

**CONFEDERATE LITERATURE; A LIST OF
BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS, MAPS,
MUSIC AND
MISCELLANEOUS MATTER PRINTED IN
THE SOUTH DURING THE CONFEDERACY,
NOW IN THE BOSTON ATHENAEUM**

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Confederate literature; a list of books and newspapers, maps, music and miscellaneous matter printed in the South during the Confederacy, now in the Boston athenaeum by Charles N. Baxter & James M. Dearborn & James Ford Rhodes

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CHARLES N. BAXTER & JAMES M. DEARBORN & JAMES FORD RHODES

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V

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Confederate Literature

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PREPARED BY
CHARLES N. BAXTER AND JAMES M. DEARBORN

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
JAMES FORD RHODES

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INTRODUCTION

MODERN historical teachers talk continually of the sources. You must go to the sources is the burden of their counsel to their students who desire to construct an historical narrative. Their advice is proper, but older men who started with the term of original authorities, that means the same thing, weary of the word sources, not because the idea suggested is not sane, but because an extension is given to the meaning by ambitious writers, who spare no pains and criticize others whose pains are not exerted in the same direction. There are men, for instance, who are not satisfied with an Act of Congress as printed in the Revised Statutes, but must go to Washington to get a sight of the original engrossed copy. They envy the man who had to consult the Journal of the Confederate Congress in manuscript, and they would like to spurn the well-printed copy furnished them by a beneficent government. They envy Nicolay and Hay, whose work was in advance of the printing of the Official Records, and who therefore were obliged toward the end of their History to consult the Records in manuscript in the War Department archives. It may not be well to emphasize this excessive labor as modern, applying modern to the period of the scientific teaching of history in colleges and universities; for Bancroft, according to Thomas Wentworth Higginson, fell into "that error so common with the graphic school of historians—the exag-

gerated estimate of manuscripts or fragmentary material at the expense of what is printed and permanent."

In the Confederate room of the Boston Athenæum these source advocates and the older men may meet on common ground. The sources for the study of the unique life in the Southern Confederacy are there. Many bound volumes of Confederate newspapers, magazines, and reviews; school books of arithmetic, reading, spelling, geography, and grammar; "Maxims of War," one of which, Napoleon's, was in constant use by Stonewall Jackson; serious books, sermons, and tracts; almanacs and railway guides; novels and stories to entertain the soldiers who found camp life irksome;—all these may be found in this room, the materials of which were gathered for the future historian. The source-fiend may indeed regret that many reports of battles and other official documents have found their way into the Official Records, as in his view each copy or reproduction reduces the value of the source. Moreover, he is not satisfied without seeing other collections, and so he journeys to New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and Cleveland, to the Southern cities and other places where he hears of Confederate material, and exhausts himself in this thorough search, but is happy as he reflects that his procedure is according to the canons of scientific investigation. His tiresome journeys might have been spared had he asked one of the courteous attendants to bring him the volume of Emerson wherein he gives one of his views of travel. "The soul is no traveller," Emerson wrote; "the wise man stays at home. . . . He who travels . . . travels away from himself. . . . Travelling is a fool's paradise."