

## X BRITISH COAL INDUSTRY

abuses and many wrongs committed against defenceless labour—male, female and child—and I doubted whether the mere recounting of past wrongs might not increase the tension between employer and employed. My decision was taken because it appeared to me that it must be obvious that times have completely changed, and that it is greatly to the credit of the present and the immediately preceding generation of owners and mine managers, as well as to the Trade Unions concerned, that the intolerable conditions of 1842 have been so completely swept away.

The various views expressed by me in the course of this book express my personal opinion only and are in no way official.

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