

Coal in Victorian Britain

General Editor: **John Benson**

Volume Editors: **John Benson, Keith Gildart, James Jaffe and Quentin Outram**

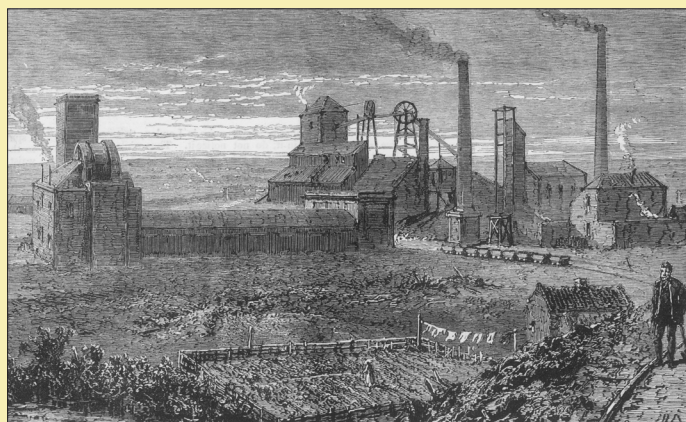
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It is almost impossible to exaggerate the role that the coal industry played in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Britain. Coal, along with cotton, was the driving force of the British industrial revolution. By the time the First World War broke out in 1914, nearly two-thirds of all the coal entering world trade was mined in Britain, and coal mining accounted for one in ten of Great Britain's male population in employment. The rapid expansion of coal mining had a profound impact not just upon the British economy but upon the social, cultural, religious, industrial and political life of the country.

This six-volume, reset collection provides scholars with a wide variety of sources relating to the Victorian coal industry. It is no longer possible to view the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century industry in terms of an unchanging confrontation between owners and miners locked together in an incessant stream of strikes and lockouts. The collection takes into account recent developments in the historiography of coal mining, showing that miners and their families did not live bleakly narrow lives in featureless, single-industry communities cut off from the rest of society.

Coal is an essential topic for those concerned with the causes, course and consequences of industrialization and de-industrialization. Sources included in this edition are rare and have been selected so as to reflect both the diversity and change taking place within the coal industry, the communities which serviced it and the industrial relations practices which emerged to regulate it.



Usworth Colliery, 1881

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- Offers a wide-ranging collection of documents dealing with key political, social, cultural and economic issues relevant to the British coal industry
- Includes extremely rare materials sourced from specialist archives and repositories including the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers, the People's History Museum and the Working Class Movement Library
- Editorial apparatus: general introduction, volume introductions, headnotes and endnotes
- Consolidated index in the final volume

**RESET
EDITION**

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Volume 2: Organization and Production

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