

Works Cited

Pykett, Lyn. *Critical Issues: Charles Dickens*. Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2002.

***Pulling the Devil's Kingdom Down: The Salvation Army in Victorian Britain*, by Pamela J. Walker. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002.**

At the heart of this superb study on the Salvation Army are accounts of three women members. One is Maud Charlesworth, daughter of an Anglican minister, who became known as La Marechale. When she married Booth's son, tickets were sold for the wedding. The second is about Effie Anthon, an illegitimate girl, brought up by Josephine Butler, and then handed over to Constance Maynard, the founder of Westfield College. When these attempts at rescue failed, she was sent to the Salvation Army, was converted, took on the uniform, but then backslid into sexual misdemeanours and petty theft. The final story is about Rebecca Jarrett, a prostitute and brothel-owner, who was imprisoned in the Maiden Tribute case, but returned after release to the work of the Army.

These meticulous stories, told with a searching eye for accuracy and ambiguity, illustrate the very complex role played by the Salvation Army in Victorian society, intruding upon working-class communities, and yet not as do-gooder outsiders but as re-interpreters of working-class life. There is an outstanding chapter on conversion, explaining the importance of the conversion narrative and of the significance of the struggle for holiness in working-class life. The book is particularly sensitive to gender factors in the tradition of Judith Walkowitz, in particular the impact of the Army on working-class femininity, but also identifies the way in which the Army's defiant style of working-class masculinity awakened the opposition of the so-called "skeleton armies."

The book begins with a very interesting analysis of the emergence of the Christian Mission out of the East London branch of the Methodist New Connexion, portraying shrewdly the entrepreneurial activity and style of William and in particular Catherine Booth. Walker portrays the army as a "neighbourhood religion", and in so doing exalts community above class as a sphere of meaning and identity. A few questions like this remain, and there are a few misprints, but generally this is easily the best work available on the Salvation Army, and while it focuses on the Army as a social and religious community, it also significantly contributes to our understanding of how the Army emerged in Victorian society, and makes us wonder why the story has for so long been left to in-house writers.

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