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.

The high quality of review submissions continues with Wayne Arnold's review of James Decker and Indrek Manniste's *Henry Miller: New Perspectives*, a book that offers a series of thematically orientated essays on the authors' work. Arnold provides an insightful and reinvigorating look at the collection. Christopher James Blythe's review of Sean McCloud's *American Possession: Fighting Demons in the Contemporary United States* offers a bracing analysis of the book's exploration of third wave evangelism and spiritual warfare in the 1980s, contextualizing and critiquing McCloud's framing of evangelical ritual and social mores. Finally, Evan P. Sullivan's review of John M. Kinder's *Paying with Their Bodies: American War and the Problem of the Disabled Veteran* evaluates a book that delineates a sobering history of disability in warfare and with clear intentions of contemporary relevance for the War on Terror.

We hope you enjoy this issue,

Tom Cobb and Hannah Murray

General Editors