduous and sacred duties so inexperienced and uninformed, and with so little muscular and nervous strength, that probably there is not *one chance in ten*, that young women of the present day, will pass through the first years of married life without such prostration of health and spirits as makes life a burden to themselves, and, it is to be feared, such as seriously interrupts the confidence and happiness of married life.

The measure which, more than any other, would tend to remedy this evil, would be to place *domestic economy* on an equality with the other sciences in female schools. This should be done because it *can* be properly and systematically taught (not *practically*, but as a *science*), as much so as *political economy* or *moral science*, or any other branch of study; because it embraces knowledge, which will be needed by young women at all times and in all places; because this science can never be *properly* taught until it is made a branch of *study*; and because this method will secure a dignity and importance in the estimation of young girls, which can never be accorded while they perceive their teachers and parents practically attaching more value to every other department of science than this. When young ladies are taught the construction of their own bodies, and all the causes in domestic life which tend to weaken the constitution; when they are taught rightly to appreciate and learn the most convenient and economical modes of performing all family duties, and of employing time and money; and when they perceive the true estimate accorded to these things by teachers and friends, the grand cause of this evil will be removed. Women will be trained to secure, as of first importance, a strong and healthy constitution, and all those rules of thrift and economy that will make domestic duty easy and pleasant.

To promote this object, the writer prepared this volume as a *text-book* for female schools...

[Excerpt from Chapter XIII: "On the Preservation of a Good Temper In a Housekeeper"]

There is nothing, which has a more abiding influence on the happiness of a family, than the preservation of equable and cheerful temper and tones in the housekeeper. A woman, who is habitually gentle, sympathizing, forbearing, and cheerful, carries an atmosphere about her, which imparts a soothing and sustaining influence, and renders it easier for all to do right, under her administration, than in any other situation.

The writer has known families, where the mother's presence seemed the sunshine of the circle around her; imparting cheering and vivifying power, scarcely realized, till it was withdrawn. Every one, without thinking of it, or knowing why it was so, experienced a peaceful and invigorating

influence, as soon as he entered the sphere illumined by her smile, and sustained by her cheering, kindness and sympathy. On the contrary, many a good housekeeper, (good in every respect but this,) by wearing a countenance of anxiety and dissatisfaction, and by indulging in the frequent use of sharp and reprehensive tones, more than destroys all the comfort which otherwise would result from her system, neatness, and economy.

There is a secret, social sympathy, which every mind, to a greater or less degree, experiences with the feelings of those around, as they are manifested by the countenance and voice. A sorrowful, a discontented, or an angry, countenance, produces a silent, sympathetic influence, imparting a sombre shade to the mind, while tones of anger or complaint still more effectually jar the spirits.

A woman, who has charge of a large household, should regard her duties as dignified, important, and difficult. The mind is so made, as to be elevated and cheered by a sense of far-reaching influence and usefulness. A woman, who feels that she is a cipher, and that it makes little difference how she perform her duties, has far less to sustain and invigorate her than one, who truly estimates the importance of her station. A man, who feels that the destinies of a nation are turning on the judgement and skill with which he plans and executes, has a pressure of motive, and an elevation of feeling, which are great safeguards from all that is low, trivial, and degrading.

In many cases, when a woman's domestic arrangements are suddenly and seriously crossed, it is impossible, not to feel some irritation. But it *is* always possible to refrain from angry tones. A woman can resolve, that, whatever happens she will not speak, till she can do it in a calm and gentle manner. *Perfect silence* is a safe resort, when such control cannot be attained, as enables a person to speak calmly; and this determination, persevered in, will eventually be crowned with success.

The last, and most important, mode of securing a placid and cheerful temper and tones, is by a right view of the doctrine of a superintending Providence. All persons are too much in the habit of regarding the more important events of life, as exclusively under the control of Perfect Wisdom. But the fall of a sparrow, or the loss of a hair, they do not feel to be equally the result of His directing agency. In consequence of this, Christian persons, who aim at perfect and cheerful submission to heavy afflictions, and who succeed, to the edification of all about them, are sometimes sadly deficient under petty crosses. If a beloved child be laid in the grave, even if its' death resulted from the carelessness of a domestic, or of a physician, the eye is turned from the subordinate agent, to the Supreme Guardian of all, and to Him they bow, without murmur or complaint. But if a pudding be burnt, or a room badly swept, or an errand forgotten, then vexation and complaint are allowed, just as if these events were not appointed by Perfect Wisdom, as much as the sorer chastisement.

A woman, therefore, needs to cultivate the *habitual* feeling, that all the events of her nursery and kitchen, are brought about by the permission of our Heavenly Father, and that fretfulness or complaint, in regard to these, is, in fact, complaining and disputing at the appointments of God, and is really as sinful, as unsubmissive murmurs amid the sorer chastisements of His hand. And a woman, who cultivates this habit of referring all the minor trials of life to the wise and benevolent agency of a Heavenly Parent, and daily seeks His sympathy and aid, to enable her to meet them with a quiet and cheerful spirit, will soon find it the perennial spring of abiding peace and content.

Robert Owen, Address at Public Hall in New Harmony, Indiana (April 27, 1825)

I am come to this country, to introduce an entire new state of society; to change it from the ignorant, selfish system, to an enlightenment, social system, which shall gradually unite all interests into one, and remove all cause for contest between individuals.

The individual system has heretofore universally prevailed; and while it continues, the great mass of mankind must remain, as they comparatively are at present, ignorant, poor, oppressed, and, consequently, vicious, and miserable; and though it should last for numberless ages, virtue and happiness cannot be attained, nor can man, strictly speaking, become a rational being.

Until the individual system shall be entirely abandoned, it will be useless to expect any substantial, permanent improvement in the condition of the human race; for this system ever has been, and must ever remain, directly opposed to universal charity, benevolence and kindness: and until the means were discovered, and can be brought into practice, by which universal charity, benevolence and kindness, can be made to pervade the heart and mind of every human being, a state of society in which "peace on earth and good will to man" shall exist, must remain unknown and unenjoyed by mankind.

These invaluable blessings can be obtained only under a social system; a system derived from an accurate knowledge of human nature, and of the circumstances by which it is, or may be governed...

The knowledge of our nature, and of the circumstances which govern the character and conduct of man, are to be acquired only by attending to the facts which exist around us, and to the past history of the human species.

These facts and this history demonstrate that all men are formed by a creative power, and by the circumstances which are permitted to surround them birth; and that no man has ever had any will, or power, or control, in creating himself, nor in forming the circumstances which exist around him at birth, in his childhood, in youth, or in manhood. He is a being, then, whose general nature, whose individual, or personal nature, and whose artificial requirements, or character, have been formed for him. He cannot, therefore, become a proper subject for praise or blame, nor for artificial reward or punishment, or artificial accountability; but he becomes a being capable of being formed into the extremes of good or bad, and to experience the extremes of happiness or misery, by, and through the circumstances which shall exist around him at birth, in childhood, in youth, and in manhood: he cannot, therefore, become a rational object for anger or displeasure of any kind; but in whatever deplorable circumstance he may be found, and whatever may be the character which nature and these circumstances may have formed for him, he is a being who justly claims our compassion, care, attention and kindness, in proportion to the extent of the evil and misery which he has been made to experience; and to this rule there can be no exception.

These fundamental principles being understood, and the real nature of man being thus laid open, to us, the proceedings requisite to produce good instead of evil, and happiness instead of misery, become obvious and easy of practice.

I have bought this property, and have now come here to introduce this practice, and to render it familiar to all the inhabitants of this country.

But to change from the individual to the social system; from single families with separate interests, to communities of many families with one interest, cannot be accomplished at once; the change

would be too great for the present habits of society; nor can it be effected in practice, except by those who have been long acquainted with each other, and whose habits, condition and sentiments, are similar; it becomes necessary, therefore, that some intermediate measures should be adopted, to enable all parties, with the least inconvenience, to change their individual, selfish habits, and to acquire the superior habits requisite to the social state; to proceed, if I may so express myself, to a halfway house on this new journey from poverty to wealth; from ignorance to intelligence; from anxiety to satisfaction of mind; from distrust of all, to confidence in every one; from bad habits and erroneous ideas, to good habits and a correct mode of thinking in all things; in short, from a combination of wretched, irrational circumstances, most unfavorable to every one, to new arrangements in unison with our nature, and most beneficial to all.

SECONDARY SOURCES ASSEMBLED AS CLASSROOM LIBRARY FOR RESEARCH PROJECT

[Note: list established just for me – the students just had the library itself in front of them on the big table on the side of the classroom. They were forbidden from taking books home but had ample in-class research time to use them.]

Books from Suffolk County Library:

1. Metternich : strategist and visionary / Wolfram Siemann ; translated by Daniel Steuer.
2. The marquis: Lafayette reconsidered / Laura Auricchio.
Avengers of the New World : the story of the Haitian Revolution / Laurent Dubois.
Haiti : the aftershocks of history / Laurent Dubois.
The women's history of the modern world : how radicals, rebels, and everywomen revolutionized the last 200 years / Rosalind Miles.
Vindication : a life of Mary Wollstonecraft / Lyndall Gordon.
3. Mary Wollstonecraft : a revolutionary life / Janet Todd.
Simón Bolívar : a life / John Lynch.
4. Men on horseback : the power of charisma in the Age of Revolution / David A. Bell
5. Napoleon : a life / Andrew Roberts.
6. Napoleon : a life / Adam Zamoyski.
7. The difference engine : Charles Babbage and the quest to build the first computer / Doron Swade.
8. Charles Babbage, pioneer of the computer / Anthony Hyman.
Louis XVI: the silent king / John Hardman.
9. Women Writers in Pre-Revolutionary France: Strategies of Emancipation / Colette H. Winn and Donna Kuizenga.
10. The Beecher Sisters / Barbara A. White

Books From Ross School Library Catalog:

1. To the scaffold: the life of Marie Antoinette *by* Erickson, Carolly
2. Marie Antoinette: the last queen of France *by* Lever, Evelyne.
3. The Black Jacobins : Toussaint L'Ouverture and the San Domingo Revolution *by* James, C. L. R.

4. Napoleon, an intimate account of the years of supremacy, 1800-1814 *by* Méneval, Claude-François
5. The Pursuit of Power : Europe 1815-1914, Series title: The Penguin history of Europe vii, *by* Evans, Richard J.
6. Modern mathematicians, Series title: Global profiles, *by* Henderson, Harry
7. Twelve who ruled: the year of the terror in the French Revolution, *by* Palmer, Robert.
8. The Industrial Revolutionaries: the making of the modern world, 1776-1914, *by* Weightman, Gavin.
9. Industrial Revolution: Biographies, Series title: U-X-L. Industrial Revolution reference library, *by* Outman, James L.
10. Encyclopedia of the Industrial Revolution in America *by* Olson, James Stuart
11. Engines of Change: The American Industrial Revolution, 1790-1860, *by* Hindle, Brooke.
12. The Industrial Revolution: 1760-1830, *by* Ashton, T.S.
13. Women in World History: A Biographical Encyclopedia *by* Commire, Anne.

My Personal Collection

1. *Fatal Purity* *by* Ruth Scurr
2. *Napoleon: A Concise Biography* *by* David Bell
3. R. Dave Edmunds, *Tecumseh*
4. Peter Cozzens, *Tecumseh and the Prophet*