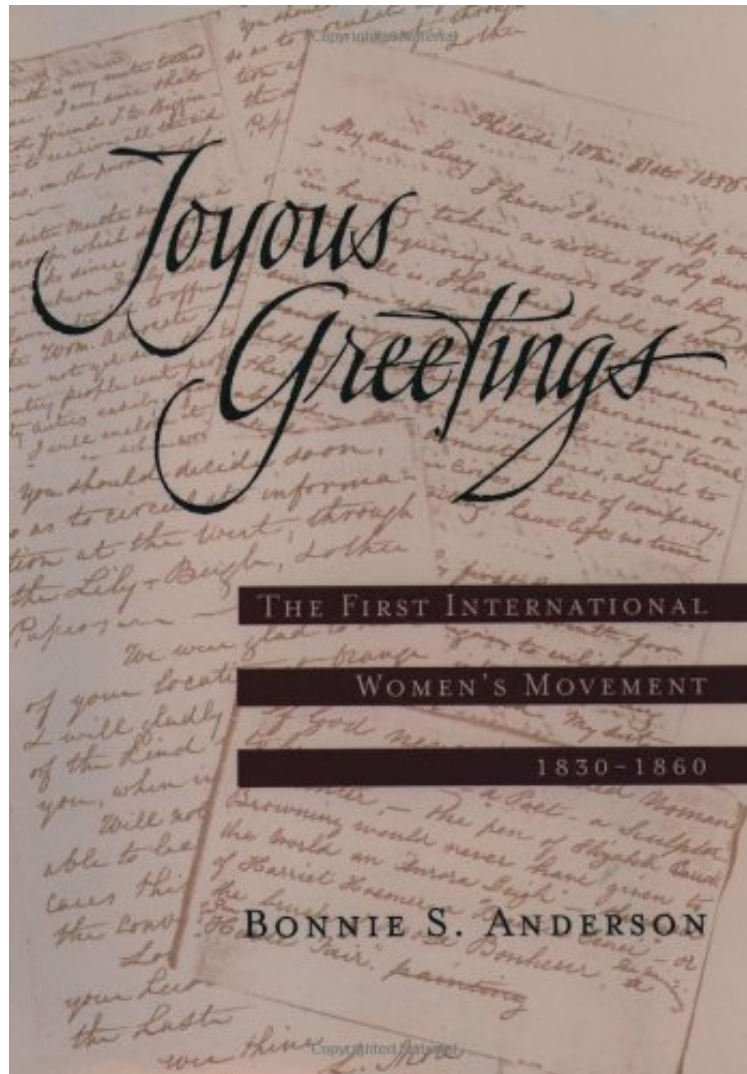


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Joyous Greetings: The First International Women's Movement, 1830-1860

Bonnie S. Anderson

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Bonnie S. Anderson : Joyous Greetings: The First International Women's Movement, 1830-1860 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joyous Greetings: The First International Women's Movement, 1830-1860:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding history of the first international women's movement, 1830-1860.By G. WilliamsOutstanding history of the early years of the international movement for women's rights, 1830 to 1860, when women who had been active in other social movements like abolitionism and the early labor and

socialist movement raised issues of women's equality within the context of broader social change. The author explores the lives of early women leaders on both sides of the Atlantic.² 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. very, very good fundamental text on American and feminist history
By Meredith Folsom
I'm working on my graduate thesis on American commodities in the nineteenth century and needed to pull together influences from the culture to explain why some industries boomed, and how they in turn changed the culture. That means I needed basic, serious scholarship on the ideas that were compelling people at the time, in this case in the realm of "human rights." This text more than fulfills that need, it is a very, very, good piece of scholarship.

Over one hundred and fifty years ago, champions of women's rights in the United States, Britain, France, and Germany formed the world's earliest international feminist movement. *Joyous Greetings* is the first book to tell their story. From Seneca Falls in upstate New York to the barricades of revolutionary Paris, from the Crystal Palace in London to small towns in the German Rhineland, early feminists united to fight for the cause of women. At the height of the Victorian period, they insisted their sex deserved full political equality, called for a new kind of marriage based on companionship, claimed the right to divorce and to get custody of their children, and argued that an unjust economic system forced women into poorly paid jobs. We meet Jeanne Deroin, jailed for organizing unions, who wrote inspirational tracts from her Parisian cell to women abroad; Matilda Anneke, who fought on horseback during the Revolution of 1848 and published women's newspapers in Germany and, after emigrating, in America; Ernestine Rose, a Jewish woman who sued her father for control of her dowry and became a popular public speaker; and Lucretia Mott, the Quaker minister and abolitionist, who maintained international connections and helped to found the American women's movement. These women were part of the vanguard of a feminist movement that emerged as early as the 1830s, proving that feminism transcended national boundaries and existed decades before the suffragettes. These women rejected the traditional view that women's subordination was preordained, natural, and universal. Restoring these daring activists' achievements to history, *Joyous Greetings* passes on their inspiring and empowering message to today's new generation of feminists.

From Publishers Weekly
In this erudite, exhaustively researched history, Brooklyn College history professor Anderson (*A History of Their Own*) examines how the dramatic impact of the Industrial Revolution on Western Europe and the United States ignited an international feminist movement--not just a series of discrete feminist activities in various countries, as other historians have posited. Centering her narrative on the contributions of a core group of 20 feminists, she reveals how, without the benefit of Internet or telephones, these American, English, Scottish, French, German and Swedish women shared ideas, platforms and organizing techniques to create political change throughout the U.S. and Western Europe. Intent on gaining the rights to own land, divorce, retain custody of children, maintain sexual independence, obtain birth control and receive fair payment for their work, these early feminists wanted full equality with men; for them, more than just suffrage was at stake. Iconoclasts and radicals, they saw inherent links between class struggle, racism, slavery and the oppression of women. Except for Elizabeth Cady Stanton, all of the women in the core group may be unknown to most modern-day American feminists, underscoring Anderson's contention that much feminist history has yet to be written. Among them are Fredrika Bremer, a Swedish woman who fought for control of her own earnings and ultimately changed her country's patrimonial laws, and Jeanne Deroin, a French socialist and revolutionary repeatedly imprisoned for her work for women's rights. Drawing on letters, pamphlets and other primary materials that bring these dynamic women alive, Anderson's narrative offers a keen sense of history-in-the-making and will leave readers yearning to know more. (Feb.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
According to a widely accepted 19th-century truism, men were the head, women the heart. In the early 1800s, this narrow concept was causing a small coterie of female activists to bristle. Anderson's (history, Brooklyn Coll.) account of their resistance is thorough, compelling, and inspiring. She showcases an array of European and American feminists--Fredrika Bremer, Jeanne Deroin, Lucretia Mott, Pauline Roland, Ernestine Rose, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton--and highlights their work in promoting a world free of sexism, racism, and inequality. Along the way, she demonstrates how international communication (the invention of the telegraph and faster mail delivery) bolstered morale, fostered debate, and incited action. And she makes the era's rebels vivid through excerpts from speeches and articles that chronicle their reactions to political events and to the sexism they encountered in the anti-slavery, free religion, Socialist, and utopian/communitarian movements. Engrossing and insightful, this book is an excellent follow-up to Anderson's earlier work (with Judith Zinsser) *A History of Their Own: European Women from Prehistory to the Present*. Highly recommended for all libraries.--Eleanor J. Bader, Brooklyn, NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Booklist
Seeking to answer the question of whether early feminists in different nations were in contact with one another, Anderson explores the origins of the international women's movement. Although hampered by time, distance, and language barriers, early feminists in the United States, France, Great Britain, and Germany managed to establish significant connections with one another through letters, visits, and published writings. Those early alliances served to nurture the women's movement in its infancy, providing geographically and philosophically isolated feminists with a crucial sense of solidarity. Anderson's investigations also reveal the

amazingly progressive nature of the revolutionary movement. Rather than concentrating on the right to vote, early feminists boldly advocated absolute political, social, economic, and moral equality with men, a radical notion that often cost them the support of less committed women. Largely ignored by historians, the international nature of the early women's movement enabled a small but dedicated core group of women to foster and sustain a seemingly futile crusade. An excellent introduction to the roots of modern feminism. Margaret Flanagan