

NINETEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE IN TRANSITION: THE 1860s

Offering an in-depth overview and reappraisal of the 1860s in British literature, this innovative volume features detailed analyses from noted scholars at the top of their fields. Covering characteristic literary genres of the 1860s (including sensation and lyric, as well as Golden Age children's literature), and topics of current and enduring interest in the field, from empire and slavery to evolution, environmental issues, and economics, it incorporates drama as well as poetry and fiction and emphasizes the history of publishing and periodicals so important to the period. Chapters are attentive to the global context, from Ireland on the stage, to Bengali literature, to Britain's muted response to the US Civil War. The Introduction gives an overview that places these individual chapters in the historical context of the 1860s, as well as in the current scholarly conversation in the field.

PAMELA K. GILBERT is the Albert Brick Professor in the Department of English at the University of Florida. Her books include Victorian Skin: Surface, Self, History (2019), Disease, Desire and the Body in Victorian Women's Popular Novels, (1997), Mapping the Victorian Social Body (2004), The Citizen's Body (2007), and Cholera and Nation (2008).



NINETEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE IN TRANSITION

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This series aims to move beyond existing preconceptions of the British literature of each decade of the nineteenth century ('the reforming thirties', the 'hungry forties', and the 'naughty nineties') in favor of a mode of characterization that considers each ten-year period as a dynamic field of synchronic and diachronic forces, and as sites of energetic tension between what came before and what followed. Viewing the decade as a vivid and relational concept will reinvigorate critical understanding of British literary production and consumption in a century in which unprecedented historical self-reflexivity ensured concepts of a 'century' and a 'decade' became important structures for lived experience.

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