Science, Reform, and Politics in Victorian Britain

The Social Science Association 1857–1886

Science, Reform, and Politics is a study of the relationship between social thought, social policy and politics in Victorian Britain. Goldman focuses on a remarkable organisation, the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, known as the Social Science Association. For three decades this served as a forum for the discussion of key Victorian social questions and as an influential adviser to governments, and its history discloses how social policy was made in these years. Its participants included many notable figures, among them politicians (for example, Gladstone and Russell), intellectuals (Mill and Ruskin), public administrators (Chadwick and Kay-Shuttleworth), reformers (Brougham and Shaftesbury) and the pioneering feminists of the age (Barbara Bodichon and Bessie Rayner Parkes). The Association had influence over policy and legislation on matters as diverse as public health, crime and punishment, secondary education, class and industrial relations, and women’s legal and social emancipation. The SSA has an important place in the history of social thought and sociology, showing the complex roots of these disciplines in the non-academic milieu of nineteenth-century reform. Its influence in the United States and Europe allows for a comparative approach to political and intellectual development in this period.

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SCIENCE, REFORM, AND POLITICS IN VICTORIAN BRITAIN

The Social Science Association 1857–1886

LAWRENCE GOLDMAN
To Madeleine
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Acknowledgements

I acknowledge the gracious permission of Her Majesty The Queen to cite letters from the Royal Archives. Citations and quotations from the Castle Howard Archives have been included by kind permission of the Hon. Simon Howard; from Lord Shaftesbury’s journals by permission of Lord Brabourne and the Trustees of the Broadlands Archives; from the Hampton papers (Sir John Pakington) by permission of Lord Hampton; from the papers of Sir James Kay-Shuttleworth by permission of Lord Shuttleworth; from the Davies and Parkes Papers by permission of the Mistress and Fellows of Girton College, Cambridge; from the Houghton and Whewell papers by permission of the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge; from the papers of Thomas Hare by permission of the President and Fellows of St John’s College, Oxford; from the papers of Caroline Dall by permission of the Massachusetts Historical Society; from the manuscript autobiography of Edward Jarvis by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University; and from Jarvis’ letters by permission of the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine, Boston, and the Concord Free Public Library, Concord, Massachusetts.


Research for this book began in Cambridge and was finished in Oxford. I would like to thank the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge for electing me to a junior research fellowship in the early stages of work, and the Master and Fellows of St Peter’s College, Oxford for providing support and encouragement in the later stages. As a
Acknowledgements

Visiting Professor in the Department of History at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, I was able to complete research on the American Social Science Association and I value the hospitality provided by colleagues there. I am particularly grateful to my fellow historians at St Peter’s, past and present: Henry Mayr-Harting, Henrietta Leyser, and Mark Whittow. For help at different stages I would like to acknowledge the assistance of Derek Beales, Richard Bellamy, Eugenio Biagini, John Burrow, the late Hester Burton, Peter Clarke, Stefan Collini, John Davis, Ann Dingsdale, David Eastwood, Michael Freedman, Peter Ghosh, Ewen Green, A. T. Harrison, Brian Harrison, Angus Hawkins, Geoffrey Hawthorn, Pam Hirsch, Roger Hood, Michael Ignatieff, Alon Kadish, Michael Lobban, Ross McKibbin, Jon Parry, the late Henry Pelling, Jack Pole, Roy Porter, Simon Szreter, Philip Waller, Gavin Williams, Donald Winch, and members of the former Cambridge Social History Seminar including Jennifer Davis, Joanna Innes, Deborah Thom and Steven Tolliday. For help with the American themes in this book I am grateful to Mary Furner, Gerald N. Grob, Thomas Haskell, Michael Lacey, Dan Rodgers, Dorothy Ross, David Shribman, and Amy Stanley, though I am conscious that not all members of this group will agree with my conclusions.

For advice, guidance, and interest in this project special thanks are due to my supervisor, Vic Gatrell, and to David Feldman, Boyd Hilton, Gareth Stedman Jones, Jose Harris, Janet Howarth, and the late Colin Matthew. Mark Curthoys read a complete draft of the text and has made valuable comments and suggestions for more than a decade. Jean Field edited the typescript with the greatest care and saved me from many infelicities and inconsistencies. I thank Richard Fisher at Cambridge University Press for his constant patience and occasional firmness. The contributions of two people who took a special interest in this work but did not live to see it published should also be recognised. Professor Adrian Hastings made available to me the papers of his grandfather, George Woodyatt Hastings, the founder and animating spirit of the Social Science Association. Oliver Ross McGregor, Lord McGregor of Durrus, allowed me to use a copy of the manuscript bibliography he compiled of all the papers and contributions to the SSA from the 1850s to the 1880s. It is to be hoped that this will find a publisher in due course and so make more accessible the remarkable sources for the social history of Victorian Britain that the Association left behind. Librarians and archivists in many different institutions showed great courtesy and
Acknowledgements

ingenuity in dealing with my requests but I would like to acknowledge the help of staff in the West Room of the Cambridge University Library and the Upper Reading Room of the Bodleian Library in particular. Finally, my deepest thanks go to my wife, Madeleine, who came into my life at about the same time as the Social Science Association and who has tolerated this strange ménage à trois for many years. Her support has been unfailing. This book is dedicated to her.
A note on citations in the text of papers published in the Transactions and Sessional Proceedings of the Social Science Association

For reasons of space it has been necessary to curtail full referencing of quotations and citations from the publications of the Social Science Association. In most cases reference is to the volume and page only; the author and title of a paper are not given (though the identity of the speaker/writer should be clear from the text). Occasionally, where full details may be helpful to the reader, or the paper is of special importance, a complete citation has been provided in the footnotes. Papers from these sources have not been included in the bibliography as separate items.
Abbreviations

Institutions
ARA Administrative Reform Association
ASSA American Social Science Association
BAAS British Association for the Advancement of Science
BL British Library
BMA British Medical Association
ISSA Association Internationale pour le Progrès des Sciences Sociales
LAS Law Amendment Society
NAPSS National Association for the Promotion of Social Science
NRU National Reformatory Union
SIC Schools Inquiry or Taunton Commission
SSA Social Science Association

Sources
B MSS Brougham Papers, University College, London

Publications
BMJ British Medical Journal
DNB Dictionary of National Biography
JSSL Journal of the Statistical Society of London
JSS Journal of Social Science (New York)
LAJ Law Amendment Journal (1855–8)
PP Parliamentary Papers
SP (year) Sessional Proceedings of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science


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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tr>
<td>T. (year)</td>
<td>Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science</td>
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<td>(+ year of congress). Volumes were published in London in the year following</td>
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<td>each annual congress.</td>
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<td>TLAS</td>
<td>Transactions of the Law Amendment Society (1858–63)</td>
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<td>TSS</td>
<td>Trades' Societies and Strikes. Report of the Committee on Trades’ Societies,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Appointed by the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science</td>
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Lord Brougham delivering the opening address in the Free-Church Assembly-Hall, Edinburgh, 1863.