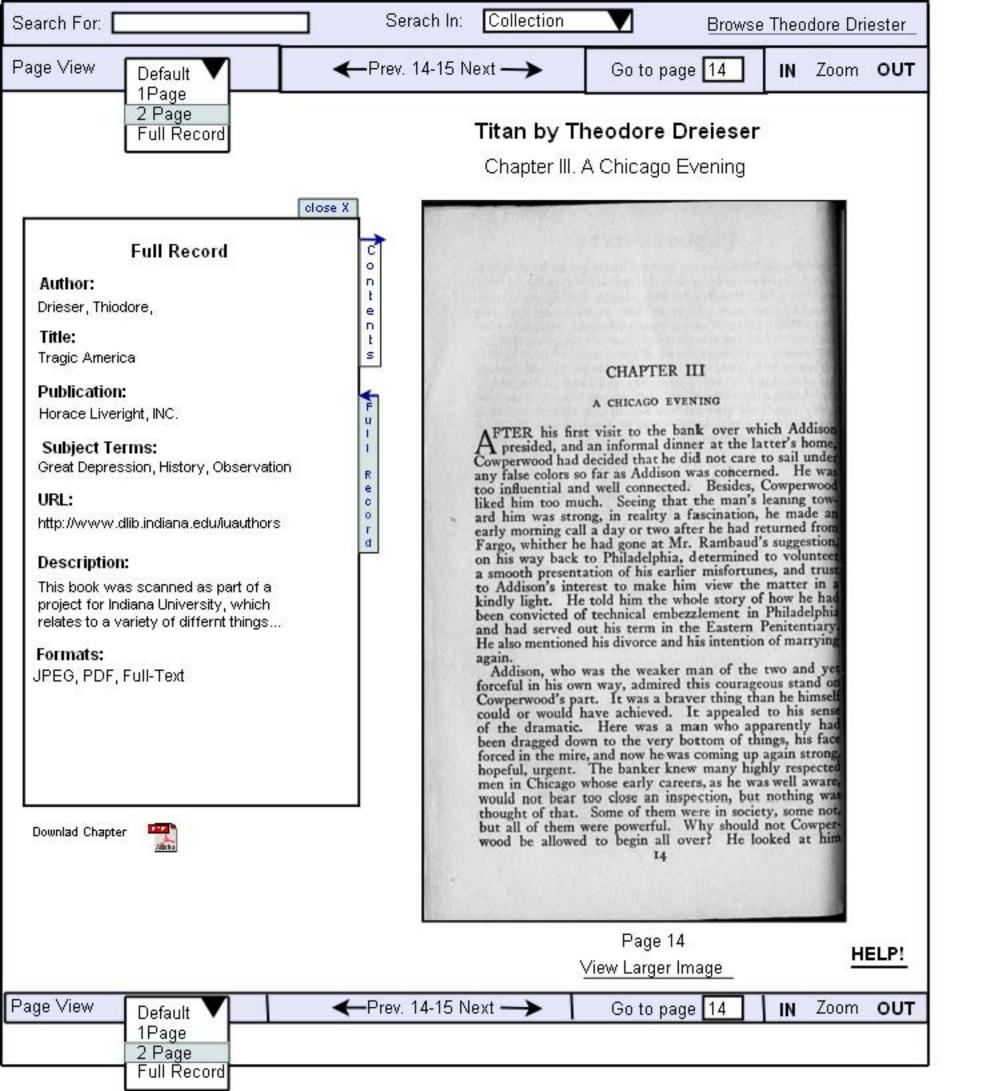


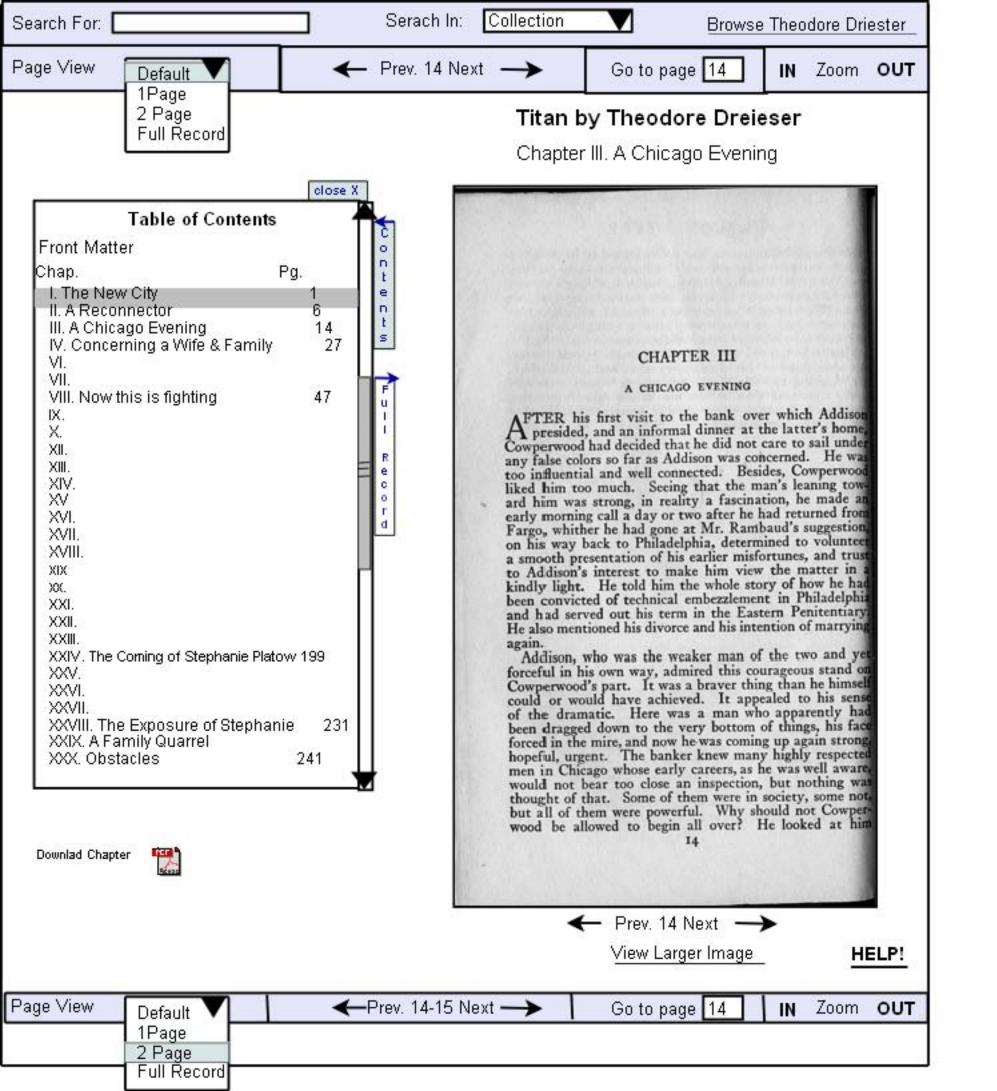
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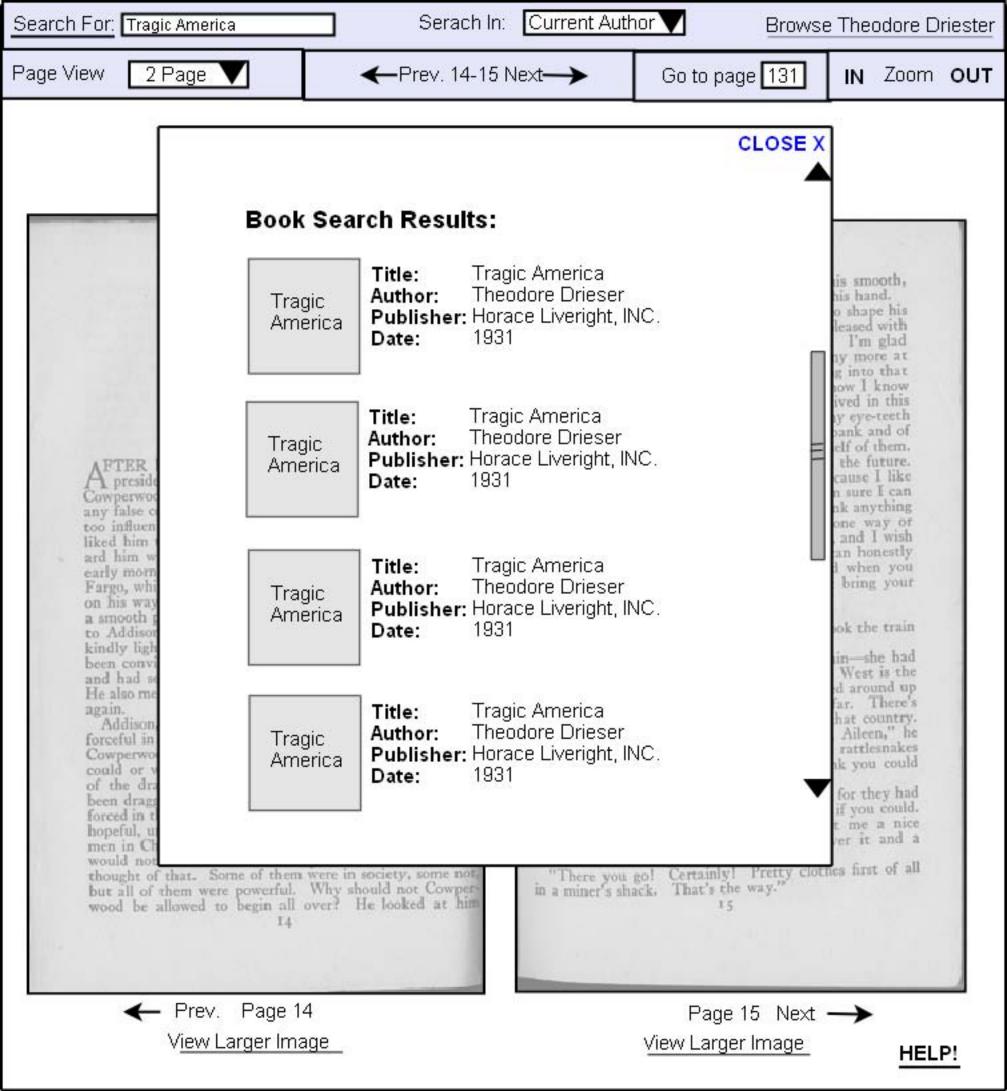
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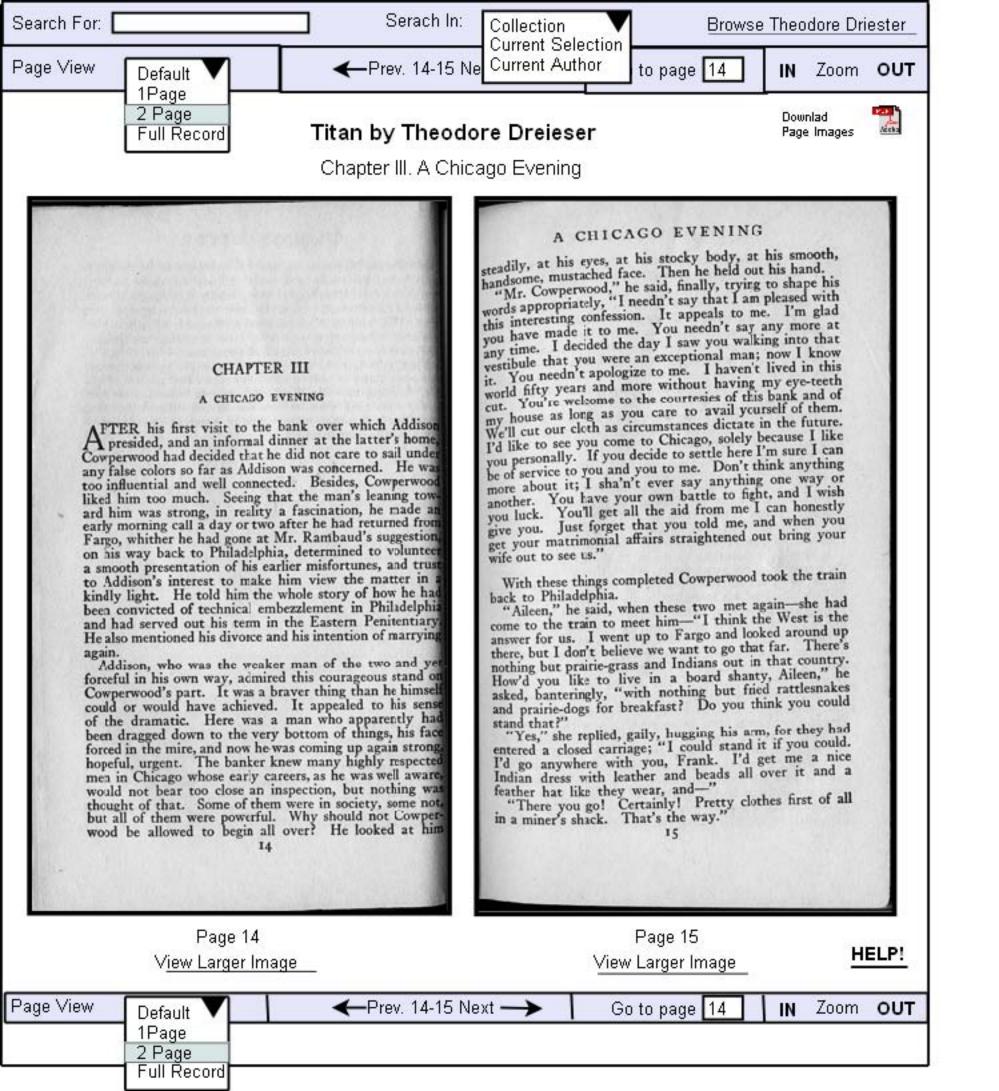
forceful in his own way, admired this courageous stand on Cowperwood's part. It was a braver thing than he himself could or would have achieved. It appealed to his sense of the dramatic. Here was a man who apparently had been dragged down to the very bottom of things, his face forced in the mire, and now he was coming up again strong hopeful, urgent. The banker knew many highly respected men in Chicago whose early careers, as he was well aware, would not bear too close an inspection, but nothing was thought of that. Some of them were in society, some not but all of them were powerful. Why should not Cowperwood be allowed to begin all over? He looked at him











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CHAPTER III

A CHICAGO EVENING

FTER his first visit to the bank over which Addison A presided, and an informal dinner at the latter's home. Cowperwood had decided that he did not care to sail under any false colors so far as Addison was concerned. He was too influential and well connected. Besides, Cowperwood think anything liked him too much. Seeing that the man's leaning toward him was strong, in reality a fascination, he made an int, and I wish early morning call a day or two after he had returned from and when you Fargo, whither he had gone at Mr. Rambaud's suggestion. on his way back to Philadelphia, determined to voluntee a smooth presentation of his earlier misfortunes, and trust to Addison's interest to make him view the matter in kindly light. He told him the whole story of how he had been convicted of technical embezzlement in Philadelphia and had served out his term in the Eastern Penitentiary, He also mentioned his divorce and his intention of marrying again.

Addison, who was the weaker man of the two and yet forceful in his own way, admired this courageous stand on Cowperwood's part. It was a braver thing than he himself could or would have achieved. It appealed to his sense of the dramatic. Here was a man who apparently had been dragged down to the very bottom of things, his face forced in the mire, and now he was coming up again strong. hopeful, urgent. The banker knew many highly respected men in Chicago whose early careers, as he was well aware, would not bear too close an inspection, but nothing was thought of that. Some of them were in society, some not but all of them were powerful. Why should not Cowperwood be allowed to begin all over? He looked at him

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