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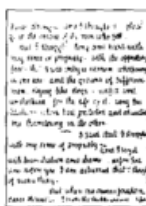
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**Note about the essays in this guide:** Interspersed among the twelve chapters describing the collections and reading rooms of the Library of Congress are five short essays written by Library staff members to demonstrate ways in which the variety of formats and the breadth of coverage of the collections can enrich the study of almost any subject you might choose to examine. We invite you to seek new avenues for your own research as you explore the Library's holdings.