Editorial

It is with great pleasure that we present the new issue of 49th Parallel. This issue’s articles and reviews discuss religion, race, gender, and war, and once again span two centuries of United States history and culture. Our two articles respond to nineteenth-century New York literary productions from two very different perspectives. Douglas Terry’s article “The Silent Response of the Monitor Within”: Freedom’s Journal, Education, and Race in Everyday Life explores the fight for education by African Americans in the antebellum New York, in the form of a weekly periodical. His article is a meticulous evaluation of the newspaper’s dissenting efforts but also its limitations in a landscape of white paternalist hegemony. An article by Myrto Drizou, ‘The Undecidable Miss Bart: Edith Wharton’s Naturalism in The House of Mirth’ proposes a philosophical dissection of Wharton’s work. Drizou views the theme of fate as key to critiques of gender and class stratification in the higher echelons of nineteenth century New York society.


We hope you enjoy this issue,

Tom Cobb and Hannah Murray

General Editors