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From the Vault: Archives & Special Collections  
Newsletter

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11-2020

## From the Vault - November 2020 Newsletter

Archives & Special Collections

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# From the Vault: November 2020 Newsletter

As the quarter starts to wind down, we look back on what we've been up to in Archives & Special Collections



SCU Archives

Nov 24   

## THANKSGIVING

Here is a truth the flaming autumn teaches;  
Here are the tidings all good harvests tell;  
“Who grows from day to day in love and beauty  
And understanding thanks his Maker well!”

God asks no sudden pausing from our duties  
That we may shout abroad His name and praise,  
For we would rather hear the homely clatter  
Of household things on busy, useful days.

So, through this year, if we have not lived gladly  
Brave as the winter, gentle as the spring,  
Calm as the summer, keen for fall’s fulfillment,  
Now chaff and husks are all the thanks we bring!

Here is the truth the flaming autumn teaches;  
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—Violet A. Stone, *The Hour Glass*, 1935

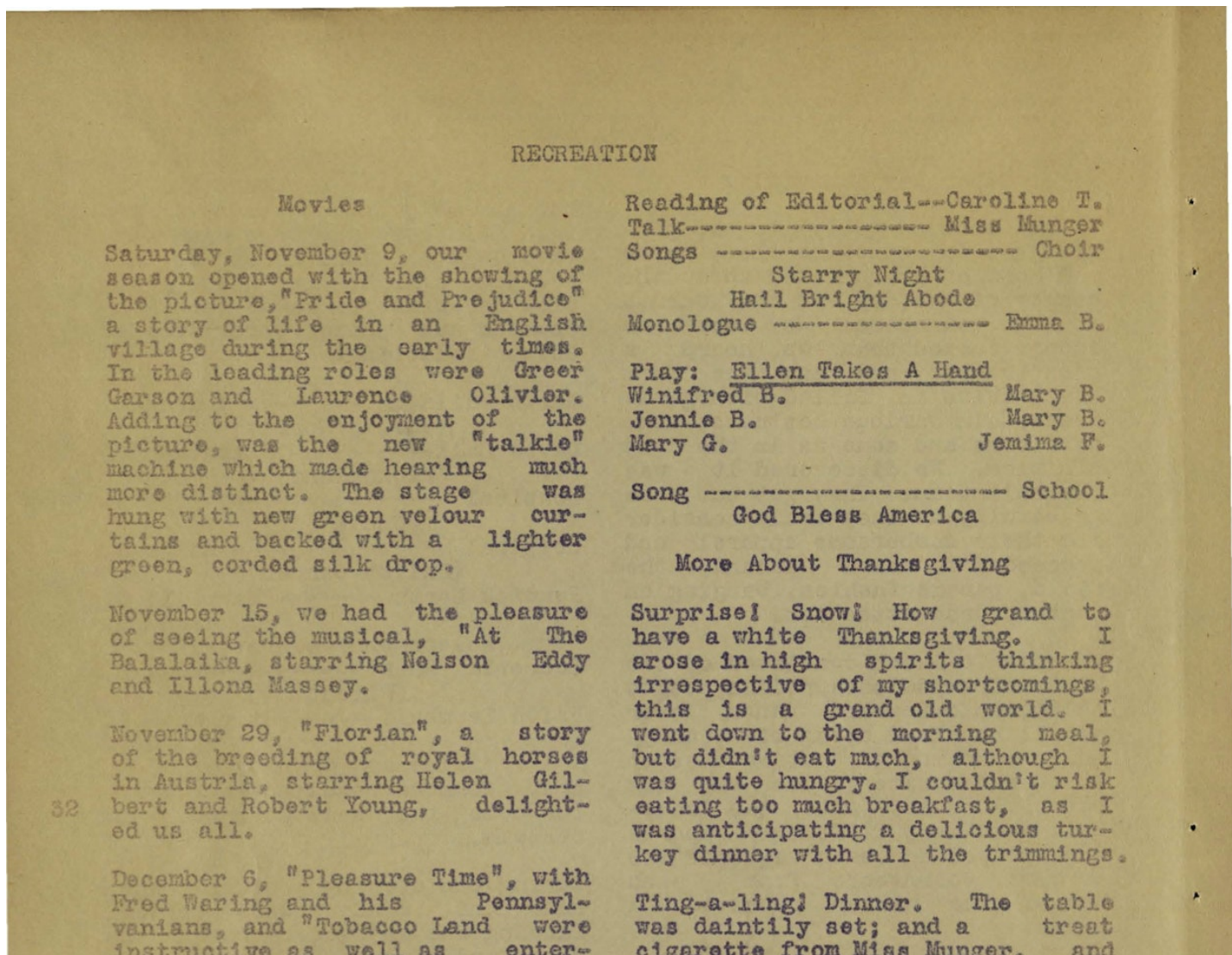
SCU students have embarked on their week of Thanksgiving break and SCU staff are looking forward to three generous days of administrative holiday. It has been a busy but fulfilling quarter for us, and we write now to wish our friends a happy Thanksgiving, whatever that tradition will entail for you and yours this year.

Thanksgiving is a time for practicing gratitude, and although this quarter continued to present the challenges, stress, and anxiety unique to educating students in the time of COVID-19, in Archives & Special Collections we all feel extremely grateful for being able to continue our

work directly helping students discover and analyze primary sources and all the epiphanies that engenders, as well as being thankful for our health, our jobs, and for belonging to the mind-blowingly generous SCU community.

Indeed, many SCU Library staff have primarily worked from home this quarter, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. A selection of us visit campus on a weekly or biweekly basis to do essential functions, but all of our research support and instruction have occurred in the digital sphere.

Below are a couple pages from the 20th century women's prison newspaper *The Hour Glass*, which describe the Thanksgiving celebrations of the women at Connecticut State Farm for Women in Niantic, Connecticut in 1935 and 1940. It's amazing to see not much has changed from what we consider the traditional Thanksgiving meal eighty years on, and that these women were able to engage in such a rich tradition despite being incarcerated. Check out the blog post at the end of the newsletter to read more about this interesting primary source.



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Mary O'D.

### Thanksgiving

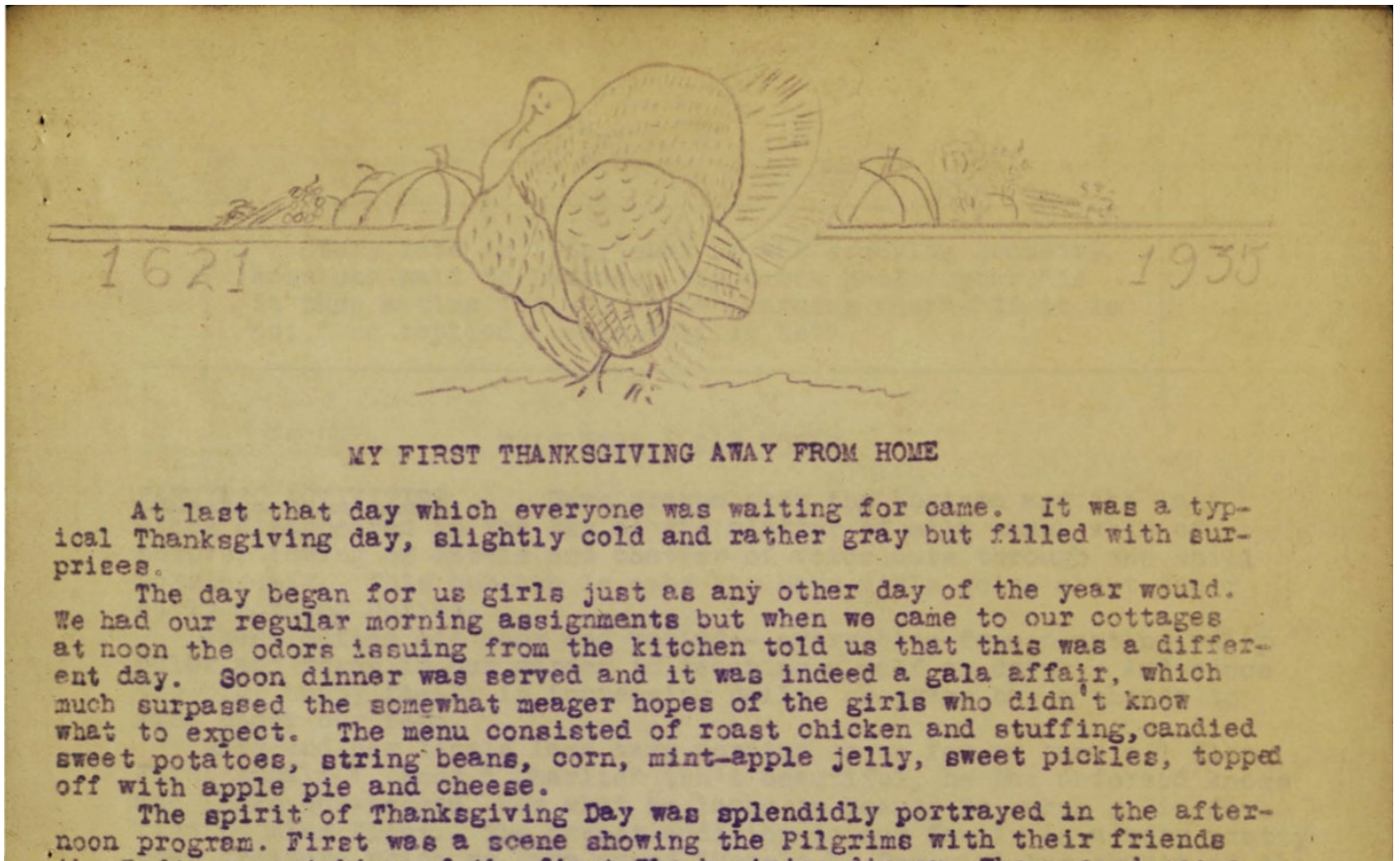
After a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner of tomato cocktail, turkey, dressing, gravy, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, creamed onions, peas, and cranberry sauce, topped off with a huge piece of apple pie and a piping hot cup of tea, we all took a much needed walk to the Industrial Building where we enjoyed the following Thanksgiving program.

Doxology	.....	School
Salute to Flag	.....	School
Singing of America	.....	School
100th Psalm	.....	Helen A.

favours from Miss Hoag, Miss Sears and Mrs. Reed graced each girl's place. After the blessing, Mrs. Lee, gave us permission to talk during the meal. Now, believe it or not, all the girls shut up like clams. That struck me as comical. As a rule we girls are forever snickering or whispering. I don't know whether it was because we were too busy eating or, what is that old saying?--"When you get what you want you don't want it". However, you could have heard a pin drop until the meal was almost over. I was so stuffed, I had difficulty in speaking my lines in a "Thanksgiving Monologue", which was part of the afternoon entertainment.

(Continued on page 35)

"After a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner of tomato cocktail, turkey, dressing, gravy, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, creamed onions, peas, and cranberry sauce, topped off with a huge piece of apple pie and a piping hot cup of tea, we all took a much needed walk to the Industrial Building where we enjoyed the following Thanksgiving program... " *The Hour Glass, Autumn 1940.*



### MY FIRST THANKSGIVING AWAY FROM HOME

At last that day which everyone was waiting for came. It was a typical Thanksgiving day, slightly cold and rather gray but filled with surprises.

The day began for us girls just as any other day of the year would. We had our regular morning assignments but when we came to our cottages at noon the odors issuing from the kitchen told us that this was a different day. Soon dinner was served and it was indeed a gala affair, which much surpassed the somewhat meager hopes of the girls who didn't know what to expect. The menu consisted of roast chicken and stuffing, candied sweet potatoes, string beans, corn, mint-apple jelly, sweet pickles, topped off with apple pie and cheese.

The spirit of Thanksgiving Day was splendidly portrayed in the afternoon program. First was a scene showing the Pilgrims with their friends the Indians celebrating the first Thanksgiving dinner. The second scene

the Indians, partaking of the first Thanksgiving dinner. The second scene recalled to our minds the Thanksgiving following the Civil War. This was followed by a well chosen recitation and music by the choir. Last came the pageant based on the song "America the Beautiful."

Miss Munger had planned to have a movie in the evening, but due to a very heavy rain the picture was postponed until Friday night. We were well content to stay at home for we felt that we had much to be thankful for.

- A New Girl.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### THANKSGIVING

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"Soon dinner was served and it was indeed a gala affair... The menu consisted of roast chicken and stuffing, candied sweet potatoes, string beans, corn, mint-apple jelly, sweet pickles, topped off with apple pie and cheese..." *The Hour Glass*, November, 1935.

## Embedded Model

- This quarter Summer, Nadia, and Kelci worked with Amy Lueck's ENGL 168/WGST 167AW Women's Writing and Literature in an embedded model, meeting with the class over a span of 6 weeks to connect them with women-authored literature not included in the canon, and to coach them through research strategies related to working with these types of texts. Students are contributing to an anthology Dr. Lueck hopes to publish on an open access platform.
- Additionally, Kelci worked with Michelle Burnham's ENGL 11A Literatures of the World in an embedded model, chipping in research training modules, microlectures on

book history and indigenous representation in the Santa Clara Mission Manuscripts, and many, many one-to-one research appointments with the students (30 at last count!). Students have been creating many different outputs from their research, including podcasts, recipes, playlists, and Neatline exhibits.

- Many other classes. We have also worked with classes such as ETHN 165 (Fernandez), CTW 1 Honors (Keener), ENGL 151 Shakespeare (Keener), HIST 186 California History (Gudgeirsson), ARTS 36 Printmaking (Aoki), ENGL 168 Women's Prison Writing (Leuner) and EDUC 289 (Hoyle) on a smaller scale this quarter, proving that the physical divide has not hampered our ability to connect with students.

## Connecting Researchers with Materials

As an output of supporting distance reference requests and classes, we have added many items to our digital collections, including:

- The complete Clay M. Greene Memoir, [My Seventy Five Years Off and On](#). ([Unexpurgated Copy](#)), which was missing about 1/3 of its pages. Once we made the rest of the pages available, a grateful researcher noticed that the missing section contained Greene's account of a legal dispute related to the play *M'Liss* starring Annie Pixley not recorded anywhere else.
- The addition of several books and manuscripts in the [Books from SCU's Special Collections](#) digital collection, most of which were used by students in classes this quarter. Included are women's diaries/commonplace books and works containing Phillis Wheatley's poetry.
- [Catherine Bell](#)'s draft manuscript, *Believing and the Practice of Religion*, which is not yet in the digital collections but is currently available by request.
- A new digital collection, [The Multicultural Center and Cultural Student Organizations at SCU](#). Read more in the blog post linked below.

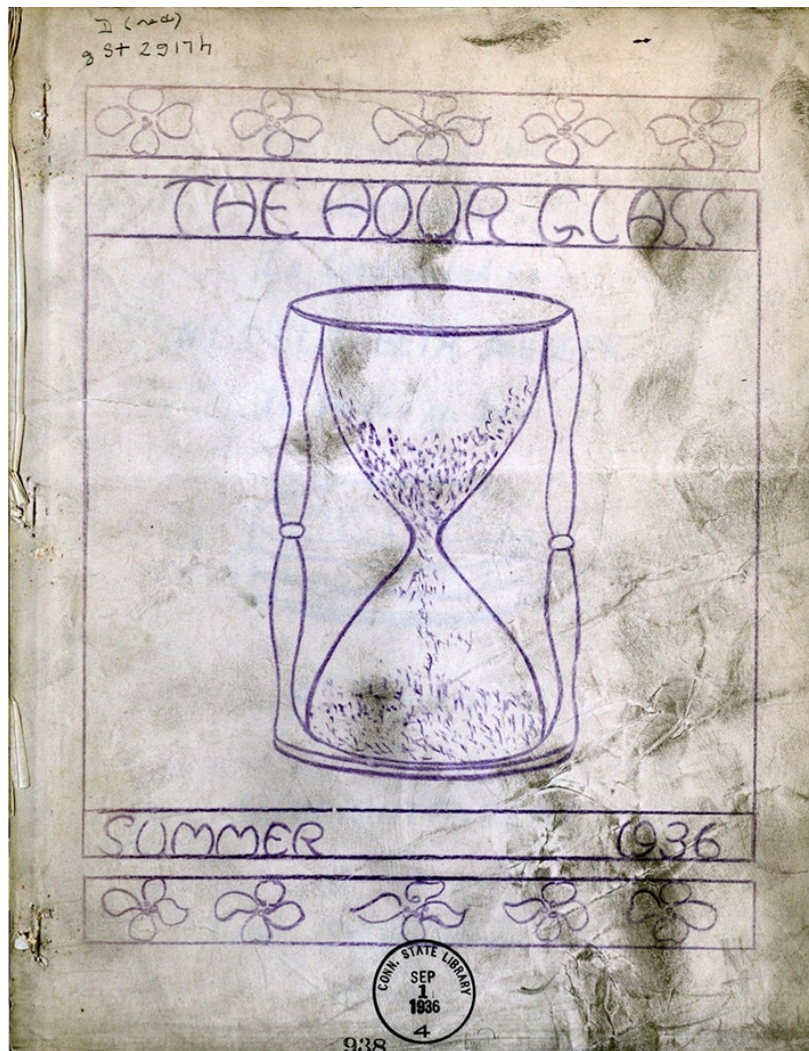
## Mentions in the News

Our work has been included in a variety of media outlets and scholarly activities, including:

- [Not a Moment, But a Movement](#). Article by Matt Morgan in the Santa Clara Magazine. Summer provided scans of materials to support Matt's research, and Kelci helped him answer archival and historical puzzles presented by the material.
- [Finding the Gaps in History](#). Article by Matt Morgan on SCU News website describing aforementioned collaboration between Archives & Special Collections and Dr. Amy Lueck's Women's Writing and Literature course.
- [Digital Humanities Racial Justice Teaching Showcase](#). Recording of Zoom meeting where several faculty and students described their anti-racist scholarship that often utilized Archives & Special Collections materials.

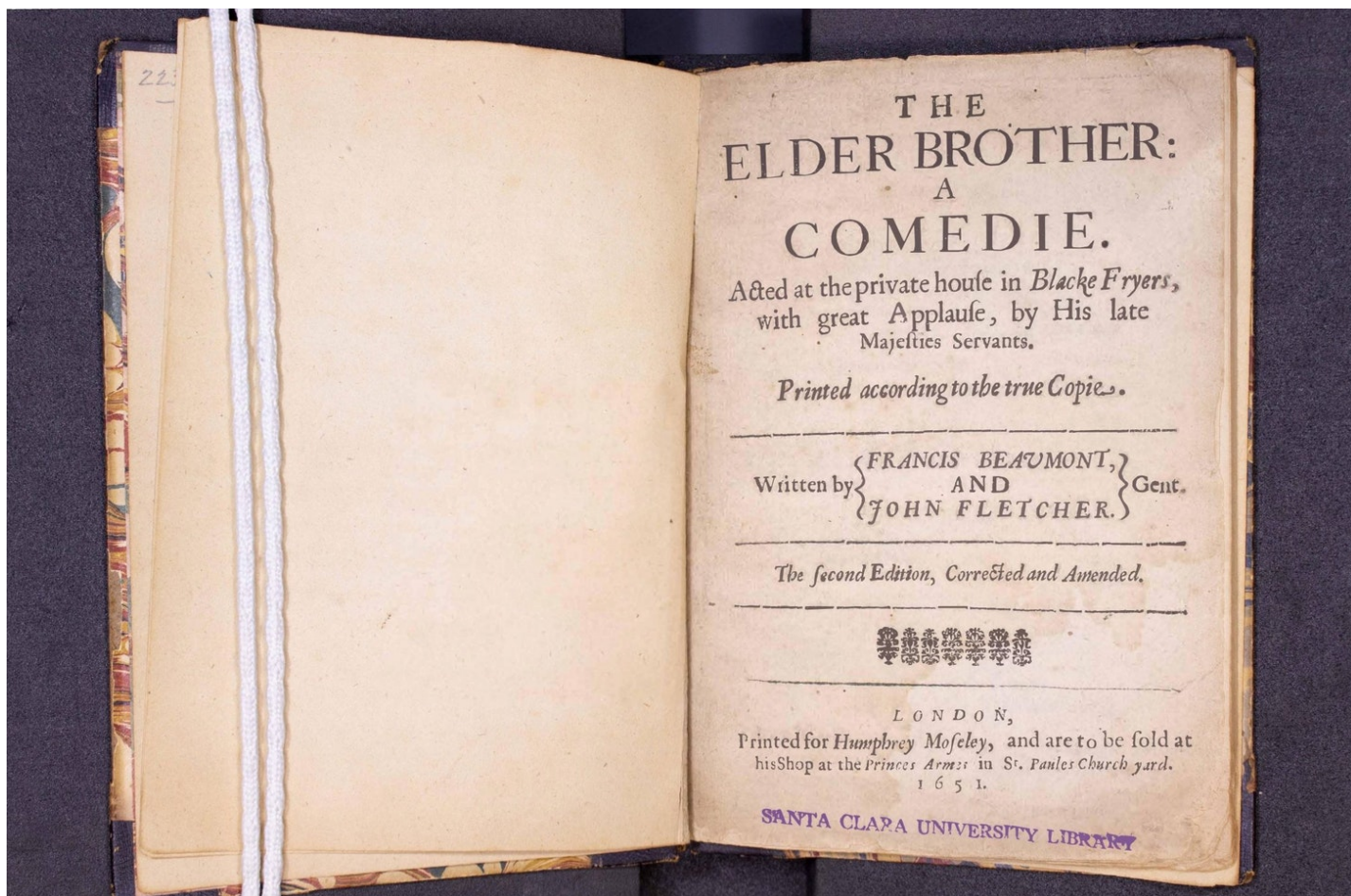
## From the Blog, [Arthur's Attic](#)





## American Prison Newspapers

In this blog post, Kelci shares two examples of newspapers/zines written by incarcerated women 80 years apart, *The Hour Glass* and *Tenacious*, which provided a rich learning experience for Dr. Leuner's students in ENGL 68, Women's Prison Writing, this quarter. The blog post also announces a new digital collection from Reveal Digital, to which SCU contributed funding.



## Turning the Early Modern into the Modern: The experience of editorial work with the Santa Clara Early Modern Book Initiative (SCEMBI)

In this blog post, Sean Oblak and Jessica Joudy, student researchers, describe their work creating a critical edition of the 17th century text, *The Elder Brother*.

# We will NOT be moved.

## -- UNITY (reinstated)

### **The Multicultural Center and Cultural Student Organizations at SCU Digital Collection**

In this blog post, Summer announces the new digital collection, what went into its creation, how it is used by researchers and classes, and some other tips for navigating the organization of the curated collection.



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