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Nota di contenuto	Accounting for illegitimacy : parish politics and the poor / Louise Falcini -- ; Interlude 1: Thomas Woolgar, the mystery man / Jean Irvin -- Clothing the poor / Elizabeth Spencer -- ; Interlude 2: Elizabeth Overing, sent to Bedlam / Elizabeth Hughes -- Vagrancy, poor relief and the parish / Tim Hitchcock -- ; Interlude 3: Elizabeth Malbon (c. 1743-1801) / Dianne Shenton -- Women, business and the Old Poor Law / Peter Collinge -- ; Interlude 4: The Wilkinsons and the Griffin Inn, Penrith / Margaret Dean -- The overseers' assistant : taking a parish salary, 1801-1834 / Alannah Tomkins -- ; Interlude 5: The parochial career of James Finlinson (1783-1847) / William Bundred -- Who cares? : mismanagement, neglect and suffering in the final decades of the Old Poor Laws / Samantha A. Shave -- ; Interlude 6: Abel Rooker (1787-1867), surgeon / Janet Kisz -- Public histories and collaborative working / Louise Falcini and Peter Collinge.
Sommario/riassunto	The Old Poor Law in England and Wales, administered by the local parish, dispensed benefits to paupers providing a uniquely comprehensive, pre-modern system of relief. Remaining in force until 1834, the law provided goods and services to keep the poor alive. Combining short- and long-form articles and essays, Providing for the

Poor brings together academics and practitioners from across disciplines to re-examine the micro-politics of poverty in the long eighteenth century through the eyes of the poor, their providers and enablers. From the providence of the parochial sixpence given in order to move a beggar on, to coercive marriages, plebeian clothing and the much broader implications of vagrancy towards the end of the long eighteenth century, this volume aims to bridge the gaps in our understanding of the experiences of people across the social spectrum whose lives were touched by the Old Poor Law. It brings together some of the wider arguments concerning the nature of welfare during economically testing times, and navigates the rising bureaucracy inherent in the system, to produce a radical new history of the Old Poor Law in astonishing detail.
