Editors' Introduction

James Epstein and Nicholas Rogers

This issue of the journal marks a transition of editorship, a new assistant editor, and board of advisors. Brief biographies of members of the board of advisors follow this introduction and give some idea of the directions in which we wish to take the journal over the next five years. First, we intend to build on *Journal of British Studies*'s achievements over the last decade, under the editorships of Cynthia Herrup and Margot Finn. Now that *JBS* includes a substantial number of articles on twentieth-century history and makes gender and women's history central to the journal's personality, we want the journal to continue to expand its horizons and incorporate a more flexible range and style of address. At the same time, we understand the importance of maintaining the journal's traditional strengths and its need to reflect the broad interests of those doing British historical studies. Here are some of our perspectives for the journal.

1. *Comparative perspectives.*—The *Journal of British Studies* welcomes contributions in comparative history, particularly comparative British and either U.S. or European history. So, for example, articles that address the comparative question of nation formation or national identities, or comparative colonial, postcolonial or imperial experiences, or comparative work on gender, would all be possible topics of interest.

2. *Colonial and postcolonial perspectives.*—While *JBS* has published an increasing number of articles on British imperialism, as well as articles concerning race and British society, we see this as an important area that we should expand. As Salman Rushdie has commented, the problem with the British is that much of their history "happened overseas, so they don't know what it means." There is often a parochialism to British history that is at odds with the experience of British people abroad, the impact of colonial experience on Britain itself, and Britain's impact on colonial peoples. Moreover, much exciting work is being done on colonial and postcolonial cultural, social, and political history.

3. *Cross-disciplinary perspectives.*—The *Journal of British Studies* is a historical journal and will remain so. On the other hand, cross-disciplinary exchange and influence have come to characterize much of

https://doi.org/10.1086/386251 Published online by Cambridge University Press

the best work in the humanities and social sciences. Yet despite much talk about breaking down disciplinary boundaries, this has proved difficult to achieve in practice. We hope to encourage more interchange between those doing history, literature (in a historical vein), historical geography, and cultural studies, including film history and criticism.

4. *Symposia.*—At present the format of the *Journal* includes scholarly articles and review essays. We contemplate a third section (not necessarily in every issue) devoted to more flexible, or speculative, pieces that might address questions of historical methodology, theory, research interests, debates, or professional concerns. We encourage submissions and suggestions for such a section.

* * *

The new *Journal of British Studies* Board of Advisors consists of the following people:

Judith M. Bennett is professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The author of several books on working women in late medieval England, she has recently completed a teaching pamphlet for the American Historical Association on *Medieval Women in Modern Perspective.* Her articles include several historiographical essays on women's history and lesbian history.

Vincent Carretta, a professor of English at the University of Maryland, is the author of two books on verbal and visual eighteenth-century British political satire, as well as the editor of the authoritative editions of the works of Olaudah Equiano, Ignatius Sancho, Ottobah Cugoano, Phillis Wheatley, and other eighteenth-century writers of African descent. In addition, he has published numerous articles on various aspects of eighteenth-century art, history, and literature.

Elizabeth Elbourne teaches British and South African history at McGill University, Montreal. Her forthcoming book, *Blood Ground: Colonialism, Missions, and the Contest for Christianity in Britain and the Cape Colony, 1799–1853,* will be published by McGill–Queen's University Press this fall. Her most recent article is "Domesticity and Dispossession: British Ideologies of Home and the 'Primitive' at Work in the Early Nineteenth-Century Cape," in *Deep Histories: Gender and Colonialism in Southern Africa,* ed. Wendy Woodward, Patricia Hayes, and Gary Minkley (Amsterdam: Rodopi, forthcoming). Her research interests include colonialism, religion, and gender, with particular attention to cross-cultural encounter in the white settler colonies in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

James Hammerton is reader in history at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. He has written on gender and emigration, marriage

https://doi.org/10.1086/386251 Published online by Cambridge University Press

and conflict in the nineteenth century, gender and the lower middle-class, and emigration from Britain after World War II. He is currently engaged in research on a large study, based on oral testimony, of British emigration to Australia and Canada since 1945.

Peter Lake was an undergraduate and graduate student at Cambridge University. He worked at Bedford and then Royal Holloway and Bedford New Colleges in the University of London between 1979 and 1992, since then he has taught early modern English history at Princeton. He works on late sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century English politics, religion, and culture, and his most recent book is *The Boxmaker's Revenge: "Orthodoxy," "Heterodoxy" and the Politics of the Parish in Early Stuart London* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2001).

Philippa Levine teaches history at the University of Southern California. Her publications include books on the Victorian women's movement and the development of the historical profession in the nineteenth century. She currently works on questions of sexuality and medicine in Britain's imperial possessions and has a book forthcoming on venereal disease and prostitution in the British colonies.

Mary Poovey is professor of English and director of the Institute for the History of the Production of Knowledge at New York University. She has published on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature and history, the history of economics, and feminist theory. Her most recent book is *A History of the Modern Fact: Problems of Knowledge in the Science of Wealth and Society.* She is currently editor of the new series, to be published by Oxford University Press, entitled Victorian Archives.

Sumathi Ramaswamy is associate professor of history at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, since 1998. Her first book was published in 1997 by the University of California Press and is entitled *Passions of the Tongue: Language Devotion in Tamil India, 1891–1970.* She is currently working on two different projects: *The Lost Land of Lemuria: Fabulous Geographies, Catastrophic Histories, 1864–1981* (Berkeley: University of California Press, forthcoming) and "Body Politic(s): Maps and Modernity in India."

Sonya Rose is professor of history, sociology, and women's studies at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *Limited Livelihoods: Gender and Class in Nineteenth-Century England* and coeditor of *Gender and Class in Modern Europe.* Her current research concerns issues of gender, class, race, and national identity in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and she is currently completing a project on national identity and citizenship in World War II.

Kevin Sharpe is recently the author of *Reading Revolutions: The Politics of Reading in Early Modern England* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale

https://doi.org/10.1086/386251 Published online by Cambridge University Press

University Press, 2000) and *Remapping Early Modern England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000). He was also the author of *The Personal Rule of Charles I* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1992, 1994). He has for long pioneered interdisciplinary approaches to early modern history with studies of court literature and the edited volumes with Steven Zwicker, *Politics of Discourse* and *Refiguring Revolutions.* Kevin Sharpe is professor of renaissance studies at the University of Warwick.

Dror Wahrman is associate professor of cultural history at Indiana University and the associate editor of the *American Historical Review.* He is the author of *Imagining the Middle Class: The Political Representation of Class in Britain, c. 1780–1840* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995) and several publications on the history of Palestine and of early photography in the Middle East. Together with Colin Jones (Warwick) he edited *The Age of Cultural Revolutions,* due later this year (Berkeley: University of California Press). He is currently completing a book on the eighteenth-century origins of modern understandings of identity, very tentatively titled *A Cultural History of the Modern Self* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, forthcoming).

* * *

About the new editorial team:

James Epstein is professor of history at Vanderbilt University. He is the author of *The Lion of Freedom: Feargus O'Connor and the Chartist Movement* (London: Croom Helm, 1982) and *Radical Expression: Political Language, Ritual, and Symbol in England, 1790–1850* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1994) and coeditor, with Dorothy Thompson, of *The Chartist Experience* (London: Macmillan, 1982). Along with a number of other projects, he is working on a book on British rule in early nineteenth-century Trinidad, provisionally entitled "The Politics of Colonial Sensation."

Nicholas Rogers is professor of history at York University, Toronto. He is the author of *Whigs and Cities: Popular Politics in the Age of Walpole and Pitt* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), *Crowds, Culture and Politics in Georgian Britain* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), and with Douglas Hay, *Eighteenth-Century English Society,* Oxford OPUS (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997). He is currently completing a book entitled *Liberty Road: Naval Impressment and Its Opponents in Georgian Britain,* to be published by Hambledon and London Press in 2002. He is also finishing a cultural history of Halloween in Britain and North America to be published by Oxford University Press, New York, in 2002.

https://doi.org/10.1086/386251 Published online by Cambridge University Press

The new assistant editor is **David Karr.** David is a doctoral candidate in the Department of History at Vanderbilt University and specializes in British radicalism in the French Revolutionary period. He is particularly interested in the representation and performance of radical politics within wider political cultures. His dissertation, "The Effervescence of Your Passions: Thomas Holcroft, Theatricality, and Political Culture in 1790s England," explores the fissures in British radicalism during that period; and "Thoughts that Flash Like Lightning: Thomas Holcroft, Radical Theater, and the Production of Meaning in 1790s London" appeared in the July 2001 issue of the *Journal of British Studies.*

https://doi.org/10.1086/386251 Published online by Cambridge University Press