

**PHASES OF DISTRESS:  
LANCASHIRE  
RHYMES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649669912

Phases of Distress: Lancashire Rhymes by Joseph Ramsbottom

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**JOSEPH RAMSBOTTOM**

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LANCASHIRE RHYMES.

BY

JOSEPH RAMSBOTTOM.

EDITED BY "A LANCASHIRE LAD."

MANCHESTER: JOHN HEYWOOD, 143, DEANSGATE.

LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO.

1864.

*280. k. 86.*

MANCHESTER:  
PRINTED BY JOHN HEYWOOD, 143, DEANSGATE.



## P R E F A C E :

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IN the following Poems the Author has given expression to the thoughts and feelings of the Operatives of Lancashire, during the most terrible crisis through which they have ever passed. He possesses all the qualities requisite to enable him to do this successfully. He is as familiar with the various features of their every-day life as any one can be. His knowledge is not that of an outsider, who simply looks on at a new phase of life and describes what he sees ;— it is the knowledge possessed by one who is closely related to the people themselves, and who has himself shared their wants, their struggles, and their pleasures.

This is scarcely the place for me to say what I think of these Poems. My conviction is that they evince considerable merit and will meet with all the appreciation which they deserve; but besides that, this little book stands to me as a memorial of a friendship between myself and its Author; a friendship which has lasted from the time when we were both lads toiling in the same dyehouse, to now, when we have both escaped from our former uncongenial life.

To myself and my friend, the period of distress which has not yet quite ended, has been of more importance than it can have been to others less interested in the welfare of the Operative Classes. We have both hoped that in these "hard times" some seed should be sown, which, in its germination and ultimate growth, should spread lasting good amongst those who have suffered so much.

JOHN WHITTAKER,

" A LANCASHIRE LAD."

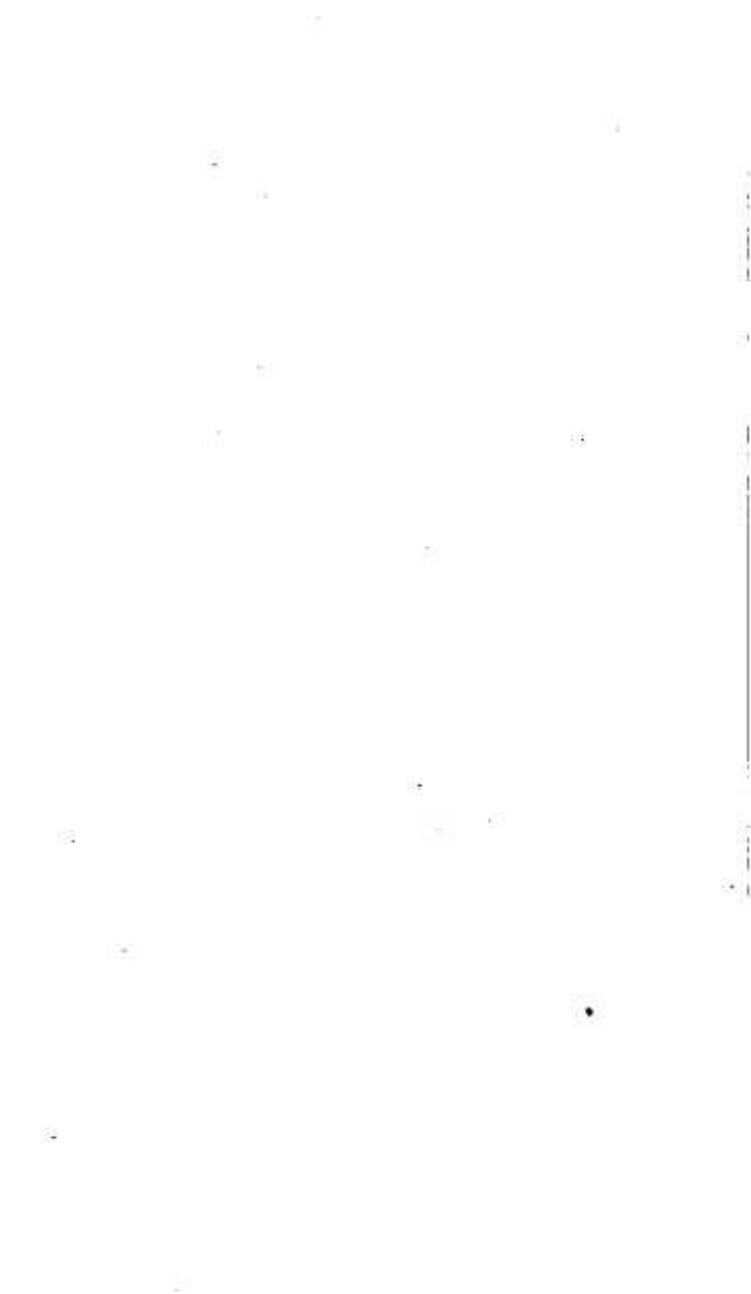


Figure 1: Distribution of the number of clusters (k) for different sample sizes (n) and correlation coefficients (rho).



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### Proem.

i.

LET o' those sing o' queens an' kings,  
An' men grown great i'th' wuld, ut may;  
To humbler folk aw'll pitch mi sstrings,  
Ut's mooar to do an' less to say.  
Mi counthry words aw couldno set,  
Nor tune mi heart to sing a song  
To th' praise o' great folk, an' forget  
The lowly poor aw'r born among.

■