Honors Thesis Project- Type I- Abstract

My project is an historical novel that explores the events of the 1860 capture of the slaver bark CORA, which was an American ship from New York illegally engaging in the West African slave trade. On September 25th, 1860, the flag ship of the US Navy’s African Squadron, USS CONSTELLATION, intercepted her, rescuing the seven hundred Africans aboard, eventually transporting them to Monrovia, Liberia, where the fate of the recaptives remains largely unknown. My novel explores the backgrounds, prejudices, daily lives, and eventual destinies of the crews aboard both CORA and CONSTELLATION as well as those of the Africans trapped below.