

**Cleveland Quakers from 1892-1907:  
Evangelism, Gender and the Poor**  
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The popular mind associates Quakers with Philadelphia, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and parts of Ohio south of the Western Reserve - but not with Cleveland, not the Western Reserve. This is a small contribution to the thesis that this conception is just plain wrong, even when supported - implicitly at least - by no less a source than the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*, which makes no mention of Quakers in Cleveland.

This introduces the thesis that the story of Cleveland's Quakers is one of the great untold stories of Quaker and Cleveland history because, as Thomas Hamm notes, "an ever growing majority of the world's Quakers are now found outside North America and Europe, and most of these are the products of missionary efforts. . . from Ohio." It contends that further study will reveal that this "ever growing majority" came from women and men who were trained in Cleveland.

In addition to proposing a larger thesis, this lays groundwork for future studies of Cleveland's Quakers by exploring the evolving character of these historically significant Friends from 1882-1907, with attention to evangelism, gender and the poor.