

Book Backdrops: Connecting Literature and Primary Sources



TITLE OF BOOK: She's Wearing a Dead Bird on

Her Head

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GRADE LEVEL: 3-8

TOPIC/THEME: The efforts of two proper Boston ladies to change a fashion fad leads to the formation of the Audubon Society, a private environmental group that had influence on the passage of the first Migratory Bird Act as well as to further the cause of women's suffrage.

Primary Source Thumbnail

Library of Congress Bibliographic Information and Connections to Literature



Title: In your Easter bonnet with all the frills upon it, you'll be the grandest lady in the Easter parade: millinery shop at Park River, North Dakota. CREATED/PUBLISHED [1914?]. A millinery shop in Park River, N.D. Three women trying on hats with Mrs. Mary F. Bannerman, the shop owner. There are tables and cupboards full of women's hats. On one wall is a mirror. There are lace curtains in the windows, and an electric light is suspended from the ceiling.

URL: http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/ngp:@field(NUMBER+@band(ndfahult+b189))

Connection: A hat shop like the one Minna, Harriet, and Harriet's husband visited.



Title: Fashion plates of women wearing hats decorated with bird feathers, 1904. Catlow, Patty Munroe, 1900-1991, collector. Created/Published 1904. Notes Collected by Patty Munroe Catlow as a child. She was the daughter of photographer Ralph Munroe, and lived in Coconut Grove (Miami, Fla.). Collection of feathers for fashion led to the near extinction of wading birds in the Everglades.

URL:

http://digitool.fcla.edu/R/?func=search-simple-go&LOCAL_BASE=GEN01&pds_handle=GUEST&REQUEST=RTEP00200001

Connection: Fashions like this were abhorred by Harriet and Minna and friends



Title: Miss Chapman , Date Created/Published: [between 1855 and 1865] ,Medium: 1 negative : glass, wet collodion. Forms part of Brady-Handy Photograph Collection (Library of Congress).

URL:

http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/brh2003003151/PP/

Connection: Demonstrates early use of feathers in fashion.



Title: Mrs. Chas. Keen ,Date Created/Published: [between 1855 and 1865] Forms part of Brady-Handy Photograph Collection (Library of Congress). **URL**:

http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/brh2003003158/PP/

Connection: Do you see the feathers used in this hat?



Title: Bad form in dress / printed by Roberts & Leete, Ltd., London. Date Created/Published: [London]: National Organising Committee for War Savings, [1915]

URL:

http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2003675234/

Connection: This WWI poster may have given Minna and Harriet their ideas of simple dress. Why would this poster be produced to support a war?

Migratory Bird Act passes Congress October 1, 1913 **Title:** U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 37, Part 1, Chap. 145, pp. 846-48. "Bureau of Biological Survey." Sub-section of "An Act Making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and fourteen." H.R. 28283, Public Act No. 430

URL: http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-

<u>bin/query/r?ammem/consrvbib:@field(NUMBER+@band(amrvl+vl025))</u>

Connection: This act makes it illegal to buy or sell certain feathers.



Title: Governor Edwin P. Morrow signing the Anthony Amendment--Ky. was the twenty-fourth state to ratify, January 6, 1920.

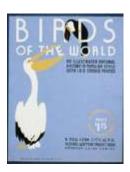
CREATED/PUBLISHED 1920 January 6.

URL: http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-

bin/query/r?ammem/suffrg:@FIELD(NUMBER(000

<u>36))</u>

Connection: The passage of the 19th Amendment.



Title: Birds of the world An illustrated natural history in popular style with 100 candid photos: A New York City, W.P.A. Federal Writers' Project book: American guide series. Related Names: Federal Writers' Project, sponsor

Date Created/Published: N.Y.C.: WPA Federal Art Project, [between 1936 and 1939]

URL: http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/98516155/ **Connection:** Minna and Harriet may have been responsible for the interest in making this kind of

publication and others like it.



Title: Teacher and group of grade school children standing around bird cage and studying birds, Washington, D.C. Creator(s): Johnston, Frances Benjamin, 1864-1952, photographer, Date Created/Published: [1899?]

URL: http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2001703713/ **Connection:** Harriet and Minna led the way to an interest in environmental education. What's different in your classroom? What is the same?

Activity developed by Gay Thistle, adapted from professional development activity created by Gail Petri, Educational Resource Specialist, Library of Congress. http://www.loc.gov/teachers/professionaldevelopment/tpsdirect/pdplanbuilder/

LIBRARY OF TEACHING with PRIMARY SOURCES