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Serendipity trails: Visible poverty

The poor, the handicapped, beggars, vagrants and pariahs: the lower strata of society are well represented in Arkyves. We meet them in many different contexts and their status and circumstances may be expressed with a variety of means.

The use of visible deformities like a missing leg or a hunchback to suggest poverty is a commonplace that would warrant systematic research.

Giving alms, obviously, is a concept that presupposes the presence, or at least existence, of poor people as do biblical stories involving the poor. Have a look at the way the filters are used here in combination with a text search, and you can probably figure out how to combine a text search for poor, poverty, and the Dutch word *armoe** with a structured filter that limits the search to scenes from the Old Testament. Reverse the filters and your query limits itself to the New Testament scenes

Poverty as an abstract idea we encounter in the Adages collected by Erasmus and in quite a few emblems, perhaps most strikingly in the emblems that deal with the obstacles the talented but poor student has to overcome.

Link to this essay



Bedelaars (serietitel)



Bedelaars en boeren (serietitel)



Kreuple man in driewielig kar



Frau gibt den Armen und Kranken.



Armoede ()