

Unknown Photographer. (1903). *Remember the poor: A Salvation Army Christmas box.* Detroit Publishing Co. no. 09146. Gift; State Historical Society of Colorado: Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division. <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/det1994004886/PP/>



Notice the famous Red Kettles of the Salvation Army and the woman ringing the bell... Notice, also, the sign reads “Keep the Pots Boiling” and “Free Christmas Dinner for 25,000 poor” that passers-by are reading... Like with Coxey, this is not a “real” army of soldiers, but rather a group of very religious Christians (Protestants) who volunteered to serve with their pastors, William and Catherine Booth, who they called “General Superintendent¹” which demonstrates the “army’s” pseudo-militaristic organization (with God’s officers and soldiers, uniforms, and its well-know shield logo³) ... The Salvation Army posited a new model of Christian Womanhood, where women played an evangelical, leadership role... Women often led the collecting of donations from private citizens walking the public streets² (New York in this photo)... The Salvation Army specifically attempted to “save souls” and feed, house, and cloth the poorest of the lowest and working classes⁴... In the late the 19th and early 20th century, The Salvation Army helped several thousands of homeless, unemployed, those addicted to alcohol or drugs, prostitutes and prisoners³.

CITATIONS

1. Walker, P.J. (2001). *Pulling the Devil’s Kingdom Down: The Salvation Army in Victorian Britain*. University of California: Berkley: CA.
2. Murdoch, N.H. (1996). *Origins of the Salvation Army*. University of Texas Press, TX.
3. http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn_2.nsf/vw-dynamic-index/B37869A97B6A4A908525744200434125?Opendocument
4. Brinkley, A. (2008) *American History: A Survey* (13th edition). McGraw-Hill: NY.