Contents

	Acknowledgements	ix
	Introduction	1
1	The 'woman question' in imperial Britain	13
	Civilisation, slavery and women's rights 14 Christianity and women's privileges and influence 26 The 'woman question' in Elizabeth Hamilton's Translations of the Letters of a Hindoo Rajah 32 Feminist Utopianism in James Henry Lawrence's The Empire of the Nairs 36 The 'woman question' in imperial Britain 38	
2	Sweetness and power: the domestic woman and anti-slavery politics	41
	'Patronesses of the fair SUGAR': sugar, slavery and domesticity 44 'A Subject for Conversation at the Tea-Table': creating anti-slavery culture 47 'No more the blood-stain'd lux'ry choose': purifying the body of the nation 51 'We, the people will emancipate him': Elizabeth Heyrick and the radical politics of abstention 55 'Thy vessels crown'd with olive branches send': promoting 'legitimate' imperial commerce 61 Evaluating women's role in the slave-sugar boycott 63	

3	White women saving brown women? British women and the campaign against sati	65
	'A barbarous exertion of virtue?' British women's early representations of sati 67 'Family, fireside evils': the foreign missionary movement and sati 70 To 'rescue from ignorance, and by that means from these funeral piles': sati and female education 73 'Impelled by the convictions of conscience and the claims of benevolence': female petitioners against sati 78 Abolition and beyond: evangelicals, Unitarians and the	65
	roots of imperial feminism 86	
4	Can women be missionaries? Imperial philanthropy, female agency and feminism	92
	Foreign missionary organisations and the gendered division of missionary labour 94 'Christian psychobiography' and the early female missionary memoir 99 Jemima Thompson Luke's personal memoir and the obstacles to single women's missionary agency 105 Woman's mission, Christian privilege and imperial duty 108 Surrogate mothers and orphan girls 111 Preaching, teaching and the limits of female evangelism overseas 116 Female missionary agency and feminism 120	
5	Feminism, colonial emigration and the new model Englishwoman Miss Bull: feminists and the new model Englishwoman 126 What the colonies could offer Miss Bull 131 What Miss Bull could offer the colonies 137 Race, ethnicity and migration in the early women's movement 142	123
	Afterword Notes Bibliography Index	147 150 185 201