RICH AND POOR

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Rich and poor by Helen Dendy Bosanquet

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HELEN DENDY BOSANQUET

RICH AND POOR



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PREFACE

In offering this little book to its readers, I wish to explain certain omissions which might otherwise be regarded as deficiencies.

In the first place, I have purposely avoided overloading it with technical details, which can always be obtained from special handbooks. To some of these I have referred in the list at the end. My object was not to supersede any existing book, but rather to interest new workers and encourage old ones by insisting upon the underlying unities and principles which are capable of bringing order and a higher life into an apparent chaos.

In the second place I have avoided all approach to economic controversy, as being more appropriately carried on elsewhere. Economic convictions, indeed, I have been unable to dispense with, and as one of these has lately been disputed I will state it clearly here. It is the conviction that character is one amongst other economic causes, and as such cannot fail to have an economic effect. In other words, I maintain that if you can make man or woman more honest, sober, and efficient than before, he will not only be more likely to find an opportunity of rendering services to the community (i.e. to find work), but will also by his higher range of wants increase the opportunities of other people (i.e. increase the amount of remunerative employment).

Finally, I regret that there are many branches of philanthropic work to which I have been unable to refer. Those which I have selected are, however, more or less typical of others, and it is obvious that any book short of a Charities Register can only work by dealing with typical instances.

CHEYNE GARDENS, October 2, 1896.

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