The Problem of the Aged Poor

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THE PROBLEM OF THE AGED POOR

BY

GEOFFREY DRAKE, M.P.

LONDON
ADAM & CHARLES BLACK
1895
THIS VOLUME
IS DEDICATED
TO THE MEMORY OF THE LATE
LORD HANNEN
AS A SLIGHT TRIBUTE OF GRATITUDE FOR
HIS MANY ACTS OF
KINDNESS TO THE AUTHOR
AS A STUDENT
PREFACE

The Report of the Royal Commission on the Aged Poor has given for various reasons so little satisfaction that I venture to publish the present volume. I have followed to a great extent the scheme of the Digests of the Evidence taken before the Labour Commission, in letting the witnesses before the Commission speak for themselves.

No student of labour problems can afford to neglect the researches of Mr. Charles Booth, whose work in this case replaces that generally done by Assistant Commissioners. In dealing with his book on the Aged Poor, I have departed from the plan adopted in dealing with his own and similar works in the publications of the Labour Commission. I have given only a short sketch of the points in which the work supplements that of the Aged Poor Commission, and in so doing, I have rearranged many of his tables to bring out these points.

If this little book only serves to promote a careful study both of the Blue-books under review, and of Mr. Booth’s large volume, which must rank with the Blue-books, I shall be content.
This volume is dedicated to the late Lord Hannen, in lieu of a larger book, the dedication of which he accepted in his lifetime, and which I have not yet been able to complete. Slight as may be its merits, I hope it will not prove altogether unworthy of being connected with his name. The method adopted of giving the authorities first hand, is more in accordance with those adopted at Lord Hannen's old university of Heidelberg than with those of English writers.

I should like to express my obligation with regard to this book first and foremost to Miss A. H. Blomefield, and also in parts to Mr. Michael Furse.

G. D.

June 1895.