

Dressing-Up Digital Scholarship: Data Research, Digital Humanities, and Victorian Fashion

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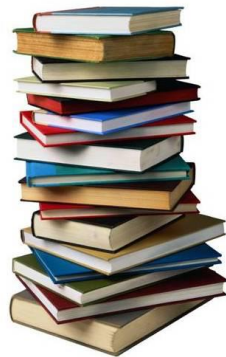
What is Digital Humanities?

Humanities

- Definition: study of human culture
- Discovers and communicates new ideas through reading, writing, and speaking

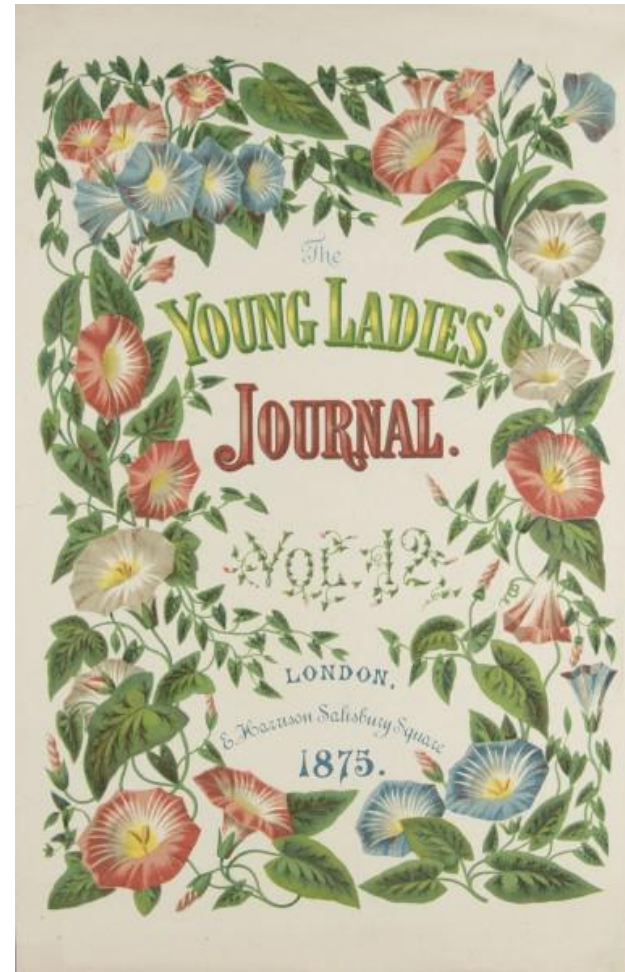
Digital Humanities

- Definition: study of human culture
- Discovers and communicates new ideas through technology

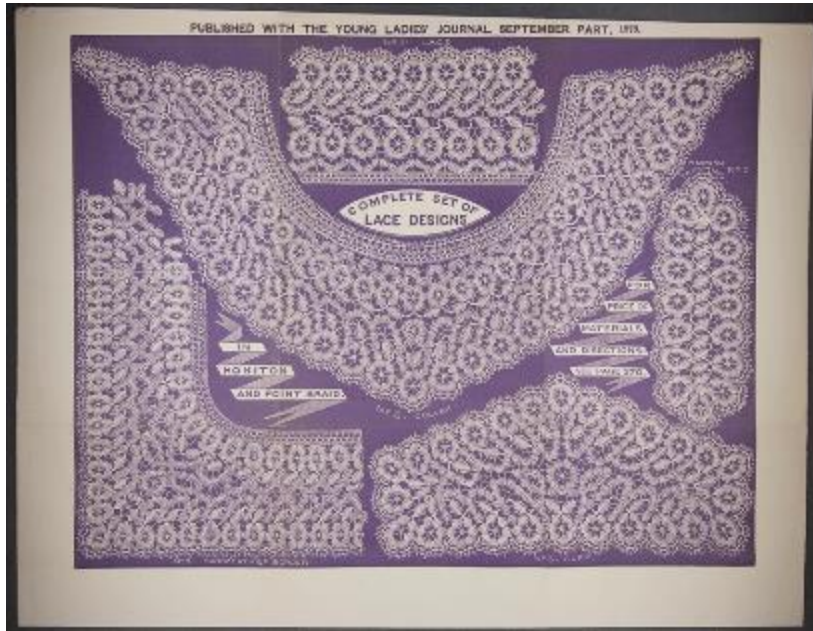


The *Young Ladies' Journal*

- Victorian illustrated periodical published between 1872-1879
- Life and fashion magazine for girls ages 12-25
- 50 issues, +200 supplements
 - Supplements = free advertisements and design templates



Supplements from the *Young Ladies' Journal*

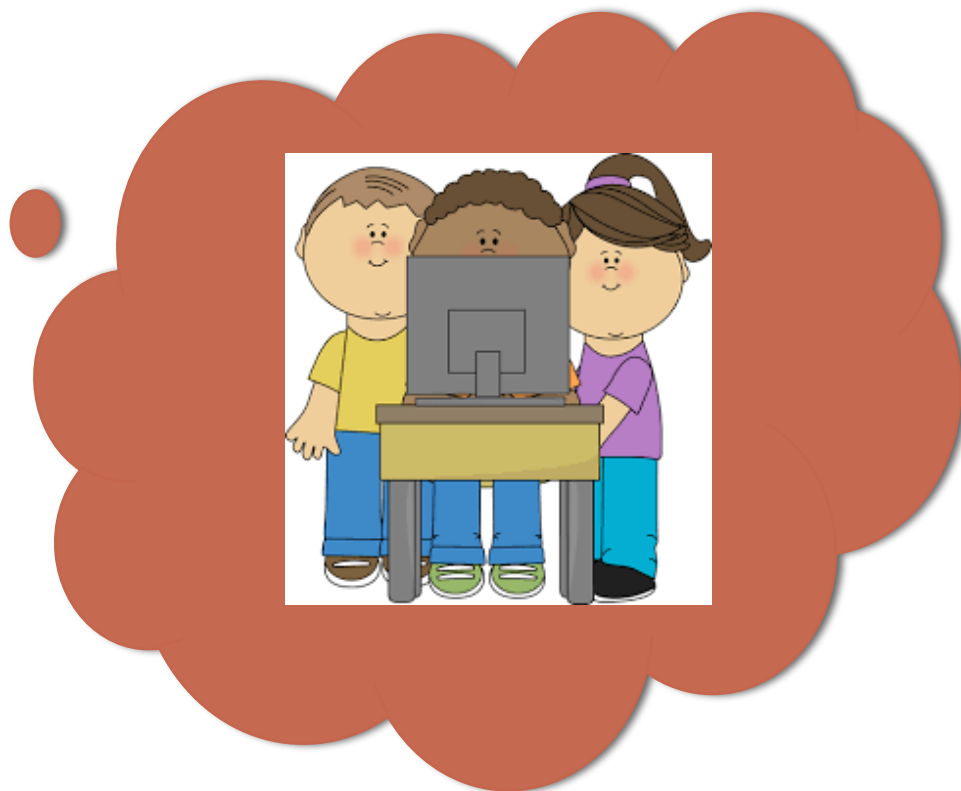


Top left: Lace needlework design, 1876

Top right: Berlin wool work design, 1874

Bottom: Fashion plate, 1879

Remembering the User



<http://library.queensu.ca/virtual-exhibits/young-ladies-journal/exhibit/>

Obtaining Metadata Through OCR

- **Optical Character Recognition:** translates text in an image into text in a document
- Examples of OCR translations:

“d” = “cl”

“m” = “nn”

“T” = “ ‘|’ “

Conclusions

- “How do I maximize the impact of my data?” =
 “What is the most effective way to make my
data accessible?”
 +
 “What is the most effective way to make my
data interesting?”
- Interest creates need for accessibility BEFORE
accessibility can generate interest

Conclusions

- Technology (and DH) facilitate interaction
- People like to interact with what they learn! (I promise!)
- “How can having interactive data influence the way that I want it to be interpreted?”

Example: Timeline that sequences events without locking them in order demonstrates natural interconnectivity between social trends

