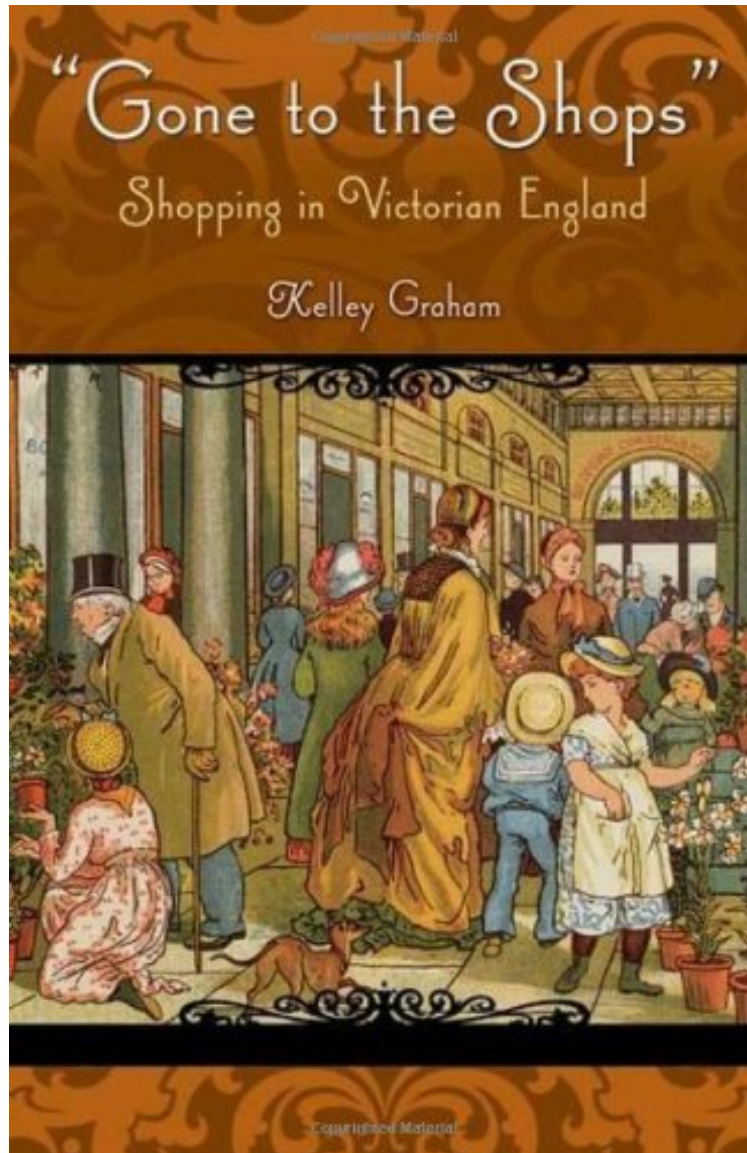


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## Gone To The Shops: Shopping In Victorian England (Victorian Life and Times)

*Kelley Graham*

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**Kelley Graham : Gone To The Shops: Shopping In Victorian England (Victorian Life and Times)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Gone To The Shops: Shopping In Victorian England (Victorian Life and Times)*:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Full of information, but needed a better proof-reader. By Customer This was an interesting, fast-paced book. I read it in about a day, but I am a quick reader. I thought that the

divisions were well thought out, and useful for re-reading to check facts later. Some sections gave a fairly broad overview of trades like grocery, etc. but give a good enough description and with enough sources to do further, even more focused research. However, throughout the book I encountered numerous typos. Missing letters and punctuation aside, there were one or two passages that seemed to be missing or substituting entire words for their opposites--which makes me worry a little bit about the actual validity of the contents that seemed to make sense. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. terribleBy CustomerThis book is truly terrible, the worst one I have ever read. The author just does not even deserve one star.

When Adam Smith wrote in 1776 that England was a nation of shopkeepers, he meant that commerce was a major factor in political decisions. Smith's observation was even more on-target for Victorian England: shopkeepers, shops, and shopping were a vital part of life. Those Victorians with resources could shop often and had many choices. Industrialization and their imperial connections gave them an almost unprecedented array of goods. Even the poor and working classes had more to eat and more to spend as the century progressed. Here, Graham explores the world of Victorian shops and shopping in colorful detail. She offers information on the types of shops and goods they offered, the people who owned and operated them, those who frequented them, and the contribution of shops and shopping to the Victorian lifestyle and economy. Shopping in Victorian England reached a level of importance not wholly appreciated even by Victorians themselves. New types of shops appeared, offering an expanding array of goods inventively packaged and displayed for an expanding group of shoppers. As the shops grew, so did the activity part excursion for provisions, part entertainment. Women shopped most often, but men, too, had their shops. Victorians could, by the end of the 19th century, shop without even leaving their homes: orders could be placed by mail, telegraph, or telephone. Shops catered to all classes the rich, the poor, and the in-betweens. This book will help modern readers envision the Victorian shopping experience by taking them inside the shops and up to the counters. Readers will learn how the shop was organized, what services and goods were available, and how goods made their way from the shop to the home. Graham's compelling account provides a vivid glimpse into a vital but largely unappreciated aspect of Victorian life.

". . . enjoyable and well researched. . . . Recommended. All levels/libraries." - Choice". . . readers seeking to enrich their understanding of nineteenth-century life and, in fact, our own culture of purchasing, will be delighted; almost every page provides fascinating information. . . . From food to furniture, from dry goods to drugs, Graham tells a good tale, and her enjoyable book is recommended for all academic libraries." - Catholic Library World

About the AuthorKelley Graham teaches history at Friends' Central School in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania. She has investigated different aspects of the history of the marketplace, including advertising, and currently focuses on the consumer experience.