## *Primary Source Worksheet*

**Directions:**

- Read one of the provided excerpts from *Little Women*
- Fill out this worksheet to organize your thoughts and findings from the excerpt

### The Book

1. Who wrote *Little Women*?

2. When was it first published?

3. What American conflict forms the background for the story?

### From the Excerpt

1. Summarize in a one to three sentences what happens in this excerpt from the book.

2. Who are the main characters in this section?

3. List mentions of the Civil War or activities that seem to be related to the conflict.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST ★ ★ ★

## Home Front in Literature

Louisa May Alcott includes mentions of the Civil War throughout Little Women but most of the story focuses on the character growth of the four March sisters.

1. In this section, how does the Civil War affect the girls and their family?

2. Was there a particular sentence or phrase that you particularly noticed? Write it here.

3. In this section, do the characters do anything in response to the Civil War's hardships?

## Reflection

1. What does *Little Women* show us about different 19th Century roles or futures for girls or women?

2. How do the sisters react differently to the problems in the story?

3. Do you think *Little Women* reinforced ideas about girls/women's roles or showed new opportunities through the story?

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST