Contents

Ackn	owledgments	1
Intro	duction	3
Part	One Women's Fates and Factory	
	Questions	15
1.	The Romance of the Female Paternalist Frances Trollope's Female Knights 25 Charlotte Brontë and the Dynamics of Paternalism Elizabeth Gaskell and the Politics of Negotiation 5	•
2.	Gentility and the Dangers of Aspiration Elizabeth Stone and the Gentrification of Manches Geraldine Jewsbury's Romance of Work 84 George Eliot and the Choice against Gentility 96	69 ster 71
Part	Two Narrative History and the Social Record	111
3.	The Pastoral Argument The Natural History of Character in Oliver Twist	115

viii Contents

The Aristocratic Pastoral of Alton Locke 135 The Maternal Pastoral of Ruth 150	
4. Politics and the Recovery of Story Looking Back into the Future: Sybil 169 The Interrupted Stories of Hard Times 189 "Toward a More Assured End": Felix Holt 207	166
Afterword	231
Bibliography	
Index	