



Name _____

Class Period _____

Date _____

Beyond the Sources • *John Pillsbury*

Using the information you gather on the web site, answer the following questions about the unit.

1. Pillsbury was involved in a number of different businesses and fields of government during his life in Minnesota. The sources presented in this section are a sampling of Pillsbury's business and government interactions. What advantages can you list to viewing sources from a variety of a person's activities?

How can seeing a number of different sources from a person's life sometimes make our research more complicated?

2. Many farmers and others in need wrote to Pillsbury asking for help. What does that tell us about the impression people had of Pillsbury as a governor?

Do you think people today would write to the governor in similar situations?

What do you think people today might expect the governor to do if they asked for help?

Beyond the Sources • *John Pillsbury*

What other organizations that we have today are designed to help people in need?

3. The letter to Governor Pillsbury from the farmer and pastor in Windom, MN, includes many misspellings and mistakes in grammar and punctuation. This is one of the hazards in primary source research. What can these mistakes tell you about the author of the letter?

What might they tell you about the time in which the letter was written?

How can using a source like this possibly cause problems for us in our research?

4. The article about Pillsbury's inauguration gives us an example of how Pillsbury was viewed by the press. Do you think we would see an article in the paper today that would describe a governor as having "good sense and sound practical judgment"?

What role do you think the media can play in how the public views their elected officials?

What effect can it have on a politician if the media portrays them in a negative way?
