

# Contents

Acknowledgements	ix
Introduction	1
PART 1: LITERATURE AND THE PROFESSIONS	13
1 Outrageous Claims	15
<i>Nineteenth-century Medicine –         a Case Study of Professional Power</i>	26
<i>Women Writers</i>	34
<i>Conclusions</i>	42
2 George Eliot: Man at Work and the Masculine	
Professional	45
<i>The Artisan</i>	45
‘Mental’ Work	60
3 Representational Responsibilities in Dickens	65
<i>Representing Woman – a Sliding Scale of Mythologies</i>	76
4 The Gentleman’s Club, Literature	91
<i>Gaskell and Thackeray</i>	91
<i>Gaskell</i>	101
PART 2: WORKING WOMEN AUTOBIOGRAPHERS	115
5 Working Women Autobiographers	117
<i>Introduction</i>	117
<i>Working Women and Initial Experience of Class</i>	125

6 'Women's Issues'	137
<i>Women's Rights</i>	153
7 An Itch for Scribbling	163
<i>The Literary</i>	163
<i>Working, Writing</i>	171
<i>Writing, Working</i>	177
8 Professional Historians, Amateur Brain Surgeons	185
<i>Witnesses, Commentators and Editors</i>	185
<i>Amateurs</i>	198
Notes	207
Index	228