1. Record Nr. UNINA9910778484103321 Our sisters' keepers [[electronic resource]]: nineteenth-century Titolo benevolence literature by American women / / edited by Jill Bergman and Debra Bernardi Tuscaloosa,: University of Alabama Press, c2005 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8173-8166-X 1 online resource (313 p.) Descrizione fisica Studies in American literary realism and naturalism Collana Altri autori (Persone) BergmanJill <1963-> BernardiDebra <1954-> Disciplina 810.9/3556 Soggetti American literature - 19th century - History and criticism Benevolence in literature Literature and society - United States - History - 19th century Women and literature - United States - History - 19th century American literature - Women authors - History and criticism Charity in literature Poverty in literature Poor in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. [283]-288) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Stories of the poorhouse / Karen Tracey -- Representing the "deserving poor" / Lori Merish -- "Dedicated to works of beneficence" / Mary Templin -- Reforming women's reform literature / Whitney A. Womack -- "The right to be let alone" / Debra Bernardi -- Women's charity vs. scientific philanthropy in Sarah Orne Jewett / Monika Elbert -- "Oh the poor women!" / Jill Bergman -- Frances Harper's poverty relief mission in the African American community / Terry D. Novak -- "To reveal the humble immigrant parents to their own children" / Sarah E. Chinn --Character's conduct / James Salazar. American culture has long had a conflicted relationship with assistance Sommario/riassunto to the poor. Cotton Mather and John Winthrop were staunch proponents of Christian charity as fundamental to colonial American

society, while transcendentalists harbored deep skepticism towards

benevolence in favor of Emersonian self-reliance and Thoreau's insistence on an ascetic life. Women in the 19th century, as these essays show, approached issues of benevolence far differently than their male counterparts, consistently promoting assistance to the impoverished, in both their acts and their writings. <