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978-0-521-19954-4 - Imperial Sceptics: British Critics of Empire, 1850-1920

Gregory Claeys

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IMPERIAL SCEPTICS

Imperial Sceptics provides a highly original analysis of the emergence of opposition to the British Empire from 1850 to 1920. Departing from existing accounts, which have focused upon the Boer War and the writings of John Hobson, Gregory Claeys proposes a new chronology for the contours of resistance to imperial expansion. Claeys locates the impetus for such opposition in the late 1850s with the British followers of Auguste Comte. Tracing critical strands of anti-imperial thought through to the First World War, Claeys then scrutinises the full spectrum of socialist writings from the early 1880s onwards, revealing a fundamental division over whether a new conception of 'socialist imperialism' could appeal to the electorate and satisfy economic demands. Based upon extensive archival research, and utilising rare printed sources, *Imperial Sceptics* will prove a major contribution to our understanding of nineteenth-century political thought, shedding new light on theories of nationalism, patriotism, the state and religion.

GREGORY CLAEYS is Professor of the History of Political Thought at Royal Holloway, University of London. He has edited numerous works including *Late Victorian Utopias* (6 volumes, 2008) and *The Cambridge Companion to Utopian Literature* (2010). He has published widely on aspects of the Owenite socialist movement, the French Revolution debate in Britain and the thought of Thomas Paine.

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Gregory Claeys

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

IDEAS IN CONTEXT 97

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Royal Holloway, University of London



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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
 Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
 São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
 The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
 Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521199544

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First published 2010

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data
 Claeys, Gregory.

Imperial sceptics : British critics of empire, 1850–1920 / Gregory Claeys.
 p. cm. – (Ideas in context ; 97) ISBN 978-0-521-19954-4 (hardback)

I. Anti-imperialist movements – Great Britain – History – 19th century. 2. Anti-imperialist
 movements – Great Britain – History – 20th century. I. Title. II. Series.

JV1017.C53 2010
 325'.32094109034–dc22
 2010000072

ISBN 978-0-521-19954-4 Hardback

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 accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in
 this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is,
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Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xi
Introduction: <i>audi alteram partem</i> : imperialism and the moral imagination	
Anti-imperialism: the state of play	I
The two debates in foreign and colonial policy	10
Some strands of imperial scepticism	21
Conclusion	45
1 Positivist diplomacy	47
Comte, humanity and empire	47
Congreve and anti-imperialism	58
<i>International Policy</i> (1866)	62
India, Ireland, Egypt	66
The work of Harrison, Beesly and Quin	83
Universal Home Rule: carving empires into republics	97
Intervention and non-intervention	104
‘Little England’ and the analysis of empire	112
Conclusion	122
2 Socialism and empire: from Little England to socialist commonwealth, 1850–1920	124
Introduction	124
Marx and his legacy	131
Hyndman and the SDF	140
Ernest Belfort Bax: Positivism, Marxism and the nationalist controversy	159
William Morris and the Socialist League	168
Clarion call: Robert Blatchford	172
The Fabians, their friends, some allies and malcontents	180
The ILP: Macdonald, Hardie and some others	198
Other socialist contributions to the debate	208
Socialism and Little England	219
Conclusion	224

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-19954-4 - Imperial Sceptics: British Critics of Empire, 1850-1920

Gregory Claeys

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

Contents

3	Contextualising Hobson: civilisation, utility and socialist imperialism	235
	The formation of Hobson's critique of capitalist imperialism, 1894-1902	236
	<i>Imperialism. A Study</i> : civilisation and exploitation justified	245
	Hobson as socialist imperialist	260
	Hobson, Positivism and the ethics of humanity	271
	Conclusion	281
	Conclusion: the fruits of imperial scepticism: more sovereignty and less	282
	<i>Bibliography</i>	291
	<i>Index</i>	327

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-19954-4 - Imperial Sceptics: British Critics of Empire, 1850-1920

Gregory Claeys

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

I am grateful for the indulgent generosity of various friends, colleagues and others who have commented on all or parts of this book, particularly Duncan Bell, Emma Brennan, Istvan Hont, Gareth Stedman Jones, Zoë Laidlaw, Michael Levin and Bernard Porter; for references to John Mackenzie, Stephen Meredith, Marcus Morris, Cassandra Pybus, Henry Reynolds, Francis Robinson and T. R. Wright; and to groups at the School of Government, University of Beijing; the Centre for History and Economics, King's College, Cambridge; the Faculty of International Studies, University of Hanoi; the University of Central Lancashire; the Department of History, University of Liverpool; the Institute of Historical Research, University of London; and the University of Paris IV. Indispensable encouragement was provided by Justin Champion. My thanks are due to the Arts and Humanities Research Council for funding a term's leave to complete the manuscript.

I have disturbed the repose of many librarians in writing this book, and am particularly grateful to the Inter-Library Loan staff at Royal Holloway, University of London, and to staff at the London Library; the Bishopsgate Institute; the Bodleian Library; the British Library of Political and Economic Science, London School of Economics, and particularly the Archive staff; the University of Hull archive; the International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam; the Maison Auguste Comte, Paris; the John Rylands Library, University of Manchester; Rare Books and Special Collections, McGill University Library; the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society; the University of Liverpool Library; the University of Paris IV; the British Library and British Library Newspaper Library, Colindale; Derbyshire County Council; Keele University Library; the National Library of Scotland; Senate House Library, University of London; the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland; the People's History Museum, and particularly Nick Mansfield; the Archive, University of Strathclyde; the Library, UCLA; and the West Sussex

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Gregory Claeys

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

Acknowledgements

County Record Office. To Richard Fisher at Cambridge University Press, to Quentin Skinner and Jim Tully, and several referees, I am also very thankful.

Parts of chapter 1 of this book have appeared previously in ‘The “Left” and the Critique of Empire, c.1865–1900: Three Roots of Humanitarian Foreign Policy’, in Duncan Bell, ed., *Victorian Visions of Global Order: Empire and International Relations in Nineteenth Century British Political Thought* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), pp. 239–66. I am grateful to the publisher for permission to reprint passages from it here.

This volume is respectfully dedicated to two men who, in very different ways, helped me to see another side: George S. Andrew Jr and Nguyen Ai Quoc.

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Gregory Claeys

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Abbreviations*

<i>AA</i>	<i>African Affairs</i>
Add. MS	British Library Additional Manuscript
<i>AHR</i>	<i>American Historical Review</i>
<i>AJES</i>	<i>American Journal of Economics and Sociology</i>
<i>AJS</i>	<i>American Journal of Sociology</i>
<i>ASR</i>	<i>American Sociological Review</i>
<i>BJIS</i>	<i>British Journal of International Studies</i>
BLPES	British Library of Political and Economic Science
<i>BSSLH</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Society for the Study of Labour History</i>
<i>CHR</i>	<i>Canadian Historical Review</i>
<i>CR</i>	<i>Contemporary Review</i>
<i>DA</i>	<i>Derbyshire Advertiser</i>
<i>DR</i>	<i>Diplomatic Review</i>
<i>DUJ</i>	<i>Durham University Journal</i>
<i>EHR</i>	<i>Economic History Review</i>
<i>EJ</i>	<i>Economic Journal</i>
<i>ER</i>	<i>The English Review</i>
<i>EW</i>	<i>Ethical World</i>
<i>FR</i>	<i>Fortnightly Review</i>
<i>H&T</i>	<i>History and Theory</i>
<i>HEI</i>	<i>History of European Ideas</i>
<i>HJ</i>	<i>Historical Journal</i>
<i>HPE</i>	<i>History of Political Economy</i>
<i>HPT</i>	<i>History of Political Thought</i>
<i>HS</i>	<i>Historical Studies</i>
<i>HWJ</i>	<i>History Workshop Journal</i>
<i>IESHR</i>	<i>Indian Economic and Social History Review</i>
<i>IHS</i>	<i>Irish Historical Studies</i>
IISG	International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam
<i>IJE</i>	<i>International Journal of Ethics</i>

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Gregory Claeys

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xii

List of abbreviations

ILP	Independent Labour Party
<i>IRHPS</i>	<i>International Review of History and Political Science</i>
<i>IRSH</i>	<i>International Review of Social History</i>
<i>JAH</i>	<i>Journal of African History</i>
<i>JBS</i>	<i>Journal of British Studies</i>
<i>JCH</i>	<i>Journal of Contemporary History</i>
<i>JEH</i>	<i>Journal of Economic History</i>
<i>JHI</i>	<i>Journal of the History of Ideas</i>
<i>JICH</i>	<i>Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History</i>
<i>JP</i>	<i>Journal of Politics</i>
<i>LL</i>	<i>Labour Leader</i>
LPC	London Positivist Committee
LPS	London Positivist Society
MAC	Maison Auguste Comte
<i>MAS</i>	<i>Modern Asian Studies</i>
<i>MG</i>	<i>Manchester Guardian</i>
<i>MH</i>	<i>Midland History</i>
<i>MRSPEs</i>	<i>Monthly Record of the South Place Ethical Society</i>
<i>NA</i>	<i>New Age</i>
<i>NC</i>	<i>The Nineteenth Century</i>
NLS	National Library of Scotland
<i>NR</i>	<i>National Reformer</i>
<i>P&P</i>	<i>Past and Present</i>
<i>PMG</i>	<i>Pall Mall Gazette</i>
<i>PR</i>	<i>Positivist Review</i>
<i>Prog. Rev.</i>	<i>Progressive Review</i>
<i>PSQ</i>	<i>Political Science Quarterly</i>
<i>RN</i>	<i>Reynolds's Newspaper</i>
<i>RP</i>	<i>Review of Politics</i>
<i>RRPE</i>	<i>Review of Radical Political Economics</i>
<i>S&S</i>	<i>Science and Society</i>
SDF	Social Democratic Federation
<i>SPM</i>	<i>South Place Monthly Magazine</i>
<i>SPML</i>	<i>South Place Monthly List</i>
<i>SPMR</i>	<i>South Place Monthly Review</i>
<i>SR</i>	<i>Sociological Review</i>
UCL	University College London
<i>VS</i>	<i>Victorian Studies</i>