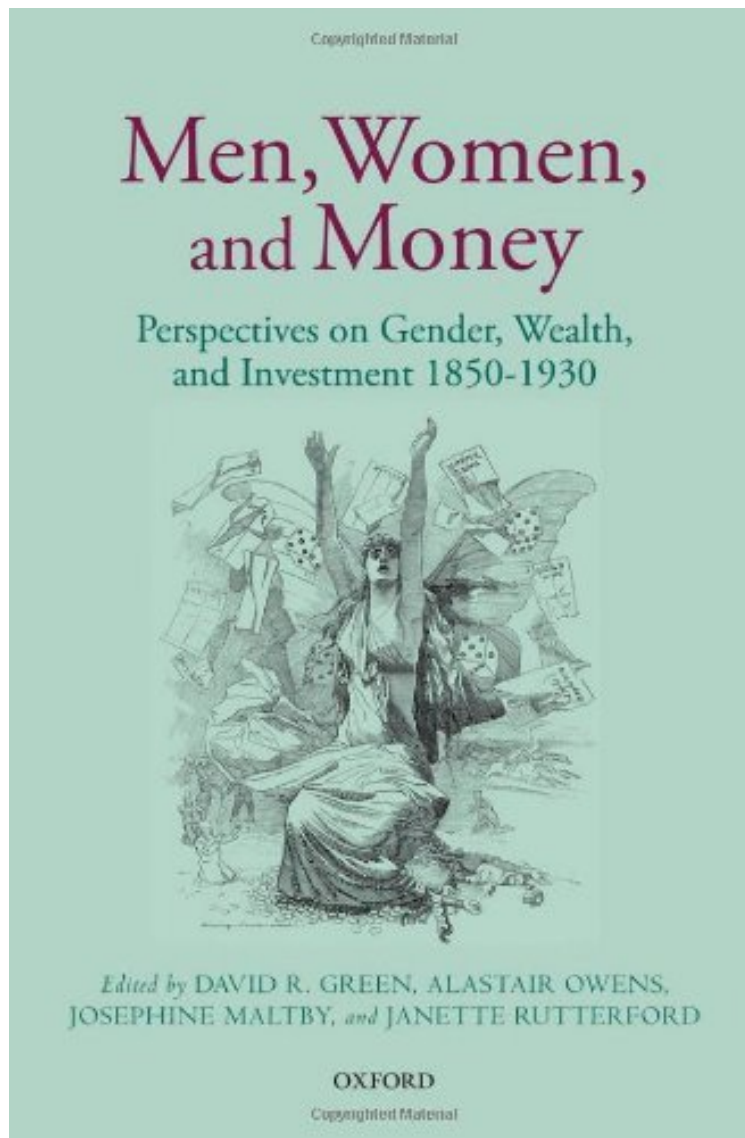


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Men, Women, and Money: Perspectives on Gender, Wealth, and Investment 1850-1930

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The late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries witnessed significant developments in the structure, organization, and expansion of financial markets and opportunities for investment in Britain and its empire. But very little is known about how men and women engaged with these markets and with new opportunities for money-making. In what ways did the composition of personal fortunes alter in response to these developments? How did individuals make use of new financial opportunities to further their own priorities and ensure their families' well-being? What choices of securities did they make, and how did these reflect their attitudes to investment risk? What were the implications of a rapidly growing investor population for corporate governance and the regulation of markets? How significant is gender in understanding new patterns of wealth holding and investment? This interdisciplinary book brings together a range of leading international scholars to answer these questions and to develop important new research agendas. Foremost among these is a concern for gender, with several of the chapters exploring the growing importance of women within investment markets. These findings open up dialogues between economic and financial historians with social, gender, and feminist historians, and add a significant new dimension to existing research on women's economic agency. The volume also breaks fresh ground by analysing aspects of wealth holding and finance in British colonial settings: Canada and Australia. Understanding the extent to which global financial processes shaped the economic lives of those on the 'periphery' as well as at the 'heart' of empire will offer new insights into the social and geographical diffusion of financial markets.

"This collection is based on papers given in 2008 at a conference hosted by the Open University on wealth, investment, and gender during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Like most such collections, there is considerable variety and variation among the individual chapters. The essays found in *Men, Women, and Money* add to a growing body of scholarship devoted to teasing out the various strands associated with a burgeoning securities market in Victorian and Edwardian Britain. While the volume is a bit of a hodgepodge, it contains much original and important research that will be of great interest to economic and social historians."--*The Journal of British Studies*

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