A COMPANION TO EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITAIN

Edited by

H. T. Dickinson
A Companion to Eighteenth-Century Britain
A COMPANION TO EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITAIN

Edited by

H. T. Dickinson
This series provides sophisticated and authoritative overviews of the scholarship that has shaped our current understanding of British History. Each volume comprises up to forty concise essays written by individual scholars within their area of specialization. The aim of each contribution is to synthesize the current state of scholarship from a variety of historical perspectives and to provide a statement on where the field is heading. The essays are written in a clear, provocative and lively manner, designed for an international audience of scholars, students and general readers.

The Blackwell Companions to British History is a cornerstone of Blackwell’s overarching Companions to History series, covering European, American and World History.

Published
A Companion to Britain in the Later Middle Ages
Edited by S. H. Rigby
A Companion to Stuart Britain
Edited by Barry Coward
A Companion to Eighteenth-Century Britain
Edited by H. T. Dickinson
A Companion to Early Twentieth-Century Britain
Edited by Chris Wrigley

In preparation
A Companion to Roman Britain
Edited by Malcolm Todd
A Companion to Britain in the Early Middle Ages
Edited by Pauline Stafford
A Companion to Tudor Britain
Edited by Robert Tittler and Norman Jones
A Companion to Nineteenth-Century Britain
Edited by Chris Williams
A Companion to Contemporary Britain
Edited by Paul Addison and Harriet Jones

The Historical Association is the voice for history. Since 1906 it has been bringing together people who share an interest in, and love for, the past. It aims to further the study of teaching of history at all levels. Membership is open to everyone: teacher and student, amateur and professional. Membership offers a range of journals, activities and other benefits. Full details are available from The Historical Association, 59a Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4JH, enquiry@history.org.uk, www.history.org.uk.
Other Blackwell History Companions include:

BLACKWELL COMPANIONS TO HISTORY

Published
A Companion to Western Historical Thought
Edited by Lloyd Kramer and Sarah Maza

In preparation
A Companion to Gender History
Edited by Teresa Meade and Merry E. Weisner-Hanks

BLACKWELL COMPANIONS TO EUROPEAN HISTORY

Published
A Companion to the Worlds of the Renaissance
Edited by Guido Ruggiero

In preparation
A Companion to the Reformation World
Edited by R. Po-chia Hsia
A Companion to Europe Since 1945
Edited by Klaus Larres
A Companion to Europe 1900–1945
Edited by Gordon Martel

BLACKWELL COMPANIONS TO AMERICAN HISTORY

Published
A Companion to the American Revolution
Edited by Jack P. Greene and J. R. Pole
A Companion to 19th-Century America
Edited by William L. Barney
A Companion to the American South
Edited by John B. Boles
A Companion to American Indian History
Edited by Philip J. Deloria and Neal Salisbury
A Companion to American Women’s History
Edited by Nancy A. Hewitt
A Companion to Post-1945 America
Edited by Jean-Christophe Agnew and Ray Rosenzweig
A Companion to the Vietnam War
Edited by Marilyn B. Young and Robert Buzzanco

In preparation
A Companion to Colonial America
Edited by Daniel Vickers
A Companion to 20th-Century America
Edited by Stephen J. Whitfield
A Companion to the American West
Edited by William Deverell
A Companion to American Foreign Relations
Edited by Robert Schulzinger

BLACKWELL COMPANIONS TO WORLD HISTORY

In preparation
A Companion to the History of Africa
Edited by Joseph Miller
A Companion to the History of the Middle East
Edited by Tousif M. Choneiri
Contents

List of Maps x
List of Contributors xi
Introduction xv
Maps xix

PART I POLITICS AND THE CONSTITUTION 1

1 The British Constitution 3
   H. T. Dickinson

2 The British State 19
   Eckhart Hellmuth

3 Finance and Taxation 30
   Patrick Karl O’Brien

4 Local Government and Local Society 40
   David Eastwood

5 Parliament, Parties and Elections (1688–1760) 55
   Brian Hill

6 Parliament, Parties and Elections (1760–1815) 69
   Stephen M. Lee

7 The Jacobite Movement 81
   Daniel Szechi

8 Popular Politics and Radical Ideas 97
   H. T. Dickinson

9 The Crisis of the French Revolution 112
   Emma Vincent Macleod
PART II THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY 125
10 Manufacturing and Commerce
   John Rule
11 Agriculture and Rural Life
   Gordon Mingay
12 The Landed Elite
   Richard G. Wilson
13 The Middling Orders
   Nicholas Rogers
14 The Labouring Poor
   John Rule
15 Urban Life and Culture
   Peter Borsay
16 Women and the Family
   John D. Ramsbottom

PART III RELIGION 223
17 The Church of England
   Jeremy Gregory
18 Religious Minorities in England
   Colin Haydon
19 Methodism and the Evangelical Revival
   G. M. Ditchfield
20 Religion in Scotland
   Stewart J. Brown
21 Religion in Ireland
   Sean J. Connolly

PART IV CULTURE 281
22 Print Culture
   Bob Harris
23 Political Ideas from Locke to Paine
   Pamela Edwards
24 The Making of Elite Culture
   Maura A. Henry
25 Literature and Drama
   J. Alan Downie
CONTENTS

26 Popular Culture
   Bob Bushaway
   344

27 Crime and Punishment
   James A. Sharpe
   358

PART V UNION AND DISUNION IN THE BRITISH ISLES
   367

28 Integration: Patriotism and Nationalism
   Colin Kidd
   369

29 Scotland and the Union
   Alexander Murdoch
   381

30 Wales in the Eighteenth Century
   Geraint H. Jenkins
   392

   Paddy McNally
   403

32 Ireland: Radicalism, Rebellion and Union
   Martyn J. Powell
   414

PART VI BRITAIN AND THE WIDER WORLD
   429

33 Britain’s Emergence as a European Power, 1688–1815
   H. M. Scott
   431

34 Britain and the Atlantic World
   W. A. Speck
   447

35 Britain and India
   Bruce P. Lenman
   460

36 The British Army
   Stanley D. M. Carpenter
   473

37 The Royal Navy
   Richard Harding
   481

38 Britain and the Slave Trade
   John Oldfield
   489

   Bibliography
   499

   Index
   516
## List of Maps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The counties of England and Wales in the eighteenth century</td>
<td>xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Parliamentary constituencies in Scotland, 1707–1832</td>
<td>xxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ireland in the eighteenth century</td>
<td>xxii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Towns with 2,500+ inhabitants in 1700</td>
<td>xxiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Towns with 2,500+ inhabitants in 1750</td>
<td>xxiv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Towns with 2,500+ inhabitants in 1801</td>
<td>xxv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>British North America c.1763</td>
<td>xxvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>The Caribbean in the eighteenth century</td>
<td>xxvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Europe c.1775</td>
<td>xxviii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Expansion of British power in India</td>
<td>xxx</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contributors

Peter Borsay was educated at Lancaster University and is at present Professor of History at the University of Wales, Lampeter. His publications include *The English Urban Renaissance: Culture and Society in the Provincial Town, 1660–1770* and *The Image of Georgian Bath 1700–2000: Towns, Heritage and History.*

Stewart J. Brown took his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. He is Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Dean of the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh. His publications include *Thomas Chalmers and the Godly Commonwealth in Scotland* and *The National Churches of England, Ireland and Scotland, 1801–1846.*

Bob Bushaway gained his first degree and his doctorate from the University of Southampton. He is currently Director of Research Support and Business Development of the University of Birmingham and an associate member of the History department there. He is the author of *By Rite: Custom, Ceremony and Community in England 1700–1880* and of essays in books and journals.

Stanley D. M. Carpenter has higher degrees from the University of St Andrews and Florida State University, Tallahassee. He is now an Associate Professor at the United States Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. He has contributed articles to various encyclopaedias and historical dictionaries.

Sean J. Connolly was educated at University College, Dublin and the University of Ulster. He is currently Professor of Irish History at the Queen’s University, Belfast. His publications include *Religion, Law and Power: The Making of Protestant Ireland 1660–1760, Priests and People in Pre-Famine Ireland 1780–1845* and, as general editor, *The Oxford Companion to Irish History.*

H. T. Dickinson has degrees from Durham, Newcastle and Edinburgh universities and has been Richard Lodge Professor of British History at Edinburgh since 1980. His publications include *Liberty and Property: Political Ideology in Eighteenth-Century Britain* and *The Politics of the People in Eighteenth-Century Britain.*

G. M. Ditchfield was educated at Cambridge University and is now Reader in Eighteenth-Century History at the University of Kent at Canterbury. He is the author of *The Evangelical Revival* and co-editor of *British Parliamentary Lists 1660–1800.*

J. Alan Downie was educated at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He is currently Senior Pro-Warden (Academic) and Professor of English at Goldsmith’s College, University of London. His publications include *Robert Harley and the Press.*
Contributors

Propaganda and Public Opinion in the Age of Swift and Defoe and Jonathan Swift: Political Writer.

David Eastwood was educated at Oxford University and taught there before becoming Professor of History at the University of Wales, Swansea. He is currently Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Board. His publications include Rural England: Tradition and Transformation in English Local Government, 1780–1840 and Government and Community in the English Provinces 1700–1870.

Pamela Edwards gained her Ph.D. at the University of London and teaches at Richmond University in London. She is currently a visiting fellow in the History department at Yale University. She has published learned articles in the History of Political Thought and Enlightenment and Dissent, and is revising her book on the political thought of Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Jeremy Gregory was educated at Oxford University. He is currently a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Religions and Theology at the University of Manchester. His publications include Restoration, Reformation and Reform, 1660–1828: Archbishops of Canterbury and their Diocese and, as co-author, The Longman Companion to Eighteenth-Century Britain, 1688–1820.

Richard Harding graduated from Leicester University and took his Ph.D. at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is currently Professor of Organizational History at the University of Westminster. His publications include Amphibious Warfare in the Eighteenth Century and Seapower and Naval Warfare 1650–1830.

Bob Harris was educated at Durham and Oxford universities. He is currently Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Dundee. His publications include A Patriot Press: National Politics and the London Press in the 1740s and Politics and the Nation: Britain in the Mid-Eighteenth Century.

Colin Haydon was educated at Oxford University and is now Reader in History at King Alfred’s College, Winchester. His publications include Anti-Catholicism in Eighteenth-Century England, c.1714–80 and (edited with John Walsh and Stephen Taylor) The Church of England, c.1689–c.1833.

Eckhart Hellmuth gained his doctorate and his habilitation at the University of Trier. He is currently Professor of Modern History at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich. His publications include Naturrechtsphilosophie und bürokratischer Werthorizont and (as editor) The Transformation of Political Culture in England and Germany in the Late Eighteenth Century.

Maura A. Henry studied for a time at the University of Sussex and graduated from Smith College in Massachusetts. Having gained her doctorate at Harvard University she has held a number of posts there, including Lecturer in History and Women’s Studies and Assistant Director of Women’s Studies.

Brian Hill gained his doctorate at Cambridge University and taught for many years at the University of East Anglia, where he retired as Reader in History. His publications include The Growth of Parliamentary Parties 1689–1742 and British Parliamentary Parties 1742–1832.

Geraint H. Jenkins was educated at the University of Wales, Swansea. He is currently Professor of Welsh History at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth and Director of the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. His publications include The Foundation of Modern Wales 1642–1780 and Literature, Religion and Society in Wales 1660–1730. He is also general editor of A Social History of the Welsh Language.

Colin Kidd studied at Cambridge, Harvard and Oxford universities and is now Reader in History at the University of Glasgow. His publications include Subverting Scotland’s Past and British Identities before Nationalism.

Stephen M. Lee is a graduate of Edinburgh University and gained his doctorate at Manchester University. He now teaches at Torquay Boys’ Grammar School. He has published articles on aspects of the career
of George Canning and is working on a study of Canning and liberal Toryism.

Bruce P. Lenman is a graduate of Aberdeen and has two graduate degrees from Cambridge University. He is currently a Professor of Modern History at the University of St Andrews. His many publications include *England’s Colonial Wars 1550–1688* and *Britain’s Colonial Wars 1688–1783*.

Emma Vincent Macleod was educated at Edinburgh University and is now a Lecturer in History at the University of Stirling. She is the author of *A War of Ideas: British Attitudes to the Wars against Revolutionary France*, 1792–1802.

Paddy McNally was educated at Queen’s University, Belfast and is currently Senior Lecturer in History at University College, Worcester. His publications include *Parties, Patriots and Undertakers: Parliamentary Politics in Early Hanoverian Ireland*.

Gordon Mingay was educated at Nottingham University. He is now retired, but his last appointment was as Professor of Agrarian History at the University of Kent. Among his many publications are two large-scale edited works: *The Victorian Countryside* (2 vols) and *The Agrarian History of England and Wales*, vol. 6: 1750–1850.

Alexander Murdoch was educated at George Washington University and the University of Edinburgh and is now Senior Lecturer in Scottish History at the latter university. His publications include *The People Above*: Politics and Administration in Mid-Eighteenth-Century Scotland and British History 1660–1832: National Identity and Local Culture.

Patrick Karl O’Brien was educated and taught at the University of Oxford before becoming Director of the Institute of Historical Research in the University of London. He is currently Centennial Professor of Economic History at the London School of Economics. His many publications include *Revolution in Egypt’s Economic System: From Private Enterprise to Socialism*, 1952–1965 and (with Cagler Keyder) *Economic Growth in Britain and France, 1780–1914: Two Paths to the Twentieth Century*.

John Oldfield was educated at Cambridge University and is at present Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Southampton. His publications include *Popular Politics and British Anti-Slavery: The Mobilisation of Public Opinion against the Slave Trade, 1787–1807* and *Civilization and Black Progress: Selected Writings of Alexander Crummell on the South*.

Martyn J. Powell gained his first degree and his doctorate at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, where he is at present a Lecturer in History. He has published several articles on British and Irish politics in the later eighteenth century and is completing a study on *Britain and Ireland in the Eighteenth-Century Crisis of Empire*.

John D. Ramsbottom was awarded his Ph.D. by Yale University and is currently an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He has published articles in learned journals on the Restoration Church of England.

Nicholas Rogers was educated at Oxford and Toronto universities. He is at present a Professor of History at York University, Toronto. His publications include *Whigs and Cities: Popular Politics in the Age of Walpole and Pitt* and *Crowds, Culture and Politics in Georgian Britain*.

John Rule was educated at Cambridge and Warwick universities and is currently a Professor of Modern History at the University of Southampton. His publications include *Albion’s People: English Society 1714–1815* and *The Vital Century: England’s Developing Economy*.

H. M. Scott was educated at the University of Edinburgh and the London School of Economics. He is currently Professor of International History at the University of St Andrews. His many publications include *British Foreign Policy in the Age of the American Revolution* and *The Emergence of the Eastern Powers*.

James A. Sharpe gained his doctorate at Oxford University. He is currently a Professor of History at the University of York. His publications include *Crime in Early*