NASHVILLE'S PRIMARY NEWSPAPER emerged during a defining period in the history of Tennessee, the same year the War of 1812 was declared on Britain and the state established its enduring political and military legacy. Tennesseans volunteered en masse (hence the nickname “The Volunteer State”) to help defend the nation’s “Lower Country” under the command of Maj. Gen. Andrew Jackson. Through to the victory at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815, the publication (then known as the Nashville Whig) provided in-depth coverage of a war close to its readers’ hearts.

Nashville’s other nickname, “Music City USA” is inspired by legendary country music landmarks and attractions found there, including the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Belcourt Theatre, and Ryman Auditorium, the original home of the Grand Ole Opry. Additionally, the city is known as “The Hot Chicken Capital” after a spicy local take on fried chicken which is celebrated during the Hot Chicken Festival each year in Nashville.

Beyond major events covering nearly two centuries, including the state’s pivotal role in the American Civil War, and other national and international news, the digitized pages of The Nashville Tennessean (1812–2002) provide unique historical insight into the regional issues and concerns, such as local government, industrialization, prohibition, and racial struggles.

This diverse, easily-accessible primary source material is an invaluable tool for effective research by users in almost any field.

Curriculum Focus

- African-American Studies
- Arts & Culture
- Civil Rights
- Economics
- Government
- Industrialization
- Political Science
- Military History
- Multidisciplinary
- Music History
- U.S. History

Why The Nashville Tennessean?

- Full access to this historical newspaper: Users can study the progression of issues over time by browsing full-text, full-image issues of The Nashville Tennessean, which offers coverage of 1812–2002, including news articles, photos, advertisements, classified ads, obituaries, cartoons, and more.

- Insight into multiple perspectives: Not only does presenting this newspaper on the ProQuest platform allow for cover-to-cover searching and browsing of complete issues of this newspaper, but users can find a broader view of issues and events by cross searching all of ProQuest’s complete runs of historical newspapers.

- User-friendly support tools to facilitate research: Digitized at the page level, users can focus on relevant information quickly with hit-term highlighting, searchable PDFs, and image downloads in PDF format.

- Award-winning, user-friendly interface: ProQuest was awarded Best Interface in the 2015 Charleston Advisor Reader's Choice Awards: "It is much more intuitive and easy to use than previous versions. It includes improved document viewing, easier navigation...Kudos to ProQuest."

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