

**NAVSA Religion and Spiritualities Caucus
Quarterly Bulletin (May 2021)
New Publications on Religion, Spirituality, and Nineteenth-Century Culture**

Bartels, Sarah. *The Devil and the Victorians: Supernatural Evil Nineteenth–Century English Culture* (Routledge Studies in Modern British History). Routledge, 2021.
<https://www.routledge.com/The-Devil-and-the-Victorians-Supernatural-Evil-in-Nineteenth-Century-English/Bartels/p/book/9780367444204>.

Berenato, Thomas. "The Wreck of the Deutschland' as Critique of Violence." *The Hopkins Quarterly*, Vol. XLVI, Nos. 1-4 (Winter-Fall 2019), pp. 3-35. [Published in spring 2020].

Blumberg, Ilana. "Can Novels Make Amends?" *Public Books*. 15 March 20201.
<https://www.publicbooks.org/can-novels-make-amends/>.

Brake, Laurel. "Walter Pater's Circle: the Queer Family Relations of John Rainier McQueen.'" *Studies in Walter Pater and Aestheticism* vol. 5 (Summer 2020), pp. 1-30.

Coté, Amy. "'A handful of loose beads': Catholicism and the Fictional Autobiography in Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*" *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 75.4 (March 2021): 473 - 494. Print.

Dieleman, Karen. "Ecotheological Relationships in Elizabeth Barrett's 'A Drama of Exile.'" *Christianity & Literature* vol. 69 no. 3 (September 2020), pp. 418-438.
muse.jhu.edu/article/764669.

Elizabeth Barrett's 1844 "A Drama of Exile" – often interpreted as a poem about Adam and Eve after the Fall – is more broadly about the parallel movement of *all* members of creation from innocence to lament to aggression to grace. In the poem, Barrett examines four possible paradigms for the postlapsarian relationship among members of creation: human dominion, advocated by Adam; human subjection, advocated by Eve; Earth dominion, advocated by Earth spirits; and mutual blessing, advocated by Christ. This last model aligns with a Christology in which the natural world deserves justice and participates with humanity in cosmological renewal.

Dwor, Richa, ed. *Religious Feeling*, vol 3 of *Nineteenth-Century Religion, Literature and Society*. Routledge, 2020. <https://www.routledge.com/19th-Century-Literature-Religion-and-Society-Religious-Feeling/Dwor/p/book/9781138572843>.

Spanning the long nineteenth century (c.1789–1914), the four-volume historical resource *Nineteenth-Century Religion, Literature and Society* provides new opportunities for investigating the relationship between religion, literature and society in Britain and its imperial territories by making accessible a diverse selection of harder-to-find primary sources. These include religious fiction, poetry, essays, memoirs, sermons, travel writing, religious ephemera, unpublished notebooks and pamphlet literature. Volume three, *Religious Feeling*, traces unexpected points of contact as well as deep divisions in the ways that believers and non-believers alike felt about and within religion.

Dyck, Denae. "Falling into Hope: Wisdom Poetry and the Reinterpretation of Suffering in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's *A Drama of Exile*." *Victorian Poetry* vol. 58 no. 1. (Spring 2020), pp. 27-51. [doi:10.1353/vp.2020.0001](https://doi.org/10.1353/vp.2020.0001).

Dyck, Denae. "From Denunciation to Dialogue: Redefining Prophetic Authority in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's 'A Curse for a Nation.'" *Victorian Review* vol. 46 no. 1 (Spring 2020), pp. 67-82. [doi:10.1353/vcr.2020.0011](https://doi.org/10.1353/vcr.2020.0011).

Gibson, Mary Ellis and LaPorte, Charles, eds. Special Issue on "The Varieties and Denominations of Victorian Christianity." *Victorian Review* vol. 46 no. 2 (Fall 2020), pp. 143-190. Forthcoming.

This special issue features essays on Low Church Anglicanism (Timothy Larsen), High Church Anglicanism (Elizabeth Ludlow), and Broad Church Anglicanism (Katherine Voyles); on Roman Catholicism (Carol Herringer), Irish Protestantism (Leah Robinson), Presbyterianism (Scott Spurlock), Quakerism (Herbert F. Tucker), and The Salvation Army (Mark Knight); on evangelicalism (Chad Stutz) and evangelical publishing (Juliet Shields); and on the histories of Christianity in South Africa (Sarah Duff), Australia (Joanna Cruickshank), and India (Paul Courtright and Mary Ellis Gibson). Introduction by Charles LaPorte.

Heatherington, Naomi, general ed. *Nineteenth-Century Religion, Literature and Society*. (volume eds: Rebecca Styler, Angharad Eyre, Richa Dwor, Naomi Hetherington, and Clare Stainthorp). (Routledge, 2020), 4 vols. <https://www.routledge.com/Nineteenth-Century-Religion-Literature-and-Society/Hetherington-Styler-Eyre-Dwor-Stainthorp/p/book/9781138563155>.

This four-volume historical resource provides new opportunities for investigating the relationship between religion, literature and society in Britain and its imperial territories by making accessible a diverse selection of harder-to-find primary sources. These include religious fiction, poetry, essays, memoirs, sermons, travel writing, religious ephemera, unpublished notebooks and pamphlet literature. Spanning the long nineteenth century (c.1789–1914), the resource departs from older models of 'the Victorian crisis of faith' in order to open up new ways of conceptualising religion. A key concern of the

resource is to integrate non-Christian religions into our understanding and representations of religious life in this period. Each volume is framed around a different meaning of the term 'religion'. Volume One on 'Traditions' (ed. Rebecca Styler) offers an overview of the different religious traditions and denominations present in Britain in this period. Volume Two on 'Mission and Reform' (ed. Angharad Eyre) considers the social and political importance of religious faith and practice as expressed through foreign and domestic mission and philanthropic and political movements at home and abroad. Volume Three turns to 'Religious Feeling' (ed. Richa Dwor) as an important and distinct category for understanding the ways in which religion is embodied and expressed in culture. Volume Four on 'Disbelief and New Beliefs' (ed. Naomi Hetherington and Clare Stainthorp) explores the transformation of the religious landscape of Britain and its imperial territories during the nineteenth century as a result of key cultural and intellectual forces. The resource is aimed primarily at researchers and students working within the fields of literature and social and religious history. It supplies an interpretative context for sources in the form of explanatory headnotes to each source or group of sources and volume introductions that explore overarching themes. Each volume can be read independently, but they work together to elucidate the complex and multi-faceted nature of nineteenth-century religious life.

King, Amy M. *The Divine in the Commonplace: Reverent Natural History and the Novel in Britain*. (Cambridge Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture). Cambridge UP, 2021. <https://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/literature/english-literature-1830-1900/divine-commonplace-reverent-natural-history-and-novel-britain?format=PB>.

Knight, Mark. "Varieties of Decadent Religion," in *Decadence: A Literary History*, ed. Alex Murray, Cambridge UP, 2020. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/decadence/1B67A3FDCB538506CA108749A19BE976>.

King, Josh. "Child Labor and the Idolatry of Nature in the 'Cry of the Children and *The Drama of Exile*,'" *Women's Writing*, 27.4, special issue on "Women and Labour in the Nineteenth Century," edited by Lisa Surridge and Mary Elizabeth Leighton (October 2020): 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09699082.2020.1775922>.

LaPorte, Charles. *The Victorian Cult of Shakespeare: Bardology in the Nineteenth Century*. Cambridge UP, 2020. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/victorian-cult-of-shakespeare/E407E87225E02516EAA29E4F00F80CD4>.

LaPorte, Charles, guest. "The Victorian Cult of Shakespeare." *Shakespeare Unlimited*, Episode 156. Folger Shakespeare Library. <https://www.folger.edu/shakespeare-unlimited/victorian-cult-shakespeare>.

Larsen, Timothy, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Christmas*. Oxford UP, 2020.

<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198831464.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780198831464>.

Ludlow, Elizabeth, ed. *The Figure of Christ in the Long Nineteenth Century*. Palgrave, 2020.

This volume includes chapters by a number of caucus members. It is an interdisciplinary collection of essays that explores the variety of ways in which the interface between understanding the figure of Christ, the place of the cross, and the contours of lived experience, was articulated through the long nineteenth century.

Ludlow, Elizabeth. 2020. "The Representation and Reappraisal of St. Monica of Hippo in Nineteenth-Century Women's Writing." *Christianity and Literature* vol. 69 no. 4 (December 2020), pp. 528-548. muse.jhu.edu/article/776477.

This article considers how three nineteenth-century women writers—Anna Jameson, Christina Rossetti, and Harriet Beecher Stowe—engage with the legacy of St Monica of Hippo to offer new ways of imagining the empowering social potential of faith. In my analysis, I indicate how they contribute to the Incarnation-inflected discourse of the second half of the nineteenth century and provide a helpful backdrop to understanding recent feminist appraisals of Augustine.

Ludlow, Elizabeth. "Working-Class Methodism and Eschatological Anxiety in Elizabeth Gaskell's Fiction." *The Gaskell Journal* vol 34 (2020), pp. 25-40.

This article details how Gaskell engages with the spiritual and political implications of millennialism and suggests how, in modelling different responses among working-class communities, she carves out a vision of radical Christianity.

Ledger-Lomas, Michael. *Queen Victoria: This Thorny Crown*. Oxford UP, 2021.

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/queen-victoria-9780198753551?cc=ca&lang=en&>.

Seidel, Kevin. *Rethinking the Secular Origins of the Novel*. Cambridge UP, 2021.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/rethinking-the-secular-origins-of-the-novel/DDCF53F3B0A48A32CA9C60EA6837D7C1>.

Scholl, Lesa. *Hunger, Poetry and the Oxford Movement: The Tractarian Social Vision*. Bloomsbury, 2020. <https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/hunger-poetry-and-the-oxford-movement-9781350120723/>

Scholl, Lesa. "Sav(or)ing the Soul: Alimentary Excess and the Decline of Body and Soul in Anne Brontë's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*." *Victorians: A Journal of Culture and Literature* vol. 138 no. 1 (Winter 2020), pp. 156-68. [doi:10.1353/vct.2020.0020](https://doi.org/10.1353/vct.2020.0020).

Scholl, Lesa. "Exploring the Holy Land: Harriet Martineau's Engagement with Comparative Theology." *Nineteenth-Century Prose* vol. 47 no. 2 (Fall 2020), pp. 11-38.

Tonstad, Linn. "The Place, and Problems, of Truth." *Literature and Theology* vol. 35 no. 1 (March 2021), pp. 4-21.

Werner, Winter Jade. *Missionary Cosmopolitanism in Nineteenth-Century British Literature*, Ohio State UP, 2020. <https://ohiostatepress.org/books/titles/9780814214268.html>.

Werner, Winter Jade, and Wiehl, John, eds. Special Issue on Religion, Criticism, and the Postcritical. *LIT: Literature Interpretation Theory*. Vol 32 nos. 1-2 (2021). <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/glit20/32/1?nav=tocList>

Contributors to the first issue are Mark Knight, Christine A. Colón, Ray Horton, and Sara Judy. Contributors to the second issue (forthcoming) are Sean Dempsey, William and Raili Marling, Jessica Ling, Kyle Garton-Gundling, and Rachel Arteaga.

Wiebracht, Ben. "Love in the Time of Chartism: Ideology and Romance in the Victorian Social-Problem Novel." *Nineteenth Century Studies* vol. 31 (2019): pp. 61-78. [Published in Fall 2020]. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/ninecentstud.31.2019.0061?seq=1>

It is a common complaint that Victorian social-problem novels start by wrestling with serious issues like economic inequality, only to shift gears and tell a conventional love story instead. This complaint assumes that the proper business of a social-problem novel is to expose social ills, and that a love plot would need to advance that goal to be worth including. The Victorians themselves, though, saw the love plot as an artistic and ethical end in itself. This article shows how Victorian novels used grand ideological debates of all kinds, including religious ones, to craft coherent and compelling love stories.