

# **LABOR AND LAW**

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Labor and law by Charles Bradlaugh

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**CHARLES BRADLAUGH**

**LABOR  
AND LAW**





# LABOR AND LAW.

BY

CHARLES BRADLAUGH.

II

UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

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With a Memoir and Two Portraits.

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LONDON:

R. FORDER, 28 STONECUTTER STREET, E.C.

—  
1891.

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## PREFACE.

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MR. BRADLAUGH was busily engaged on his book on "Labor and Law" at the time he was seized by his fatal illness; and it was among the subjects which oftenest occupied his mind till he became unconscious. In addition to the chapters published, he had contemplated three on "Eight Hours in Mines," "Friendly Societies Legislation," and "Emigration and Immigration." The latter two, for which he had studied much, would have been specially important, but he has left no notes for them which can be utilised. There have been added, however, three papers by him on "Force or Conciliation in Labor Disputes," "Socialism in Europe," and "A Starved Government Department," all of which may fitly come under the general title "Labor and Law." These papers appeared respectively in the *Universal Review*, *Subjects of the Day*, and the *New Review*, to the proprietors of which thanks are due for the permission to republish. Some passages in these

articles which Mr. Bradlaugh had embodied in the chapters of "Labor and Law" have been deleted.

Of the two photographs in this volume, one was taken about 1880, before the Parliamentary struggle, the other last year. They tell their own story.

*April, 1891.*



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M E M O I R .

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AN adequate Life of Mr. Bradlaugh, it is to be hoped, will ere long be compiled. Meantime, a short memoir, covering his life to the close, will probably be acceptable to many of the readers of the volume now issued.

The facts as to his early life are perhaps now among the best known concerning him, by reason of the strong impression made by the story of his early expulsion from home, under clerical pressure. Doubtless this episode, exclusively regarded, lends itself to one or two false inferences. Charles Bradlaugh, the elder, was not a bad father, though he was unfortunate in his regimen. A poor solicitor's clerk, he had to work very hard to support his family; and some genial qualities which his son inherited and developed had in him to struggle against hard conditions of life. He seems even to have had literary tastes, and to have contributed sketches, stories, and articles to the *London Mirror*; and

his son liked to remember how he and his father had in common a passionate love of fishing, in gratification of which the elder would often get up at three in the morning and walk from Hackney to Temple Mills on the river Lea. Beyond this trait, we know little of the heredity of the man we have lately lost. The family genealogy has not yet been traced, though this ought not to be difficult, considering the remarkable rarity of the name. Apart from his family, it does not occur in the London Directory; and I do not hear of it anywhere else. But at Kelsall Church, Suffolk, there is a monumental brass which names a Dorothy Bradlaugh *alias* Jacob, as the wife of a "gent." who died in 1605; and at Saxfield Church in the same county there is a stone with a shield which has "the arms of Bradlaugh *alias* Jacob". I have heard Mr. Bradlaugh say that he thought his family might be of Irish origin; and the form of the name encourages this view; but he professed no certainty on the subject; and seeing that at Saxfield there is another stone for "Nicholas Bradley *alias* Jacob", who died in 1628, it would seem that the two forms of the name are at least equally English in their recent history. His mother's name was Trimby. She seems, from the testimony