4.b. The Research Process

1. Develop a topic of interest

2a. Find secondaries (How?)

2b. Find primaries (How?)

(Working bibliography)

3a. Develop historical arguments/problems

3a. What questions do primaries raise?

4. A set of primaries which address my problem

Notes on primaries

Research journal

Thesis question

Hypothesis

Structure (“road map”) (I’ll speak more about this later)
Secondaries – articles


Bowdoin stacks – journals collection
Keywords: labor theory

Sample bibliography card:
- Every bit of information you'll need to cite the source later should be on the card.
- Use correct citation format.
- Make sure location is clear.
- Include keywords for your own reference.
- Employ other organization schemes as necessary

Sample note card:
- Source must be crystal clear (if using abbreviated citation style)
- Include page # of original source
- Quote, or paraphrase, but only one at a time.
- Quote scrupulously.
- When paraphrasing, keep your thoughts distinct from those of your source.
- Add keywords and other organizational tools for your own benefit.
- Consider the possibilities of computers.

LABOR THEORY

Stanley, “Compulsion and Contract in Postbellum America”

1272: “In the eyes of charity reformers, there was a clearly etched ‘line of distinction’ between laboring for wages and begging. The wage laborer was an independent person, self-supporting, one who participated in the vast social exchange of the marketplace and obeyed its rules – the polar opposite of the slave.” Goes on to say that betters were not part of the market – didn’t buy or sell their labor. Flouted rules of the marketplace. [I guess this is why, in an age of expanding market activity, they were despised – they made fragile capitalism seem vulnerable.]

Keywords: begging, labor theory, slavery (and labor theory)