WOMEN AND VICTORIAN VALUES, 1837-1910 Advice Books, Manuals and Journals for Women

Part 5: Sources from the Bodleian Library, OxfordPart 6: Sources from the Brotherton Library, University of LeedsPart 7: Sources from the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds

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Publisher's Note - Part 5

In our series *Women and Victorian Values*, 1837-1910 we offer a wide selection of materials concerning the many roles played by women in the Victorian period.

During the Victorian and Edwardian periods society was underpinned by rigid moral and social values; with ideal forms of masculine and feminine behaviour. Moral respectability and domesticity were important ideologies of feminine behaviour. The 'woman's mission' was that of supportive wife, dutiful daughter, and caring mother, and the woman's domestic role was seen as an important and pivotal part of society. It was especially important that mothers should teach their children the values of Christian morality, which formed the foundation of society. For men society dictated they take the authoritative role as head of the household. The public sphere of society was controlled by male authority, with very little room for women.

In Part 5 of Women and Victorian Values we concentrate on the writings of sixteen Victorian authors from Sarah Adams to Charlotte Yonge. The texts, in the form of manuals, advice books, essays, pamphlets and novels, are written by authors from differing social classes, and reveal insights into many areas of Victorian social behaviour.

We begin the collection with *The complete servant* (1825) by Sarah and Samuel Adams, who combined their fifty years of practical experience as servants to write this guide. Written from the viewpoint of the working classes the manual contains information relating to the duties of all servants, from the housekeeper to the servant of all-work, and from the land steward to the foot boy.

Isabella Mary Beeton and Samuel Orchart Beeton produced a series of extremely popular household manuals which were widely read from the mid-nineteenth century onwards. These books were influential to the way Victorian women ran their households, and we have included ten titles in our collection. Isabella Beeton combines practical advice with an eye to thrift and economy in titles such as, *Beeton's Penny Cookery Book being useful recipes for good breakfasts, dinners and suppers at a cost varying from Tenpence to Two Shillings per day for Six Persons* (c.1870). Beeton also wrote on the care of children, as in *The management of children in health and sickness* (1873). While in *Beeton's domestic service guide* (c.1875) Samuel Beeton writes about the laws between servants and masters, monthly wages, peculiar grounds for dismissal and other related matters. Other titles by Samuel Beeton include *Beeton's Englishwoman's Annual* (1875), and *Beeton's complete etiquette for ladies* (1876), with a companion volume of etiquette for men.

Elizabeth Blackwell was a leading figure in opening up the medical profession to women. She was the first woman to earn a medical degree in the United States in 1849, and the first woman listed in the Medical Registry of the United Kingdom in 1859. We include a selection of her writings on health and social issues relevant to the period. For example, the essay *The laws of life* (1859) gives advice on the importance of physical education for both mental and physical wellbeing in all areas of life. Also included is the classic text entitled Counsel to parents on the moral education of their children in relation to sex (1879). A pamphlet on the *Purchase of Women: the great economic blunder* (1877) concerns the evils and morals of prostitution found in all walks of society. Blackwell documents her medical profession to women autobiographical sketches (1895). She was a source of inspiration for many Victorian women.

The popular works of Lydia Maria Child were written from an American view of society and culture. We have selected five of these texts which were also popular with women in Victorian Britain. They include *The girl's own book* (fourth edition, 1832) which gives advice for girls on games, exercises, crafts, conundrums, charades, needlework etc., and the authors aim was, 'to enable them to fulfil the duties of a humble station, or to dignify and adorn the highest'. In *The deeper wrong; or, incidents in the life of a slave girl* by Harriet Jacobs (1862) Child, as editor, gives her views on slavery. In her preface she wrote, 'Reader, be assured this narrative is no fiction,' and she argues the shame of black slavery by white society. Women in Victorian Britain were open to the influences of American culture.

Women's involvement in moral crusades can be found in the works by Frances Power Cobbe who dedicated much of her life to social reform. Essayist, journalist, pamphleteer and public speaker her works include *Darwinism in morals, and other essays* (1872), *The workhouse as a hospital* (1861), *The modern rack, papers on vivisection* (1889), *Criminals, idiots, women and minors. Is the classification sound? A discussion on the laws concerning the property of married women* (1869) and *Female education, and how it would be affected by university examinations* (1862) – these are five of 14 works by Cobbe included. Cobbe's writings are considered a primary resource for the study of Victorian England's many and varied reform movements.

Dinah Maria Mulock Craik wrote popular novels about the station and condition of men and women in society; with a concern to the moral development of her heroes and heroines. *John Halifax, gentleman* (1856) is considered a key work, and a contemporary review in the *Examiner* described it as a story, 'designed to trace the career from boyhood to age of a perfect man – a Christian gentleman.' Other novels we include are: *The head of the family* (1852), *Domestic Stories* (1860), *Mistress and maid* (1863), *Hannah* (1872) and *My mother and I, a girl's love story* (1874). We also offer two works of collected essays by Craik entitled *About money and other things, a gift book* (1886) and *Concerning men, and other papers* (1888).

The pivotal role of women as wives, mothers and daughters can be explored in a selection of thirteen works by Sarah Stickney Ellis. We include her classic text *The daughters of England, and their position in society, character, and responsibilities* [1845] which gives moral and social advice on a variety of subjects. Of society Ellis says, 'Society is often to the daughters of a family, what business or profession is to the sons.' The instructional novel *The mother's mistake* (1856) is a story about a mother's responsibility in the development of her child. *The mothers of great men* (1859) continues with the subject of motherhood, with a history of women as the mothers of great men, such as Henry VII and Napoleon. An insight into the life of the author can be found in her biography *The home life and letters of Mrs Ellis compiled by her nieces* (1893).

Charlotte Perkins Gilman was a woman of many roles including wife, mother, novelist, poet, lecturer, economist and reformer. Her books were widely read by women in both her home country of America, and in Britain. Writing in her role as economist and social reformer Gilman wrote *Women and economics, a study of the economic relation between men and women as a factor of social education* (fifth edition, 1906). In this work Gilman argues the case for women's economic freedom, and analyses women's economic dependence on men. We also include two of her advice books on domestic matters entitled *Concerning Children* (1900) and *The home, its work and influence* (1903).

We offer three advice books from the writings of Harriet Martineau including her classic text *Health, husbandry and handicraft* (1861) containing a selection of her articles written for the periodicals '*Once a Week*' and '*Household Words*'. They cover a

diverse range of subjects with items on health, such as the cost of cottages; matters of husbandry, for example, the life of a salmon, and a series of studies of industrial processes and handicrafts, such as guns and pistols. Other titles include *How to observe: morals and manners* (1838) and *Household education* (1849).

The Book of the Boudoir (1829) by Lady Sydney Morgan contains anecdotes told in the boudoir among friends, in familiar, comfortable and informal situations. Anecdotes and essays reflect Lady Morgan's view of society, religion and politics, and include chapters on a wide variety of topics including, Lord Castlereagh, the Irish Union, the Philosophy of Grammar, and Methodism and Molière. By contrast, *Woman and her Master* (1840) is a history of the lives of women, and their place in society, from 'women of savage life' through to modern times.

A plea for women (1843) by Marion Reid is a plea for the recognition of women's equal status in society. In her preface Reid writes, 'it is designed to show, that social equality with man is necessary for the free growth and development of woman's nature ...' The author writes on the supposed power of female influence, on the use of the term 'woman's sphere', on business and domestic duties compared, and on woman's claims to equal rights.

The popular advice book *Letters to Young Ladies* (1835) by Lydia Howard Sigourney contains guidance on subjects such as the improvement of the mind, dress manners and accomplishments, books, conversation, doing good, and self-motivation. We also include a new and enlarged edition published in 1841 containing further advice: there was great demand by women for this type of prescriptive reading. These two books can be usefully compared to illustrate changes in society.

House and Home (1865) by Christopher Crowfield was written by Harriet Beecher Stowe. The work is written in a lighthearted, conversational manner with a male narrative voice, and gives an account of domestic family life. Chapters include: the ravages of a carpet, home-keeping v house-keeping, raking up the fire, economy, servants, and cooking. By contrast, *Woman in Sacred History* (1874) contains a series of sketches drawn from scriptural, historical and legendary sources about the lives of inspirational women, such as Mary the mother of Jesus, and Hagar the slave.

Our final author in this collection is Charlotte Mary Yonge who wrote in the mid-Victorian period. We offer seven of her titles which include novels, essays, an advice book, and a birthday book. Among the novels selected we include *The clever woman of the family* (1865). Essays to inspire the young can be found in *A book of golden deeds of all times and all lands* (1864). *The Victorian half-century, a jubilee book* (1886) records the events both domestic and public in the life of Queen Victoria. Moral guidance to young girls about to enter maidenhood, on issues of friendship, companions, confidence and tale-telling can be found in *The girl's little book* [1893]. Also included is *The daisy chain birthday book … from the writings of Miss Charlotte M Yonge by Eadgyth* (1885) which contains extracts from many of Yonge's works, and reflects the popularity and influence of her writings during this period.

This collection, written over a period of some eighty years, shows the many different roles women played in Victorian society. From the advice books and manuals it is revealed how it was thought that women should behave, in both the domestic and social spheres. Novels were a source of pleasure as well as moral instruction, and much can be learned from these about the station and condition of men and women in society. Essays reveal women's opinions on subjects such as Christian ethics, Darwinism, philosophy, slavery, vivisection, economics, politics and men.

These titles allow us to compare and contrast works written by domestic servants, wives, mothers, daughters, essayists, journalists, pamphleteers, novelists, historians, economists and a physician. We can look at the question as to why some works became household names, whilst others remained little known. We can assess whether the views held by American writers were influential in shaping society in Victorian Britain. How did these women authors see their role in society, and what were their expectations? The wealth of information to be found in this collection will help scholars research these, and many other questions about Victorian social and domestic life.

These volumes handsomely complement the existing range of sources provided in this series and will expand our knowledge of Victorian society.

Contents of Reels - Part 5

REEL ONE

Sarah and Samuel Adams

The complete servant; being a practical guide to the peculiar duties and business of all descriptions of servants from the housekeeper to the servant of all-work, and from the land steward to the foot-boy. London. 1825.

Isabella Mary Beeton

How to manage house and servants, and to make the most of your means. London. 1866/1867

Beeton's penny cookery book, being useful recipes for good breakfasts, dinners and suppers at a cost varying from tenpence to two shillings per day for six persons. London. c.1870

How to manage house, servants and children, with bills of fare for all the year round. London. 1871

The management of children in health and sickness. Beeton's house and home books series. London. 1873

Mrs Beeton's cookery book and household guide. London. 1890. Enlarged edition.

REEL TWO

Samuel Orchart Beeton

Beeton's book of the laundry; or, the art of washing, bleaching and cleansing. London. 1871

Beeton's Englishwoman's Annual (1875). London. 1876

Beeton's domestic service guide for the lady's maid, the upper nurse, the under nurse, being a clear account of the individual duties of each servant. London. c.1875

Beeton's complete etiquette for ladies, a quick guide to visiting, entertaining and travelling with hints on courtship, marriage and dress. London. 1876

Beeton's complete etiquette for gentlemen, a guide to the table, the toilette and the ball-room with hints on courtship, music and manners. London. 1876

Elizabeth Blackwell

The laws of life, with special reference to the physical education of girls. London. 1859

How to keep a household in health. An address delivered before the Working Woman's College. London. 1870

Counsel to parents on the moral education of their children in relation to sex. London. 1879

Purchase of women: the great economic blunder. London. 1887

Pioneer work in opening the medical profession to women, autobiographical sketches. London. 1895

REEL THREE

Lydia Maria Child

The girl's own book. London. 1832. Fourth edition.

The history of the condition of women, in various ages and nations.

London. 1835. 2 volumes.

The family nurse; or, companion of the frugal housewife. London. 1837

REEL FOUR

Lydia Maria Child (continued)

The deeper wrong; or, incidents in the life of a slave girl. by Harriet Jacobs. London. 1862. Editor Lydia Maria Child

REEL FIVE

Frances Power Cobbe

An essay on intuitive morals, being an attempt to popularise ethical science. Part 1. Theory of morals. Part 2. Practice of morals.

London. 1855, 1857

The sick in the workhouses; who are they, and how should they be treated. A paper read at the Meeting of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science in Dublin, August, 1861. London. 1861

The workhouse as an hospital. London. 1861

Home for incurable and infirm women. London. 1862

Female education, and how it would be affected by university examinations. A paper read at the Social Sciences Congress, London, 1862. London. 1862

Essays on the pursuits of women. London. 1863

Studies new and old of ethical and social subjects. London. 1865

Criminals, idiots, women and minors. Is the classification sound? A discussion on the laws concerning the property of married women. Manchester. 1869

REEL SIX

Frances Power Cobbe (continued)

Darwinism in morals, and other essays. London. 1872

The hopes of the human race, hereafter and here. London. 1874

The duties of women. A course of lectures. London. 1881

The modern rack. Papers on vivisection. London. 1889

Miss Cobbe on Jesuit doctrines concerning the rights of animals. The ethics of zoophily. Reprinted from the Contemporary Review, October, 1895. London. 1895

Light in dark places. Victoria Street Society for the protection of animals against vivisection united with the International Association for the Total Suppression of Vivisection. London. nd.

REEL SEVEN

Dinah Maria Mulock Craik

The head of the family. A novel. London. 1852. 3 volumes

REEL EIGHT

Dinah Maria Mulock Craik (continued)

John Halifax, gentleman. London. 1856. 3 volumes

Domestic stories. London. 1860. New edition

REEL NINE

Dinah Maria Mulock Craik (continued)

Mistress and Maid. London. 1863. 2 volumes

Hannah. London. 1872

REEL TEN

Dinah Maria Mulock Craik (continued)

My mother and I, a girl's love story. London. 1874

About money and other things, a gift book. London. 1886

Concerning men, and other papers. London. 1888

Sarah Stickney Ellis

Pictures of private life. London. 1833. Second edition.

REEL ELEVEN

Sarah Stickney Ellis (continued)

The women of England, and their social duties, and domestic habits. London. 1839. Third edition.

Family Secrets, or hints to those who would make home happy. London. 1841. 3 volumes

REEL TWELVE

Sarah Stickney Ellis (continued)

The wives of England, their relative duties, domestic influence, and social obligations. London. 1843

The daughters of England, and their position in society, character, and responsibilities. London. [1845]

The young ladies' reader; or, extracts from modern authors, adapted for educational or family use. London. 1845

REEL THIRTEEN

Sarah Stickney Ellis (continued)

Prevention better than cure; or, the moral wants of the world we live in. London. 1847

Fireside tales for the young. London. 1849. 4 volumes

REEL FOURTEEN

Sarah Stickney Ellis (continued)

The mother's mistake.

London. 1856. Illustrations by Anelay.

The education of character: with hints on moral training. London. 1856

The mothers of great men. London. 1859

Education of the heart: woman's best work. London. 1869

REEL FIFTEEN

Sarah Stickney Ellis (continued)

The home life and letters of Mrs Ellis compiled by her nieces. London. 1893

Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Concerning children. London, Boston. 1900

The home, its work and influence. London. 1903

Women and economics. A study of the economic relation between men and women as a factor in social evolution. London, Boston. 1906. Fifth edition.

REEL SIXTEEN

Harriet Martineau

How to observe. Morals and manners. London. 1838

Household education. London. 1849

Health, husbandry, and handicraft. London. 1861

REEL SEVENTEEN

Lady Sydney Morgan

The book of the boudoir. London. 1829. New edition. 2 volumes

Woman and her master. London. 1840. 2 volumes

REEL EIGHTEEN

Marion Reid

A plea for woman: being a vindication of the importance and extent of her natural sphere of action. Edinburgh. 1843

Lydia Howard Sigourney

Letters to young ladies. Glasgow. 1835

Letters to young ladies. London. 1841. New edition

Great and good women: biographies for girls. Edinburgh. 1866

Harriet Beecher Stowe

House and home London. 1865

Woman in sacred history. A series of sketches drawn from scriptural, historical, and legendary sources.

London. 1874

REEL NINETEEN

Charlotte Mary Yonge

The young step-mother; or, a chronicle of mistakes. London. 1861

A book of golden deeds, of all times and all lands. London. 1864

REEL TWENTY

Charlotte Mary Yonge (continued)

The clever woman of the family. London. 1865. 2 volumes

The book of worthies, gathered from the old histories and now written anew. London. 1869

The daisy chain birthday book ... from the writings of Miss Charlotte M Yonge. by Eadgyth. London. 1885

The Victorian half-century, a jubilee book. London. 1886

The girl's little book. London. [1893]

Publisher's Note - Parts 6 and 7

Women and Victorian Values provides an extensive range of prescriptive literature for those studying Victorian and Edwardian society from c.1837-1910.

Part 1 offers advice books, manuals and journals on a broad spectrum of areas including courtship, marriage, motherhood, household management, leisure activities, entertainments, fashion, society and beauty, women's rights, and health. Part 2 contains a further selection of self-help manuals and primers describing women's life in all arenas from the nursery to the workhouse. Parts 3 and 4 offer a wealth of rare journals aimed at women, and which are of value not only for the advice, stories and reader's letters that they contain, but also for the contemporary advertising. Part 5 concentrates on the writings of sixteen Victorian authors from Sarah Adams to Charlotte Yonge, allowing a comparison and contrast of works written by domestic servants, wives, mothers, daughters, essayists, journalists, pamphleteers, novelists, historians, economists and a physician.

In Parts 6 and 7 we focus on household management and domestic economy during the Victorian and Edwardian periods. The collection contains a wealth of advice books, self-help manuals, recipe books, encyclopaedias and dictionaries, aimed to assist in the efficient and economical running of a clean, comfortable home, and to provide the family with regular properly cooked meals.

The titles have been selected from the printed Cookery collection held in the Special Collections at the Brotherton Library, Leeds University. The collection is principally made up of two separate collections. Blanche Leigh, Lady Mayoress of Leeds, made a gift in 1939 of cookery books including historical works published mainly in Britain, but also including foreign publications. In 1962 another major gift was received from John F Preston. This important Cookery collection continues to develop through further gifts, and purchases by the library.

The material is arranged alphabetically by author or, title when the author is not known. In Part 6 we offer 77 titles from the works of Eliza Acton through to Samuel Hole, and in Part 7 we continue with a further 68 titles from the work of Robert Huish through to Mrs H M Young. The texts selected focus mainly on titles published in Britain by women writers. We have included a small number of works by male authors whose writings on household management and domestic economy helped to shape women's domestic role in society at that period.

Household manuals contained a wealth of information, and were widely read. Manuals by Mrs Beeton were very popular, and her name became synonymous with cookery and domestic matters, for example the *Book of household management* (1861). The work is written with clarity, with simplicity of preparation, with an emphasis on economy, and contains information on all domestic matters including duties of the mistress, etiquette, arrangement of dinner parties, child and infant care and household servants. Importantly, the manual appealed to all social classes. Some other household manuals included are: Jane Stoker's *Home comfort: a complete manual of domestic economy* (1880) and *Cassell's book of the household*, volumes 1-4 (1890?) by Cassell. Encyclopaedias and dictionaries were a useful reference resource for domestic matters, for example, Thomas Webster's *An encyclopaedia of domestic economy* (1844) and Gibbon Merle's *The domestic dictionary* (1842).

Cookery books were available for all class of household. For those on a low income *The National Health Society's penny cookery book* by Edith A Barnett (1880) provided the housewife with simple, easy to understand, commonsense instruction on methods of cookery, with basic recipes, as well as meals for the sick-room. For those of higher income advice could be found in *Economical cookery for the middle classes* by Kate Addison (1879), while Mrs Charles Clarke provided guidance for the wealthy with her work *New high-class cookery* (1907).

With the emergence of the middle-classes there was a widespread need for guidance and reassurance in the areas of social etiquette, and personal comportment when entertaining, when cookery and servants would be on display to guests. We include a selection of titles offering advice to the woman of the house in, *Etiquette and entertaining* by Lucie Heath Armstrong (1913), *Manners of modern society* by Eliza Cheadle (c1875) and *The hostess of to-day* by Linda H Larned (1899). *The houswife's referee* (1898) by Harriet A De Salis reflects fashions in cookery and entertainment with ideas and recipes for dinners and luncheons. She writes, 'I have not gone into plain so much as fancy cookery...' with recipes such as Pigeons à la Bécasse, Pigeons à la Grecque or Pigeons en compote. We include six titles by De Salis.

Dieticians discovered the role of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, mineral salts, and vitamins in food, and advice books with an emphasis on healthy cookery became available for wives and mothers preparing family meals. Healthy eating was encouraged in titles such as *The healthy life cook book* by Florence Daniel (1917), *Healthful cookery* by Ella E Kellogg (1904), *What must I do to get well? And how can I keep so?* by Elma Stuart (1895), *A manual of homeopathic cookery* Anon (1846), and *The new family herbal* by Matthew Robinson (1863?). By contrast, the use of food additives often resulted in the adulteration of beer, tea, pickles, and processed foods. In *Dr Allinson's vegetarian cookery* by Thomas R Allinson (1910), the author writes, vhen lemons are not handy. They irritate the stomach violently, and often cause acute dyspepsia.'

As peopled travelled to Europe and further afield to the colonies, cookery books with foreign recipes became available for the adventurous cook. *The wife's help to Indian cookery* by W H Dawe (1888) was written for residents in India, and Anglo-Indian families at home, in England. It contains information on diet in India, purifying water, Indian servants, the Indian cook, the kitchen and utensils, methods of roasting and boiling etc, the preservation of health in India, and Indian weights and measures. Other titles include *Leaves from our Tuscan kitchen* by Janet Ross (1899) and *French cookery adapted for English families* by Frances Crawford (1853). Fannie Farmer was the 'Mrs Beeton' of America, and *The Boston Cooking School cook book* (1899) offered '3,000 tried and tested recipes for all occasions, all larders, all purses.' Cooks in Britain could also try these recipes.

Advances in technology saw the beginning of the installation of gas and electricity into some homes. *Cooking by Gas* by Nellie de Lissa (1913) gave practical advice on 'how to succeed with the gas cooker' and includes recipes for gas cooking. Similarly, *How to cook by electricity* by Amy Cross (1910) covered all aspects of electric cooking, including the use of the thermometer and switches, methods of boiling, grilling and baking, and how to obtain an electric stove. *Successful canning* by Ola Powell (1919) reflects further advancements made in food preparation and storage during this period.

Some other influential and important authors included in the collection are: Eliza Acton Modern cookery (1845), The English bread-book for domestic use (1857) and The peoples book of modern cookery (1914); Charles Francatelli Modern Cook

(1846) and *The cook's guide and housekeeper's and butler's assistant* (1861); Alexis Soyer *The gastronomic regenerator* (1847) and *The modern housewife or ménagère* (1849). Also, three titles by Mrs C S Peel published during the First World War, *Learning to cook* (1916), *The eat-less-meat book on war rations* (1917) and *The victory cook book* (1918).

This comprehensive selection of material will allow a broader understanding of household management and domestic economy during the Victorian and Edwardian periods. The reader will be able to assess how advancements in technology changed the way households were run, and what types of foods were available to the housewife. Improved transport meant that fresh meat, milk and fish could be transported rapidly to large towns. Steamships brought perishable fruits such as bananas from the Canaries and West Indies. Foods were preserved in bottles and cans, and sweetened condensed canned milk became a cheap and popular substitute for fresh milk. What was the impact of gas and electricity into the domestic household? How did the use of refined foods and additives affect the health of people?

Students will be able to use this material in conjunction with Women Advising Women to continue to compare the differing perception of household management and domestic economy during the period 1450-1837. Used in conjunction with Masculinity, 1560-1918 they can compare the type of advice being offered to girls and boys and women and men.

Thanks are due to Chris Sheppard at the Brotherton Library, and C Anne Wilson for their help in the preparation of this microfilm collection. I have found Anne Wilson's *Food and Drink in Britain* (Constable and Company Ltd, 1973) particularly helpful in preparing this publisher's note.

Editorial Introduction by C. Anne Wilson

The books reproduced here come from two major collections of historic cookery and household books in the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds. Both contain books in English dating from the sixteenth century onwards; and the Blanche Leigh collection includes a very large and representative group of books published between 1837-1918, while the John Preston collection covers that period only to 1861, its cut-off date. The varied nature of the books selected here gives some idea of the breadth of the information to be found within the two collections.

A few earlier books set the context. C I Johnstone is 'Meg Dods', famous for her connection with Sir Walter Scott, and she offers a view of Scottish cuisine in her *Cook and housewife's manual*, 1826, with many later editions up to the 1870s. E Copley, *The housekeeper's guide*, 1834, is for 'young housekeepers of the middle rank' in England.

L Child, *The frugal housewife*, 1832 edition, addresses 'persons of moderate fortune' living in the countryside. E Copley, *Cottage cookery* is of the same era, in its eleventh edition by 1858. During the 1840s and thereafter the number of urban housewives increased dramatically, and books for the country housewife were proportionately fewer. T Cosnett, *The footman's directory*, 1825, explains the tasks carried out by male servants. By contrast, C Redding, *Every man his own butler*, 1839, is for the gentleman wishing to base his cellar on imported foreign wines.

Queen Victoria's reign saw enormous advances in transport, technology and the production of material goods. These had an impact upon domestic life, and upon the books produced to assist the women involved. Early in her reign, authors were already targeting different readerships with their books. Thus C Francatelli, *The modern cook*, 1846, is for the upper middleclass housewife, and he explains how to serve dinner, now a socially important meal, in the English, French, and recently arrived à la Russe styles; whereas in his *Cook's guide*, 1861, for more ordinary households, he advocates traditional twocourse dinners. A Soyer in *The gastronomic regenerator*, 1847, includes French recipes for the nobility and gentry, as well as simpler English ones for the upper middle class; while his *Modern housewife*, 1849, instructs the woman starting married life on a lower income.

Numerous pamphlets were published to inform low-paid workers, such as the Labourers Friend Society's ... useful hints for labourers, 1840, for agricultural workers, and A catechism for servants, 1843, intended to help them learn their duties.

Many Victorian and Edwardian household books describe housekeeping practices, and it is tempting to view them as records of how life was actually lived. But, as Dena Attar reminds us, these books were 'promoting the ideal pattern of middle-class life', books that 'prescribed rather than portrayed styles of living'. Nevertheless, they do allow us to appreciate the lifestyle that so many Victorians valued and aspired to.

Some books include revealing introductions by their authors. Anne Cobbett, who wrote *The English housekeeper* in the early 1840s 'for the person of moderate income' is well worth reading (introduction and chapter 1) for contemporary values and ideals, and her belief that the daughters of 'the poor' should be taught domestic skills rather than to read and write.

Isabella Beeton's *Book of household management* had several predecessors, including R Huish, *The female's friend, an alphabetical dictionary; The family handbook*, 1845, its wide range of material accessed through its good index; and, above all, T Webster's *Encyclopaedia of domestic economy*, 1844, source of much material in Beeton's famous book. Its fame arose partly from Samuel Beeton's transfer of the publication rights to Ward, Lock & Tyler in the early 1870s. Ward, Lock brought out frequent, ever larger editions until 1914, and the editions of the 1930s were still substantial. Ward, Lock have continued to publish other compilations under Mrs Beeton's name ever since the 1870s.

The book of household management, 1861, was very well organised, and presented a 'systematic elaboration of the rules and routines which governed the daily lives of middle-class women' (Attar). This and other related books were invaluable for young women setting up house, for others wishing to keep up with current fashions, and especially for those seeking to climb the social ladder. The same readers bought books on furnishing the house (eg *Beeton's housewife's treasury*, J E Panton, *From kitchen to garret*, and *Cassell's book of the household*); and on etiquette (eg E Cheadle, *Manners of modern society*).

Ideally the middle-class household should run like clockwork, and the mistress of the house relied on the support of her servants. *The servant's guide*, 1835 (with several later editions, and eventually retitled *The family manual and servant's guide*), *The servant's practical guide*, 1880, *Duties of servants*, 1890 and E A Barnett's *Cookery instructor*, advised employers so they could instruct their servants; but were also useful handbooks for the servants themselves. Books of another type, eg S M T Millington, *The servant's companion*, and M S Loftie, *Comfort in the home* were addressed to servants directly, and include moral as well as practical advice.

The education of daughters in the early Victorian period showed very marked contrasts. Those of the middle class did not learn domestic skills, but acquired a little French and natural science, and practised music, embroidery and other handcrafts. *The young lady's book of botany, The young lady's book: a manual of elegant recreations, and similar publications, supplied instructions.*

Young girls from humbler backgrounds who went into service received training on the job from more experienced servants. But the belief grew that it would help the daughters of 'the poor' to be taught housecraft, partly to make them more employable as servants, but also to equip them to look after their own homes after marriage. *The Finchley manuals* of the mid-nineteenth century were compiled to encourage such teaching in schools.

Literacy became much more widespread, with many elementary schools set up through the 1850s and 60s, even before the Education Act of 1870 introduced compulsory education for all. Thereafter domestic science was on the curriculum for girls, supported by books such as C M Buckton *Food and home cooking,* J Stoker *Home comforts,* and *Helping hands.* For middle-class daughters, now expected to learn more about domestic activities, there was C F Benton's *Little girls cookery book* and P Browne's *Girls own cookery book,* sponsored by *The Girls Own Paper.* Some even went on to teach domestic science. M M Mitchell *Polytechnic cookery book* was for trainee teachers.

From the 1850s onwards, cookery books proliferated as part of the huge expansion in book publishing that followed the removal of the tax on paper, and improvements in production technology. Books became cheaper, opening up a new market

among people who hitherto had read only newspapers and pamphlets. Eighteenth-century cookery and household books were issued in short print-runs of, probably, between 1,000 and 2,500 copies. Such books in the later nineteenth century sold in tens of thousands, and a few, eg R K Philp, *Enquire within*, in hundreds of thousands.

The expanding readership encouraged publishers to diversify to meet the needs of different readers. Dinner parties had become the centrepiece of social entertainment for the urban middle classes; Dinners and dinner parties, 1862, met a perceived need. Later, breakfast and luncheon received attention from P Browne and M Ronald respectively, and from other authors. Many books appeared on individual foods or types of prepared dishes. Examples are E Acton, *The English bread book*; J Massey, *Biscuit, ice and compote book*; A B Marshall, *The book of ices; the books on vegetables, entrees, savouries & sweets, and supper dishes*, by H A De Salis, a professional cookery writer; O Green, *How to cook fish;* and M Byron, *Cake book.* For visitors to London at the time of the Great Exhibition and later, *London at table*, 1851, and *The American stranger's guide*, 1859 describe the menus available at the City's principal hotels and clubs.

Invalid cookery already formed a section in many general cookery books. Now it received separate treatment. A B Cust's *Invalid's own book*, and *A manual of homeopathic cookery* are early examples. *The art of feeding the invalid* and M Earle, *Sickroom cookery* reflect developments more than fifty years later. E Stuart's self-published *What I must do to get well* promotes the healthy-eating regime of Dr Sainsbury.

The many young women who went to the Indian sub-continent as colonial wives created a market for books on English cookery adapted to conditions there. *Indian domestic economy, The Indian cookery book* and W H Dawe's *Wife's help to Indian cookery* are examples. H Duckitt offered recipes from South Africa, India and Malaysia; and G Johnson from India and the Orient.

French cuisine already influenced the upper ranks of English society, but publications such as those by F Crawford and E Lebour-Fawsett promoted it more widely. J Ross, writing in 1899, and Mrs W G Waters, in 1901, catered for an emerging interest in Italian food. Developments in the United States are represented here by Fannie Farmer's famous *Boston Cooking-School cookbook*, 1899 edition; *New York Cooking School's Royal baker and pastry cook* (a promotional publication for Royal baking powder); M J Lincoln's *Boston school kitchen text-book for schoolgirls*; O Powell's *Successful canning*, and E E Kellogg's, *Healthful cookery*, 1894, with vegetarian recipes.

In England, the Vegetarian Society, founded in 1847, had its own periodical, but books of recipes were rare before 1890. Mrs E W Bowditch (1893), T R Allinson (1910), and F George (1912) provide examples. The 1914-18 war brought a surge of interest in vegetarianism, apparent from B Powell's Food reform and meatless cookery. Wartime meat shortages increased the importance of vegetable dishes, available in the 101 recipes, 1917, of M Blatch, and Mrs C S Peel's *Eat-less-meat book*.

An earlier garden book, *The flower, fruit & kitchen garden*, 1851, provides a calendar for fruit-and-vegetable-growing at that period. But the two later books by S Hole are more general, and respond to women's interest in flower gardens.

New cookery technologies were developed in later Victorian times. The books by M J Sugg and Mrs H M Young introduce cooking by gas; and in 1913, the subject still required a separate treatment by H A De Salis. A Cross published *How to cook by electricity* in 1910. The haybox enjoyed a vogue, demonstrated here by C Cooke, *The cooking box* and M J Mitchell, *Fireless cookery book*.

While middle-class readers would have been the purchasers of most books on our list, a few were addressed to poorer families, eg *Good things made, said & done*, a promotional publication by Goodhouse, Backall, whose products feature as ingredients in the recipes.

The considerable changes in domestic life over 85 years can be assessed by comparing some of the entries in *Webster's Encyclopaedia*, 1844, *Cassell's domestic dictionary*, c.1884, and *Selfridge's household compendium*, 1929. Through the Victorian period the life of the urban middle-class housewife was centred increasingly upon the home. One in four married women, with husbands alive, was employed outside the home in 1851; only one in ten by 1911 (Attar).

But change was on the way, especially for single women and widows. *How to do business*, c.1870, written for men, mentions 'a revolution ... in the public mind' that will one day allow women careers in business. *Woman's world*, 1900, includes (part 10) 'Woman as a wage earner', and lists types of employment open to her. The twentieth century would see an enormous expansion of those opportunities.

BOOKS FOR FURTHER READING

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I M Beeton, ed; The book of household management, 1861, reprinted London, Cape 1968, and later by other publishers.

J Burnett, Plenty and want, London, Nelson, 1966.

E Driver, A bibliography of cookery books published in Britain, 1875-1914, London, Prospect, 1989.

P Horn, The rise and fall of the Victorian servant, Dublin, Gill & Macmillan, 1975.

C A Wilson, ed, Luncheon, nuncheon, and other meals: eating with the Victorians, Stroud, Sutton, 1994.

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Acton, Eliza *The English bread-book for domestic use, adapted to families of every grade.* London. 1857.

Acton, Eliza Modern cookery, in all its branches: reduced to a system of easy practice for ... private families. London. 1845. Third edition.

Acton, Eliza *The People's book of modern cookery.* London. [1914]. Forty-first edition.

REEL TWO

Addison, Kate *Economical cookery for the middle classes.* London. 1879. Second edition.

Allinson, Thomas Richard *Dr Allinson's vegetarian cookery.* London. 1910.

Anon The American stranger's guide to London and Liverpool at table. London. 1859.

Armstrong, Lucie Heaton *Etiquette and entertaining.* London. 1913.

Anon *The art of feeding the invalid.* London. 1900.

Barnett, Edith A *The cookery instructor.* London, New York & Melbourne. 1889. Third edition.

Barnett, Edith A National Health Society's penny cookery book. London. 1880.

REEL THREE

Beeton, Isabella Mary Book of household management. London. 1861.

REEL FOUR

Anon

Beeton's housewife's treasury. A companion volume to 'Mrs Beeton's book of household management'. London, New York and Melbourne. c.1880.

Benton, Caroline French & Hodge, Mary Florence *A little girl's cookery book.* London. 1911.

REEL FIVE

Bishop, Frederick *The Illustrated London Cookery Book.* London. 1852.

Black, Mrs *Household cookery & laundry work.* London and Glasgow. 1852.

Blatch, Margaret One hundred and one practical non-flesh recipes. London. 1917. Second Edition.

Anon Board of Education. General report on the teaching of domestic subjects to public elementary school children in England and Wales. London. 1912.

Bowdich, Mrs E W

New vegetarian dishes. London. 1893. Second edition.

Browne, Phyllis *The dictionary of dainty breakfasts.* London, Paris & Melbourne. 1898.

Browne, Phyllis *The girl's own cookery book.* London. 1882.

Buckton, Catherine M *Food and home cookery.* London. 1879.

REEL SIX

Butterworth, Annie Manual of household work and management. London, New York, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. 1916.

Byron, May *May Byron's cake book.* London, New York, Toronto. 1915.

Campbell, Lady Charlotte *The lady's own cookery book.* London. 1844. Third edition.

Careful, Martha Household hints to young housewives. London. 1880. Twenty-third edition.

REEL SEVEN

Cassell *Cassell's domestic dictionary: an encyclopædia for the household.* London, Paris and New York. [1884]

REEL EIGHT

Cassell *Cassell's book of the household: a work of reference on domestic economy.* London, Paris, Melbourne. 1890? Volumes 1-3. Special edition.

REEL NINE

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Anon *A catechism for servants, pointing out the duties of the housemaid and the servant of all work.* Bath. 1843.

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Cooke, Constance C Radcliffe *The cooking-box, how to make and use it.* London. 1917.

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Crawford, Frances *French cookery adapted for English families.* London. 1853. Second edition.

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Cross, Amy & Waterman, Alys *How to cook by electricity.* 1910.

Cust, Mary Anne Boode *The invalid's own book.* London. 1853.

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Duckitt, Hildagonda J

Hilda's 'where is it?' of recipes ... Cape, Indian, and Malay dishes and preserves ... directions for polishing furniture, cleaning silk ... collection of home remedies in case of sickness. London. 1892. Fourth thousand.

Anon

The duties of servants. A practical guide to the routine of domestic service. London, New York. 1890.

Earle, Maude

Sickroom cookery and hospital diet, with special recipes for convalescent and diabetic patients. London.1910.

REEL FOURTEEN

Anon

The family hand-book; or practical information in domestic economy. London. 1845. Revised edition.

Anon

The family manual and servants' guide: with new and improved receipts, arranged and adapted to the duties of all classes of servants. London. [1850] Fifth edition.

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Farmer, Fannie Merritt *The Boston Cooking-School cook book.* Boston. 1899.

Finchley Manuals

The Finchley manuals of industry. Cooking; or, practical and economic training for those who are to be servants, wives and mothers. London. 1849.

Anon

The flower, fruit and kitchen garden: containing full directions for the hothouse, the greenhouse, and every branch of fruit, flower and vegetable culture. London. 1851.

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Francatelli, Charles Elmé The modern cook; a practical guide to the culinary art in all its branches. Adapted as well for the largest establishments as for the use of private families. London. 1846. Second edition.

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Anon

The housekeeper and butler's guide; or, a system of cookery, and making of wines. Adapted to the use of small and private families. Glasgow. c.1853.

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Sole distributors W H Smith & Son Ltd. London. [1860]

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Every woman's book. Sarah Coates. London. nd.

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Huish, Robert *The female's friend, and general domestic adviser.* London. 1837.

Anon The Indian cookery book: a practical handbook to the kitchen in India. Calcutta. [1869]

REEL TWENTY-THREE

Anon Indian domestic economy and receipt book, ... Plain wholesome cookery, both oriental and English. Bombay. 1852. Third edition revised.

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REEL TWENTY-FOUR

Johnson, Grace Anglo-Indian and Oriental cookery. London. 1893.

Johnstone, Christian Isobel *The cook and housewife's manual.* Edinburgh. 1826.

Joncourt, Maria de *Wholesome cookery.* London. 1885. Third edition.

Kellogg, Ella E *Healthful cookery.* Michigan. 1904.

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Kenney-Herbert, A R *Common-sense cookery for English households.* London. 1894.

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Loftie, M J *Comfort in the home.* London. 1895.

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Millington, S M T *The servant's companion and useful guide ... methods of arranging and getting through their work.* Liverpool. 1864.

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New York Cooking School *The royal baker and pastry cook.* New York. 1902.

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Philip, Robert K Enquire within upon everything. London. 1863.

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Powell, Bertha *Food reform and meatless cookery.* London. 1917.

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Ronald-Taylor, Aline Amongst the pots & pans (dainty cookery). London. 1899.

Ross, Janet *Leaves from our Tuscan kitchen, or how to cook vegetables.* London. 1899.

REEL THIRTY-FOUR

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Anon

The servant's guide and family manual. London. 1835. Fourth edition.

Anon

The servants practical guide. A handbook of duties and rules. London. 1880.

Smith, Ann *Practical and economic cookery.* London. 1858.

REEL THIRTY-FIVE

Soyer, Alexis The gastronomic regenerator: or a simplified and entirely new system of cookery. London. 1847. Fourth edition.

Soyer, Alexis *The modern housewife or ménagère.* London. 1849. Tenth thousand.

Stoker, Jane Home comfort: a complete manual of domestic economy for schools and colleges. London. 1880. Revised edition. Sixth thousand.

REEL THIRTY-SIX

Stuart, Elma What must I do to get well? And how can I keep so? Wokingham. 1895.

Sugg, Marie Jenny *The art of cooking by gas.* London, Paris, Melbourne. 1890.

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Anon *Woman's world.* Cheshire. 1900.

Wren, Jenny *The art of preparing dainty dishes for dinners, luncheons and suppers.* London. 1891.

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REEL THIRTY-EIGHT

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REEL THIRTY-NINE

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