LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
STUDIES IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

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WOMEN WORKERS
AND
THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
1750—1850

By
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LONDON
GEORGE ROUTLEDGE & SONS, LTD.,
BROADWAY HOUSE: 68-74 CARTER LANE, E.C.
1930
X : 915. 3. 15
GO
64937
TO THE MEMORY OF
MY MOTHER
PREFACE

This book is an attempt to give an account of the conditions governing the lives of working women during the period 1750–1850. The Industrial Revolution has been studied from many aspects, but so far women's work during this period has not been the subject of any separate and detailed study. It is hoped that the present book, though necessarily limited in scope, may do something towards filling this gap.

My grateful thanks are due to the late Professor Lilian Knowles for her inspiration in the early stages of this research and guidance in the use of materials for this period which she knew so well; and especially am I indebted to Dr. Eileen Power, who has directed my researches for her unfailing interest and her invaluable help in discussion, and in reading and criticizing my manuscript. I must also record my deep gratitude to Mrs Bernard Shaw for her generous scholarship, which allowed me to devote an extra year to this study, and for the kindly interest she has always taken in this subject. Finally, I wish to express my thanks to the Clerk of the Peace at Derby, the Rector of Darlaston, the Vicar of Rugeley, and the Clerk to the Parish Council of Duffield, for giving me facilities to use the documents in their charge.

IVY PINCHBECK.
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OCCUPATIONS OF WOMEN IN 1841.

The following figures taken from the Occupational Abstract of the Census Returns, 1841, (P.P. 1844, xxvii., pp. 31-44), while not altogether accurate, are interesting in showing the distribution of women in industry at this time. The numbers given are for England alone, and trades employing only very few women have for the most part been omitted.

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<th>20-50 years</th>
<th>50-90 years</th>
<th>90 years and upwards</th>
<th>Females Under 20 years</th>
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* An understatement.
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*An understatement.*
APPENDIX

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* An understatement.
## APPENDIX

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* An understatement.
### APPENDIX

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   Sessions Rolls and Papers (miscellaneous documents; petitions,
   depositions, apprenticeship indentures, removal orders, vagrant
   passes, etc.).

2. Duffield Parish Papers. Vestry Minutes, Constables' and Overseers'

3. Darlaston Parish Papers.
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" " " " " " " " " " " " " " 1817, VII.
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" " " " " " " " " " " " " " 1823, VI.
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