

Introduction

Kathryn Schwarz

In this, the forty-sixth issue of *Clio*, women are the stars of Christianity, men are witches, hydropower is unsustainable, mythological battles come to life, and Cincinnati owns a baseball team called the Red Stockings. These are not alternate universes; rather, they are an example of the productive thinking that can emerge from applying interdisciplinary methods to history.

Today, interdisciplinary collaboration is not only desirable, but also necessary. As our understanding of the world is increasingly filtered through technology and artificial intelligence becomes a reality rather than science fiction, we need more, not less, people who are able to make sure that this technology serves human purposes rather than the other way around. For that, we need both the humanities and the sciences. This issue of *Clio* is dedicated to the application of that principle. Students majoring in Psychology, History, Political Science, and English have written these selected articles. They include both undergraduate and graduate students. This issue will take you on a virtual time machine, with stops from the dawn of evolution all the way through our present-day environmental crisis. You will visit Russia, the United States, England, Japan, Ethiopia, Egypt, Sudan, Vietnam, Canada, Germany and Switzerland. It is a voyage of discovery, as Marcel Proust would say. This is a voyage that does not seek new landscapes as much as new eyes upon them; it is contemporary history asking new questions of long-accepted practices.

As the journal opens, Brandon Lisi and Kat Schwarz will both take long accepted conclusions and show the existence of alternate possibilities. Kat will explore the agencies that have notoriously classified and dismissed women in Christianity and Brandon, the evidence that proves the Battle of Morgarten is more than just a legend. The middle of the journal will investigate how social atmospheres change the way people behave and express themselves. Beginning with Dana Fotheringham's piece, we learn how the industrialization of England forced author Matthew Arnold to search for personal happiness in a world

transforming before his eyes. Next is Steven Bates' comprehensive examination of baseball's early history as a metaphor for the development of early, post colonial America. Following Bates' piece is William Silvia's "Witches Trapped in Amber," which considers the mob mentality which surrounds the panic of the alleged existence of satanic cults in both colonial and present day. Lastly are three environmental pieces and a scandalous sports investigation; all looking at our current state of affairs. The three environmental papers beginning with Stephen Kipp's thoroughly debate the need for consumer goods versus the costs to our environment. Kipp's work begins with the important debate between the cost it takes to manufacture goods and the reciprocal cost on the environment. Kat Schwarz peels away the layers on the often-misunderstood development of hydroelectric dams and their often-devastating effects on the surrounding human and non-human habitats. Steven Bates discusses the current, often nefarious sports environment in Russia and Nathan Walker ends the journal blowing the doors wide open on the political identity of Canada, stuck in the vice that are the Albertan Oil Sands.

As the world is always changing, we can view history as a process of constant evolution as well. We invite you to relax, draw a pentagram on the floor, turn on the game and curl up with your favorite Keurig-brewed cup of coffee. Ask yourself what we take for granted today, and enjoy the read.