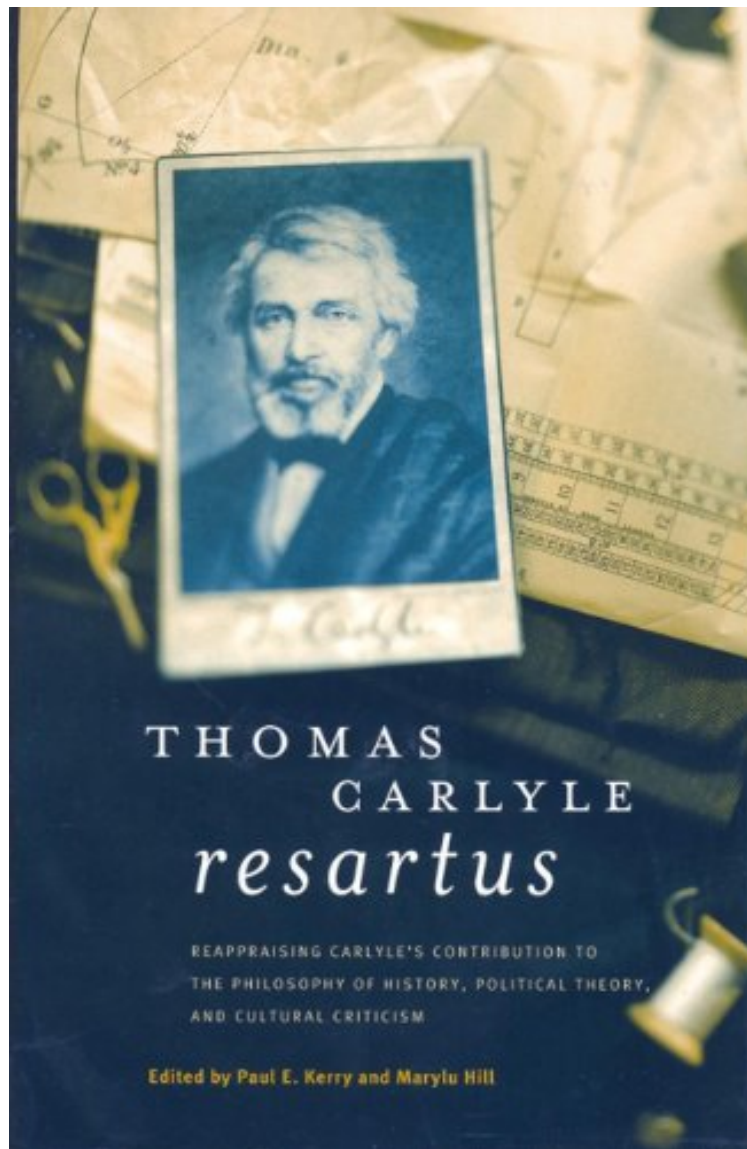


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Thomas Carlyle Resartus

Paul E. Kerry, Marylu Hill

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Paul E. Kerry, Marylu Hill : Thomas Carlyle Resartus before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thomas Carlyle Resartus:

One hundred and fifty years ago Thomas Carlyle was the intellectual gadfly whom many disagreed with but everyone read. Statesmen, philosophers, novelists, historians-anyone wrestling with the most vexed issues of modern life-had to

come to grips with his writings. For much of the nineteenth century Carlyle was a prophetic voice—strong, bullying, passionate, and convincing; able to rouse his contemporaries to action and reform. This book reassesses Carlyle for a new generation in no less serious circumstances. Long before the phrase "sub-prime mortgage" came into vogue, Thomas Carlyle spoke eloquently and prophetically against the Gospel of Mammonism. Moreover, he recognized the threats to community that accompany a modern liberal society. Readers can now rediscover a Carlyle who challenges an increasingly self-absorbed culture, rails against the excesses of capitalist greed, teaches "Captains of Industry" to embrace a new kind of leadership, restores a meaningful connection to the past, and draws our gaze to genuine heroism. He champions the dignity of work, has much to say to those who would be leaders, and appeals for corporate reform in the name of love and community. The essays in this volume represent some of the most recent reconsiderations of the living legacy of Thomas Carlyle from both established and upcoming Carlyle scholars. Readers will have the opportunity to explore the richness of Carlyle's ideals, including the ones which challenge modern sensibilities the most. The essays examine carefully the complexities, difficulties, and contours of Carlyle's political and social vision. They also sample the breadth of Carlyle's thought, along with that of Jane Welsh Carlyle, his wife and fellow intellectual traveler, covering topics from political philosophy and cultural critique to education, historiography, biography, and the vagaries of editing.

The editors' introduction offers a useful contextualization of Carlyle's work in relation to key debates and developments regarding historical and political discourse in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The task of current Carlyle scholarship, according to the editors, is to examine more carefully the complexities, challenges, and depths of Carlyle's work. The essays in the volume succeed in this reappraisal quite well. This is a strong collection of essays on the whole, and is particularly valuable for the way it opens up new directions for Carlyle studies. I certainly recommend the volume to those interested in exploring the terrain of important new work on Carlyle. (Victorian Studies)

About the Author: Paul E. Kerry is associate professor of history at Brigham Young University, visiting fellow at The Centre for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations and research associate at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Marylu Hill is assistant professor in the Villanova Center for Liberal Education at Villanova University.