

History of England

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Abstract: *The raise of social history comprise had a transforming power on the history of early on contemporary England. It has broadened the chronological plan to contain a lot of formerly modest-studied, or totally abandoned, scope of the English past. It has also provided a fuller circumstance for accepting more recognized themes in the political, religious, economic and intellectual histories of the period. This volume serves two major purposes. Firstly, it summarizes, in an reachable way, the primary result of forty years of research on English society in this period, provided that a ample summary of communal and civilizing modify in an era vital to the growth of English social identities. Second, the chapters, by chief experts, also kindle clean idea by not only captivating reserve of present knowledge but also extending it, identifying troubles, proposing fresh interpretations and pointing to unfamiliar possibilities.*

Keywords: American war, British colonies, George Washington, Treaty of Paris, Molasses Act, Stamp Act, Government, Independence, Empire, Declaratory Act, Boston Tea party, Results of war

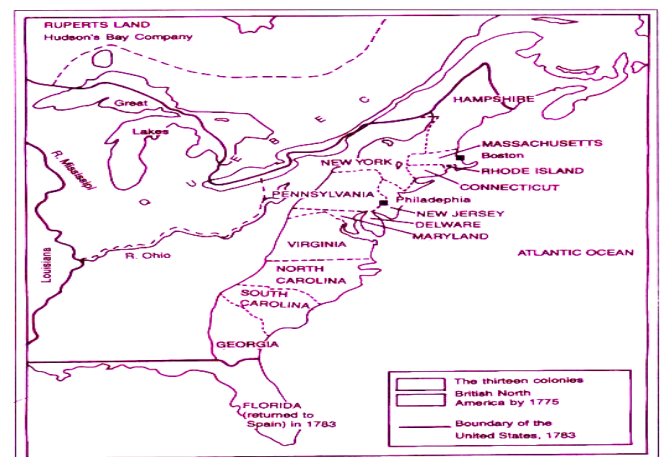
1. Introduction

The raise of social history comprise had a transforming power on the history of early on contemporary England. It has broadened the chronological plan to contain a lot of formerly modest-studied, or totally abandoned, scope of the English past. It has also provided a fuller circumstance for accepting more recognized themes in the political, religious, economic and intellectual histories of the period. This volume serves two major purposes. Firstly, it summarizes, in an reachable way, the primary result of forty years of research on English society in this period, provided that a ample summary of communal and civilizing modify in an era vital to the growth of English social identities. Second, the chapters, by chief experts, also kindle clean idea by not only captivating reserve of present knowledge but also extending it, identifying troubles, proposing fresh interpretations and pointing to unfamiliar possibilities.

2. The American War of Independence

In the history of modern world, the American War of Independence (1776) occupies an extremely important place. It marks the foundation of the world-shattering period in the the human race. The Americans were the first to revolt against the tyranny and selfish policies of imperial Britain. This roused hopes and aspirations among all nations seeking liberty and freedom.

In the 17th century, France, Holland, Spain and England had established their relevant colonies in North America. By the mid-eighteenth century, citizens from Britain had developed and created thirteen colonies along the Atlantic coast of North America.



The British Government did not hold up in the organization of these far off colonies. But the colonists had no ambassador in the British Parliament. The British navy had sheltered the colonies from the harass of the Dutch, Spanish and French. After the Treaty of Paris (1763) which detached French organize over Canada, the colonies got rid of their hesitation and could gravely believe of gaining independence.

3. Causes of the war

However these thirteen colonies enjoyed self- government in internal organization, trade and business were fully under the control of the British Parliament. Navigation Acts were passed giving Britain a realistic control over colonial trade. No overseas vessel was permitted to come in a colonial port. Sugar, tobacco and ginger on their way to Europe had to overtake through a British port, paying customs duties.

The Molasses Act (1764) levied duties on molasses which the colonies brought home from outside. In addition, it was illegal for the colonists to set up industries that could fight with British factories. One of the main grievances of the American colonists residential on account of the colonial trade rule of the mother- country.

To prevent smuggling, commanders of armed vessels stationed along the American coast were empowered to investigate any merchant ship imminent the colonial ports

and grab it on the mistrust that it was transport smuggled goods.

Britain's contribution in the European wars had exhausted her resources. The British Government felt that the colonists should split a part of their trouble. So in 1765, the British Parliament passed the **Stamp Act**. The **Stamp Act** made it necessary to attach stamps on all papers used in legal dealings.

It roused protests from the colonies. They proclaimed that there could be "no taxation without representation". (The American colonists were not represented in the British Parliament.)

Alarmed by the open resistance in the colonies, the British Parliament repealed the Stamp Act in 1766. But the British Parliament also passed a **Declaratory Act** in 1767 asserting the power of the British Parliament to tax the colonies.

In pursuance of this Act, duties were compulsory on lead, glass, paint, tea and a few other articles imported into the colonies. In the face of a movement against taxation, the British Prime Minister repealed all duties except the one on tea.

This was an act of compromise, no doubt, but was also a verification of the correct of the British Parliament to tax the colonies. The Government also wished to help the East India Company to arrange of its large stock of tea by selling it to the colonies.

The most famous of all the anti-British protests of the settlers is recognized in history as the "**Boston Tea Party**". In 1773, a ship of the East India Company shipping tea reached the port of Boston in Massachusetts. A group of Boston citizens, masked as Red Indians, boarded the vessel and threw the crates of tea into the sea. The '**Boston Tea Party**', as the event is called, resulted in open antagonism among the settlers and the British Parliament. The British Government took disciplinary ladder. They closed the port of Boston to all trade.

4. The beginning of the war:

Rapidly, the source of Massachusetts was taken up by the other colonies. Opposition to British rule took on a general character. A colonial army was shaped and George Washington was chosen as the commander of the American forces. On 4 July 1776, the Declaration of Independence was issued.

The outline of the document was prepared by Thomas Jefferson. The Declaration said, "**All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness**". It also asserted the right of the people to form their own government. As the English government refused to respect these rights, the people started the War of Independence.

The English Commander surrendered to the colonial armed forces at Saratoga (1777). The victory of Saratoga encouraged France to join the war in good turn of the colonists. The French Government officially recognized American independence and affirmed war on Great Britain. The war ended in 1781 when the British forces beneath Lord Cornwallis surrendered. The British government did not make any additional attempt to reestablish its control over the George Washington colonies.

The War of Independence came to an end with the signing of the Peace **Treaty of Paris** (1783). Britain accepted the independence of its 13 colonies, which merged to form the United States. The new nation, gifted with a huge stretch of land stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi, shortly became one of the greatest powers of the world. George Washington became the first President of the USA in 1789.

5. Results of the war

- 1) The colonies became independent. The new nation was gifted with a enormous stretch of land from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River and from the Great Lakes to Florida.
- 2) In 1789, the national government of the United States of America adopted a Republican Constitution. The Bill of Rights guaranteed to the citizens of the USA the right to freedom of speech, press, religion and justice. The American Government was to be headed by an elected President.
- 3) The American Revolution motivated men and women of other nations who wanted to be free from domination. Thus it sowed the seeds of revolution, particularly in France. It may be said that the American Revolution brought a great social and intellectual awakening among the people of Europe.
- 4) State interference in the country's economy was minimized. The Government encouraged and supported private enterprises