

# Harriet Martineau

## Writings on British History and Military Reform

The Pickering Masters ~ 6 Volume Set

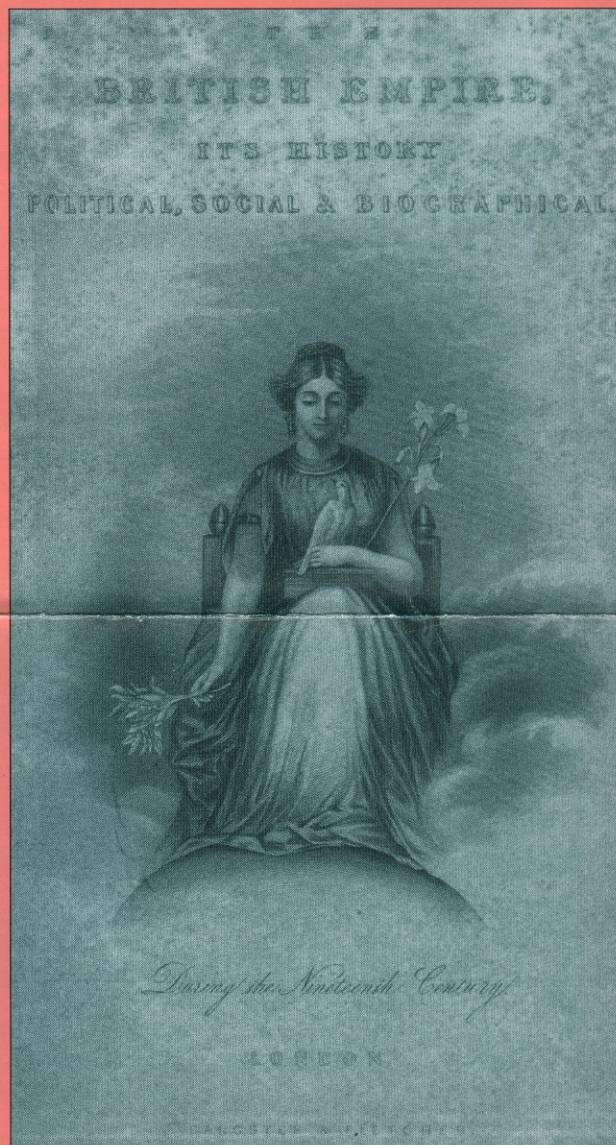
Editor: Deborah Logan

Advisory Editor: Kathryn Sklar

This reset edition of Harriet Martineau's historical writings consists primarily of the *History of the Peace: Being a History of England from 1816 to 1854*, as well as the introductory *History of England, AD 1800 to 1815*. Martineau's account of British history from the turn of the nineteenth century to the Crimean War is expertly supplemented by previously unpublished correspondence between Martineau and Florence Nightingale, and by Martineau's *England and Her Soldiers* (1859). Martineau's leaders on health issues for the *Daily News*, the *Atlantic Monthly* and *Once a Week* round up the edition.

The edition is strongly interdisciplinary in character, appealing to areas such as Victorian studies, nineteenth-century British and international history, women's studies, Empire studies, nineteenth-century reform movements, as well as nineteenth-century social and medical history. Moreover, the unpublished Martineau-Nightingale correspondence is of significance to anyone interested in the study of Florence Nightingale and her impact on nineteenth-century British history.

- Comprehensive scholarly introduction discussing Martineau's role as a historian, her pioneering contributions to the emerging discipline of historiography as well as the work's reception history
- Reset edition using the Walker and Wise 1864 edition as the original copy text for the *History*, which is the only edition that incorporates the introductory volume (1800–1815) and takes Martineau's history up to 1854 including her preface and many footnotes
- Includes previously unpublished correspondence between Harriet Martineau and Florence Nightingale addressing social and health issues as well as wider themes such as nationalism



Frontispiece to *History of England during the thirty years' peace: 1816–1846* (1849–50)

- Includes additional annotation supplying updated information that has become available subsequent to the publication of the *History*
- First modern scholarly edition of *England and her Soldiers*



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**Pickering & Chatto Publishers**

# Harriet Martineau: Writings on British History and Military Reform

The literary career of Harriet Martineau (1802–76) spanned half a century from the late Romantic to the 'high' Victorian period. From her didactic fiction of the 1820s and 1830s through her self-help and metaphysical explorations of the 1840s, and from her histories in the 1850s through her journalism of the 1860s, Martineau reigned at the forefront of Victorian social-problem and social-reform writing. Her work encompassed a wide variety of genres and disciplines, making Harriet Martineau what we would today call a truly interdisciplinary writer.

Writing mostly prior to the strict delineation of scholarly disciplines that occurred in the late nineteenth century, Martineau's fame as a writer on sociology, philosophy, literature, metaphysics, comparative religion, travel, journalism and history was subsequently eclipsed by the masculine tradition of academic

standards, a tradition from which informally-educated, self-made women like Martineau were excluded. Although she knew and corresponded with the period's political, social and economic movers-and-shakers in Britain and the United States, and although she was entertained by American presidents and plied by Members of Parliament with Blue Books in her own parlour, Harriet Martineau's fame lapsed into obscurity after her death.

There has been a revival of interest in Martineau's writings in recent times but critical editions of her work are lacking. In particular, Martineau's idiosyncratic historical and political work deserves a long-overdue critical edition. This Pickering & Chatto edition will fill this scholarly gap and will therefore provide for a fundamental chapter in the growing body of nineteenth-century women's 'serious' non-fiction writing.

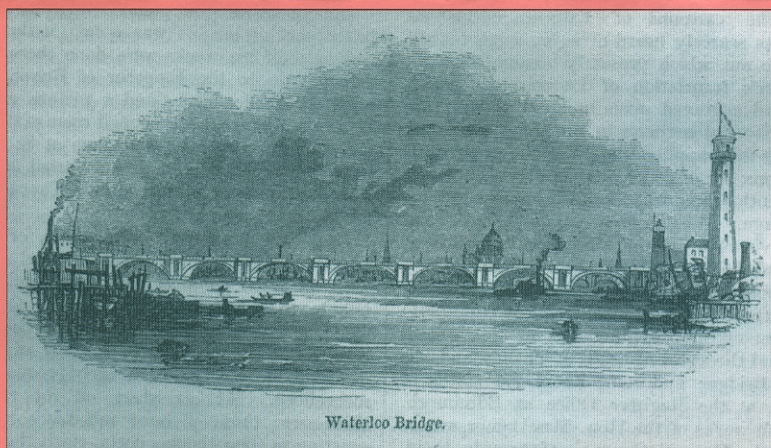


Illustration from *History of the Peace; Pictorial History of England during the thirty years' peace 1816–1846* (1858)

## Editorial apparatus:

The Pickering & Chatto edition of *Harriet Martineau: Writings on British History and Military Reform* is fully reset. The Walker And Wise 1864 edition (to which the Porter & Coates edition of the same year is identical) has been chosen as the original copy text, an edition incorporating the original *History of The Thirty Years' Peace 1816–46*, the subsequent *Introduction to the History of the Peace 1800–1815*, and previously unpublished material covering the years 1846 through the Crimean war in 1854. Walker & Wise is the only edition to cover the years 1800 through 1854, making it the definitive version published during Martineau's lifetime and the only edition to incorporate her final additions and corrections. The publishers regarded the extension to the *History* as 'AN ENTIRE NEW BOOK' and Martineau welcomed the invitation from this American publisher for a new edition, which she regarded as a chance to 'right some wrongs'. Martineau's many footnotes will be updated and elaborated in this new edition and textual variants are noted at the end of each volume of the *History*.

Distinct from the biographical introduction offered in *Harriet Martineau's Writings on the British Empire*, also published by Pickering & Chatto, the introductory material in *Harriet Martineau: Writings on British History and Military Reform* discusses the field of historiography and the place of women historians in the 'history of history'. Within this discussion lies an assessment of what

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## Contents

Harriet Martineau accomplished as a historian in the context of the essentially masculine discipline of history that developed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The edition's introduction also considers Martineau's contributions to women's historiography, women's studies and women's nonfiction writing; it looks at the scholarly worth of her history and at the primary and secondary sources on which she relied; it assesses the work's reception history in the context of contemporary historians, male and female. In addition, the introduction to *England and Her Soldiers* outlines the friendship between Martineau and Florence Nightingale, the circumstances of their professional collaboration and their shared experiences as invalids as well as their interest in social, sanitary and hygiene reforms.



Illustration from *History of the Peace; Pictorial History of England during the thirty years' peace 1816–1846* (1858)

### Volumes 1–5

*History of the Peace: Being a History of England from 1816 to 1854. With an introduction 1800 to 1815* (1864)

Volume 1 begins with the year 1790 telling the story of the aftermath of the French revolution and the Napoleonic wars. Volumes 2–5, cover a period known as the thirty years' peace which became, unofficially, the forty years' peace. This was a fascinating period which saw, amongst other things, the impact of industrialism on society, the 1832 Reform Bill, the rise and fall of Chartism and the famine years in Ireland.

### Volume 6

*England and her Soldiers* (1859); *Daily News* leaders on sanitary reform in the armed forces: 'Army Hygiene' (14 January 1859 and 18 January 1859); 'Royal Commission on the Sanitary Condition of the Army' (26 January 1859); 'Reconstitution of the Army Medical Department' (11 February 1859); 'An appeal to the Minister of War: Why the Delay?' (16 February 1859); 'Sanitary reform for preventable epidemic disease as a matter of national security' (5 March 1859); 'Sidney Herbert and barrack reform' (27 June 1859); 'Overview of sanitary reform in the military in "Review of the Year"' (31 December 1859); 'Health in the Camps', 'Health in the Hospitals', *Atlantic Monthly* (1861); Previously unpublished correspondence between Martineau and Florence Nightingale addressing health, illness, mortality, preventable disease, and nationalism; Selections from *Once a*

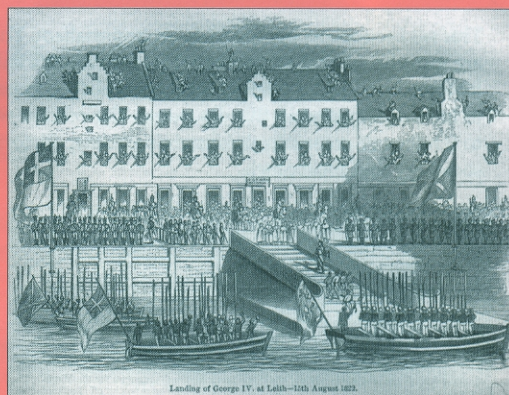


Illustration from *History of the Peace; Pictorial History of England during the thirty years' peace 1816–1846* (1858)

*Week*: 'Florence Nightingale's Latest Charity' (15 August 1863); 'The Training of Nurses' (30 June 1860); '3 Woman's Battlefield' (3 December 1859); 'The Soldier and Sailor: Their Health' (5 January 1861); 'Nurses Wanted', *Cornhill Magazine* (1865); 'Miss Nightingale's Notes on Nursing', *Quarterly Review* (1860).

*England and her Soldiers* is a work based on Martineau's collaboration with Florence Nightingale, who enlisted Martineau's aid as a writer best suited to 'popularise' the issue of sanitary reform in the military not just with the general public but also with the War Office. In an age of cholera the concerns were not just about military reform but reforms at home, where many social health problems were found to be preventable through the introduction of hygiene reforms, especially among high concentrations of population.

## Editorial board

**Deborah Logan** is associate professor of English at Western Kentucky University. Her work on Harriet Martineau includes a literary biography, *The Hour and the Woman: Harriet Martineau's 'somewhat remarkable' Life* (2002) and she is the editor of *Writings on Slavery and the American Civil War by Harriet Martineau* (2002) and *Harriet Martineau's Illustrations of Political Economy, Selected Tales* (2004).

**Kathryn Sklar** is at SUNY Binghamton

## Publication details

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## Harriet Martineau's Writing on the British Empire

General Editor: **Deborah Logan**  
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and **Kitty Sklar**  
With a preface by **Patrick Brantlinger**

This set focuses on her writings on imperialism. The selected texts are introduced and annotated, thus providing a substantial historical and social context through which to measure the worth of her participation in this discourse. The edition will be of interest to scholars of colonialism, women's writing, Victorian studies, sociology and journalism.

Her interest in imperialism is tempered by her regard for historical precedent and her insightful ability always to perceive the big

picture even while focused on the minutiae of current events. An example of this is seen in her *British Rule in India* (1857), which illuminates the events surrounding the 1857-8 Indian mutiny by studying Anglo-Indian relations over a much longer time span. This, in turn, prepares for her *Suggestions Toward the Future Government of India* (1858), which addresses solutions for repairing fractured relations while instituting bureaucratic changes that would prevent similar problems in the future. Other writings in this collection cover the Middle East, South Africa and Ireland.

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