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### EXAMINE HYSTERIA THEORIES AND TREATMENTS

Hysteria was once the subject of intense speculation in the medical community. The label was applied to a huge range of symptoms within women, and remedies were sometimes bizarre, barbaric, or opportunistic. Search *Nineteenth Century Collections Online* to analyze the impact and implications.

#### *Boston Medical Intelligencer, 1823*

##### HYSTERIA.

**A morbid state without fever, characterized**

“...characterized principally by suspension, generally incomplete, of sensorial, intellectual, and moral power...”

**convulsion; is almost peculiar to women, appears**

“It most prevails in the nervous temperament, which is most developed in women...”

**ria ceased for a year after a fright from the**

“...in women older than 25 years [symptoms result from] anxiety respecting their establishment in life..”

#### *The Medical Tribune, 1881*

“CASTRATION FOR HYSTERIA.”—Under the above title a French journal gives an account of a case which was presented to the Berlin Medical Society some months ago, and which has scarcely attracted the attention in this country which its significance deserves. Dr. Israel presented to the Society a young woman twenty-three years old, cured of severe hysteria by “Battley’s operation,” of which she bore the cicatrix. The patient

“The patient’s cure remained permanent. One detail...remains to be mentioned, and it is not unimportant. The operation was a pretended one.”

#### *Woman’s Journal, 1886*

##### HYSTERIA AMONG WOMEN.

*Editors Woman’s Journal:*

Do you not think it worth while to re-quote the following quotation from Eulenberg, a distinguished German neurologist?

“The predominance of hysteria among women depends ultimately far more upon the social conditions to which they are subjected than upon uterine catarrh and erosions.”

#### *The Designer and the Woman’s Magazine, 1903*

##### BRAIN BUILDING.

##### HOW TO FEED NERVOUS CASES.

Hysteria sometimes leads to insanity, and should be treated through feeding the brain

“...I would have broken down again except for the strength I had built up by the use of Grape-Nuts. When I began to feel the pressure...I simply increased the amount of Grape-Nuts...”

#### *The Medical Bulletin, 1904*

##### Hysteria.

A few weeks ago a young woman consulted a spiritualist fortune-teller, who greatly impressed her by some apparent revelations. Not long afterward she was

“For want of judicious control, many a young girl becomes a wreck...Caution her parents... she needs the application of moral force and will-power.”

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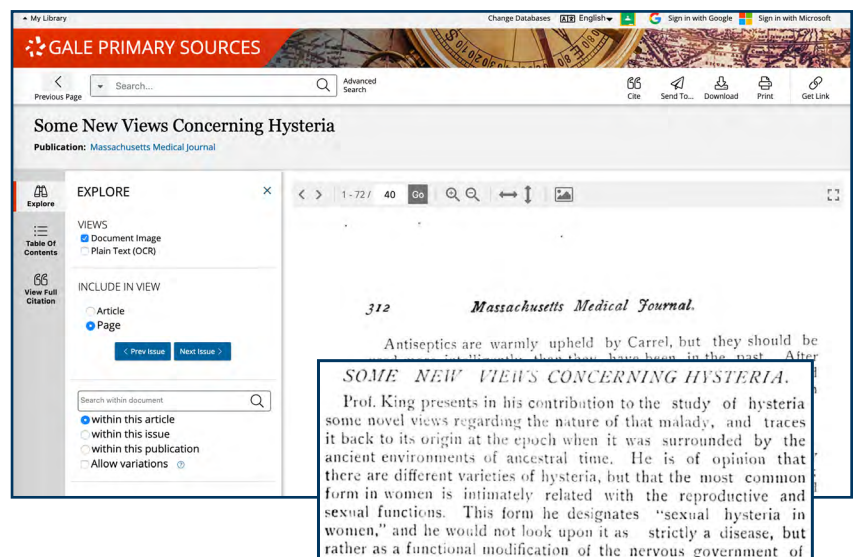
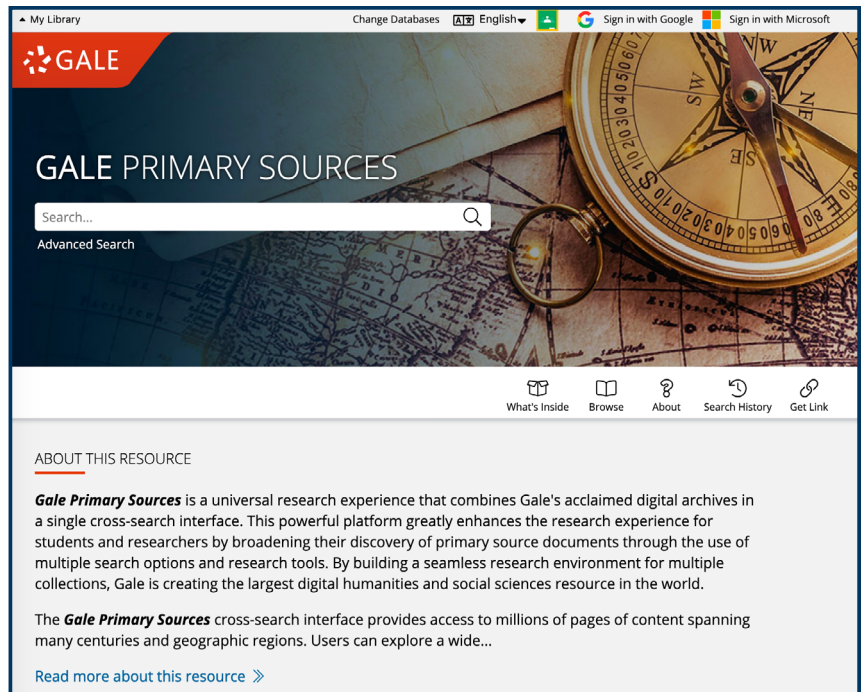
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