# DARWEN AND THE COTTON FAMINE. THIRTY YEARS AGO, 1862-1864

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

#### ISBN 9780649433858

Darwen and the Cotton Famine. Thirty Years Ago, 1862-1864 by S. A. Nichols

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

## S. A. NICHOLS

# DARWEN AND THE COTTON FAMINE. THIRTY YEARS AGO, 1862-1864



### DARWEN

AND

## THE COTTON FAMINE.

THIRTY YEARS AGO,

1862-1864.

BY THE

HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE LOCAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

WITH A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE THROUGHOUT THE COTTON DISTRICT.

J. J. RILEY,
"NEWS" OFFICE, DARWEN;
and "FREE PRESS" OFFICE, RAWTENSTALL.

1893.

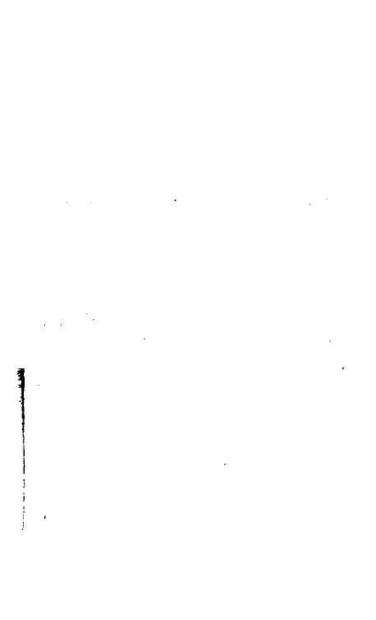


#### CONTENTS.

P			

I.	INTRODUCTIONPAGE 9
	Manufacture, work by hand-Invention of Spinning Machine-
	Costliness of Hand Loom Weaving-Development of the
	Cotton Trade-Food Riots-Machinery Riots-Destruction
	of Power Looms at Darwen and elsewhere-Riots, 1842

II. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ...... PAGE 16 Large increase of Population in Lancashire-Origin of Civil War in the United States-Commencement of Lancashire Distress in October, 1861-Large amount of Pauperism -Private Relief-First Committees formed in April, 1862-"A Lancashire Lad"-Mansion House Committee originated -Central Committee formed-Early Contribution from Cheltenham-Meeting in London of Lancashire Noblemen and Members of Parliament-Bold Appeal to the Country urged by Mr. Cobden-Accusation against Lancashire of neglect of duty by the Times, and by letters from Rev. Charles Kingsley-Successful defence by Lord Derby-First act of his majority by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales-Great Gift from America-Eccentric Contributions-The Marriage Rate-Health-Morality-Absence of Crime-Dissolution of Committee-Testimonial to Mr. Maclure-Memorial Window from the Operatives-"The Cotton District Convalescent Fund "



### Pedicated

TO THE MEMORY OF ONE WHO IN
HER OWN QUIET, UNOBTRUSIVE
MANNER TOOK PART IN THE WORK
HEREIN RECORDED, AND FOR WHOM
SOME HEARTS, IN DARWEN STILL
BEAT WITH GRATITUDE, AND MORE
WITH LOVE.

"Aw make no accawnt o' slotchin' up an' deawn o' this shap, like a foo'. It would sicken a dog, it would for sure. Aw go a fishin' a bit, neaw an' then: an' aw cotter abeawt wi' first one thing an' then another, but it comes to no sense. It's noan like gradely wark. It makes me maunder up an' deawn sometimes like a gonnor wi' a nail in it yed. Aw wish to God yon chaps in Amerikay would play th'up-stroke an' get done wi' their bother, so as foak could start o' wortchin again."

.

A WIGAN OVERLOOKER.

#### PREFACE.

THE Author, or compiler, of this small volume, has for many years past purposed its production at some future period; and feels now that unless the purpose is at once put into execution, it will not be performed at all.

He commends the little book to all who take any interest in its record; to his friends, the comparatively few survivors of the once large Darwen Committee; to those who yet remain of the subscribers to, and recipients of the bounty whose story it relates; and chiefly to the new generation, the descendants, children and grandchildren of those who suffered bitter privations, and manifested the patience, fortitude, and endurance which won for them a Spartan reputation throughout the English speaking world; and for which they will be esteemed by all honourable men as long as the memory of the Cotton Famine remains.

 To the critical reader, who may justly find fault with the loose manner in which the facts are thrown together, he must plead his inexperience in the art and mystery of authorship.