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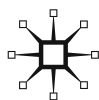
# Victorian Poetry and Modern Life

## The Unpoetical Age

Natasha Moore

*Research Fellow, Centre for Public Christianity, Australia*

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First published 2015 by  
PALGRAVE MACMILLAN

Palgrave Macmillan in the UK is an imprint of Macmillan Publishers Limited, registered in England, company number 785998, of Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS.

Palgrave Macmillan in the US is a division of St Martin's Press LLC, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

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ISBN 978-1-349-58010-1      ISBN 978-1-137-53780-5 (eBook)  
DOI 10.1007/978-1-137-53780-5

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and made from fully managed and sustained forest sources. Logging, pulping and manufacturing processes are expected to conform to the environmental regulations of the country of origin.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data  
Moore, Natasha, 1983–

Victorian poetry and modern life : the unpoetical age / Natasha Moore, research fellow, Centre for Public Christianity, Australia.

pages cm. — (Palgrave studies in nineteenth-century writing and culture)

Summary: "Today it goes without saying that any and all aspects of life are open to poets to write about. In the middle of the nineteenth century, however, the proper subject matter for poetry was a controversial question. Should poets turn to the more congenial, more heroic, more malleable past for their materials, leaving the field of the present clear for the upstart novel? Or was it their duty to tackle their own age, to reconcile its ugliness and chaos and banality with the beauty and order of poetry? This first full-length study of an experimental, influential, and very diverse mid-Victorian school of poetry traces a number of family resemblances between long poems of the period that, combining elements of the novel and the epic to form new generic hybrids, each take up the gauntlet of representing 'unpoetical' modern, everyday life poetically"— Provided by publisher.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. English poetry—19th century—History and criticism. 2. Great Britain—Intellectual life—19th century. 3. Modernism (Literature)—Great Britain. I. Title.

PR585.M66 2015

821'.80935—dc23

2015018587

Typeset by MPS Limited, Chennai, India.

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# Acknowledgements

The research that went into the making of this book – research I envisaged as a wander through the leafy byways of Victorian medievalism, before being swiftly won over to the determinedly contemporary, altogether more hazardous vision of the mid-century Cloughs and Barrett Brownings – was made possible through the generosity of a small army of doctoral funding bodies. My undying gratitude goes to the University of Sydney, the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust, the Jebb Fund, the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies at King’s College London, and Queens’ College Cambridge, for their support.

Of my many guides, I am especially grateful to Heather Glen, Clare Pettitt and Vanessa Smith for their trusty combination of cheerful pragmatism and relentless optimism, and for their openhandedness with both.

Allison Strickland and Alex Lenffer have taken the brunt of my travails through each successive phase of this project – as they do in everything, rejoicing and mourning with me by turns. My sister Katryna takes an unflagging interest in whatever I’m doing, in work and life, and doesn’t know how exceptional and steadfast a friend that makes her. And I can’t begin to catalogue my thankfulness to and for my parents, or the ways in which they’ve supported and sustained me, week by week, year by year, endeavour by endeavour. No epic simile could do it justice; someday I hope to write a book that does.

NATASHA MOORE