

WARFARE AND BRITISH SOCIETY

Revision 8: WAR AND ITS IMPACT 1500- 1800

NAME OF WAR/ TYPE OF WAR	PUBLIC RESPONSE/IMPACT ON PUBLIC	GOVERNMENT/MONARCH RESPONSE/ IMPACT ON THEM
<p>Elizabeth I's wars 1559–60 Protestants in Scotland rebelled against their Catholic ruler. Elizabeth aided them secretly with money, arms and 'volunteer' troops. 1562–63 Elizabeth allied with French Protestants called Huguenots and tried to capture the French port of Le Havre. The campaign was a failure. Her campaigns in Scotland and France in the 1560s cost around £750,000 (around £2.4 billion today). 1560s onwards Privateers regularly attacked Spanish ships carrying gold from South America to Spain. These privateers were effectively pirates but over time they were given royal approval. 1565–mid-1570s Series of campaigns in Ireland with very limited success. 1577–85 Elizabeth provided financial aid to the Protestants in the Netherlands who were rebelling against their Spanish rulers. 1585 Elizabeth sent troops to help the rebels in the Netherlands against the Spanish. England was effectively at war with Spain. 1588 Philip II of Spain sent an Armada to invade England and depose Elizabeth. The Armada was defeated. 1589 The Protestant Henry IV became king of France, but faced rebellion and civil war against many powerful Catholics in France. Elizabeth supported Henry with money and troops. 1594 A major war began between English forces and Irish lords in Ulster. The Irish War lasted until 1603. The campaign was largely unsuccessful. 1596 The English Armada was sent to attack Spain, but the campaign was largely unsuccessful.</p>	<p>She cultivated an almost godly image for her people to worship and claimed she was 'married to England.' In this way her people loved her and she ensured loyalty. Use of PR and portraiture to sell an image.</p> <p>1570s: Elizabeth largely avoids war so the economy improves. There is no inflation and English towns and cities start to flourish.</p> <p>1580s: From 1585–1603, Elizabeth raised the largest forces yet seen in English history. Some 385,000 men were recruited at a time when the combined population of England and Wales was only 4 million. Around 5,000 men joined up as voluntary soldiers overseas. There was no shortage of nobles and gentlemen willing to serve as officers, (SHOWS LOYALTY AND LOVE TO THEIR QUEEN AND COUNTRY.)</p> <p>Local taxes Many costs of war were borne by towns and counties who had to: • train and equip the militia /pay to build or maintain the queen's ships • repair coastal forts • equip troops for overseas service. Local taxes increased as a result.</p> <p>1590s- Use of monopolies led to inflation and general discontent in England amongst the ordinary people. In the 1590's ordinary civilians were suffering from bad harvests, hunger, poor health. The queen appeared not to care and this led to the Oxfordshire food riots in 1596 and other small scale rebellions. In addition, by 1596 real wages had collapsed to less than half what they had been 9 years earlier.</p> <p>The Irish conflict cost Elizabeth about the same as the entire war with Spain – an estimated £1.9 billion (around £6 trillion today). Despite its defeat Ireland remained a troublesome territory for England and the wars were deeply unpopular by the 1590s. They were costing huge amounts of money and lives, and they seemed to be gaining little. Historians estimate that around 30,000 English soldiers died in the wars in Ireland, mostly from disease. This was a huge figure when the population was only around 4 million.</p> <p>Ship money Traditionally in wartime the crown had REQUISITIONED merchant ships from coastal towns and counties to use in the navy. In the 1590s, Elizabeth demanded money as well as ships. When this tax was extended to inland areas it was bitterly opposed.</p> <p>1601</p>	<p>Inherits a country on the brink of religious civil war, inherits debt and a medieval army vulnerable to invasion.</p> <p>Gender is a problem for Elizabeth at this point as she is seen as female and weak operating in a man world. England is in debt by 228,000 and cannot afford to defend against an invasion so Elizabeth has to be very careful in her dealings with powerful Spanish countries like France and Spain. There is inflation and the country is unstable.</p> <p>The threat of Mary Queen of Scotland (Elizabeth's cousin) means Parliament in this time is constantly hassling Elizabeth to execute her. Elizabeth resists for 12 years and finally gives in in 1587. For as long as Mary Queen of Scots is alive there are constant threats and rebellions against Elizabeth e.f Throckmorton Plot 1583 and Babington Plot 1586.</p> <p>1588 Tilbury Speech and Spanish Armada- Elizabeth was able to present herself as a type of godly warrior.</p> <p>1593 The Commons voted a double subsidy (a tax collected twice over two years) to help finance the war against Spain. However, they were convinced to vote for a treble subsidy (to be collected three times in three years).</p> <p>1597-98 Parliament called again to rise subsidies to finance the war against Spain. MP's resisted her favourite ministers (they essentially owned certain trading goods and so raised the price of them.) In 1601 Parliament delivered a Golden Speech to Elizabeth where they essentially praised and thanked her for her reign.</p> <p>In terms of foreign affairs, English power advanced to the New World, placed like Virginia in America were colonised, piracy brought in gold-mostly Spanish gold- and there were lots of new discoveries, like tobacco.</p>

	<p>Parliament called to rise subsidies to finance the war against Spain again. This causes great public discontent.</p> <p>Public unrest was building as the increase in taxes were effecting the people and making their situation worse.</p> <p>Elizabeth had to act in the face of public unrest. She promised to cancel some monopolies. Therefore, she kept her prerogative and subsidies by giving in to Parliament's demands.</p> <p>By the end of her reign it became know as the 'Golden Age.' This is because life in England flourished (culture, standards of living, theatre, Shakespeare, poor relief, towns and cities boomed).</p>	
<p>Elizabethan Piracy/ overseas trade Elizabethan Sea Dogs e.g Drake and Hawkins.</p>	<p>Rising population and bad harvests in England could lead to high unemployment and vagrancy. Signing on as a sailor was risky but offered a regular wage and a way out of poverty. Piracy was helpful as a way of dealing with economic problems. Many of Elizabeth's 50,000 sailors were volunteers who hoped to get rich by capturing Spanish ships.</p> <p>Enhanced national identity: The Elizabethans were confident that their way of life was superior to the natives of other lands. They thought they could have a civilising influence on such people.</p> <p>The invention of printing and the new ideas of the Renaissance created a strong desire for knowledge. This drove some Elizabethans to want to explore</p>	<p>Elizabethan's wanted to spread Protestant beliefs in the same way and prevent the further spread of Catholicism. This enhanced Elizabeth's image as 'The Protestant Queen.'</p> <p>The Queen, could make quick profits by financing privateer attacks on Spanish and Portuguese shipping. In the 1560s, John Hawkins made vast amounts of money trading slaves he had captured in West Africa with the Spanish colonies in the Caribbean.</p> <p>Enhanced the skills of the navy, far more superior ships were designed and built. The Royal Navy had 34 ships in 1585, most of which were well-equipped with long-range guns.</p> <p>To her credit Elizabeth was able to get out of the debt caused by Mary and had 300,000 in reserve.</p> <p>Colonisation e.g Virginia- advanced the idea of an British Empire.</p>
<p>English Civil War 1642-1651 WHY: RELIGION/ CLASH OF POLITICAL IDEOLOGY/ ABUSE OF POWER</p>	<p>Impact 1: A divided nation Taking sides As Charles and parliament clashed in 1642, people in the country chose their side – king, parliament or neither. There were many Royalists in London, for example, but under parliament's control they were intimidated, forced to leave and sometimes imprisoned. Counties, towns, villages and even individual families were divided. In many parts of the country there were effectively two governments – parliament and the king – and each tried to enforce its authority.</p> <p>Raising armies Both Charles and parliament tried to order the people of the country to join their armies. Local gentry were ordered to call out the militia and trained bands and march to join their local Parliamentary or Royalist commanders. This could be complicated and even dangerous .</p> <p>Paying for the war effort At the national level the money came from taxes. In the areas controlled by parliament, people had to pay two main taxes: the assessment and the excise. In Royalist areas Charles imposed a tax called the contribution. In</p>	<p>POWER SHIFT BETWEEN PARLIAMENT/MONARCH/PEOPLE. (SEE PAPER 3 NOTES)</p> <p>ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF CROMWELL (SEE PAPER 3 NOTES)</p>

many counties, people received demands for taxes from both sides. Many people tried to avoid paying these. Parliament was more ruthless – and more successful – in collecting taxes. It set up County Committees in the areas it controlled, run by loyal Parliamentarians who worked hard to collect the taxes that Parliament believed it was owed.

Impact 2: Fighting Battles

Between 1642 and 1651, 22 battles were fought on English and Scottish soil. Some of the smaller battles involved around 5,000 troops, while major battles such as Marston Moor involved around 40,000 men. Warfare was evolving and these battles would have been terrifying.

Sieges and sackings:

The siege and sacking of Colchester in the Second Civil War of 1648 was notorious for the savagery of the fighting and the high rate of civilian deaths. Many castles, the towns around them and the people.

Impact 3: Physical destruction

Another factor that made the Civil Wars so devastating was that they were fought on home soil. Most of Elizabeth I's wars had been fought at sea, in Europe or in the New World. They cost a lot of money but there was relatively little death and destruction at home. In contrast, civilian casualties during the Civil Wars was very high. Historians estimate that a total of 180,000 soldiers and civilians died as a result of fighting, accidents, hunger and disease. That is 3.6% of the population at the time. During the First World War (1914–18), which is often seen as the deadliest war ever, 2.6% of the British population were killed.

Destruction in Scotland

Devastation in Ireland- Some historians estimate that 40 per cent of the population of Ireland died in the war, hunger, disease and disruption of the 1640s. Cromwell threw thousands of people off their land and forced them to move to the barren western part of Ireland. Around 12,000 Irish – many of them children – were sold into slavery in the Caribbean.

Impact 4: The social and psychological Impact

A country without a king

New ideas

Before the Civil Wars, there had been strict censorship and harsh punishments for those who expressed political or religious ideas. Once war broke out, censorship collapsed. As men and women fought and faced the horrors of war, many began to question existing ideas. New political and religious groups emerged, including the following:

- The Levellers argued for a more equal society, including religious freedom and the vote for all men.
- The Diggers (or True Levellers) wanted to get rid of all forms of authority – including the Church and parliament – so that people could rule themselves.
- The Quakers rejected the need for churches, bishops or any other kind of religious authority.

Rule by parliament

For the majority of the people, rule by parliament meant heavy taxes and strict control of their lives. Many people longed for a return to the

	<p>monarchy. Charles I's rule might have been harsh at times, but parliamentary rule was worse.</p> <p>The rise of the army: They began to get more involved in political matters, and army leader Oliver Cromwell emerged as the most powerful figure. Cromwell and the army were more powerful than parliament. Cromwell himself was largely respected, but most people disliked the army's involvement in politics. It left a legacy of mistrust between parliament and the army that lasted for 200 years.</p>	
<p>Anglo-Scottish Wars 1500–1746 BORDER WARFARE: PHASE 1: From 1500 to 1600, the border between England and Scotland was a wild and dangerous place. In many areas, the law barely operated and the only real power was that of gun and sword.</p> <p>'Official' warfare: Scotland and France had a long tradition of friendship and each found in the other a useful political and military ally against their common enemy, England e.g In 1513, Henry VIII of England went to war against France. France was allied with Scotland and so the Scottish king, James IV, invaded. After initial successes in north-eastern England James was decisively defeated in the Battle of Flodden Field in 1513. In 1542, James V of Scotland renewed his country's alliance with France and attacked England. English forces defeated the Scots at Solway Moss near Carlisle.</p> <p>'Unofficial' warfare; The reivers: In these border areas, bands of raiders from different clans – reivers – paid little heed to distant governments in London or Edinburgh. Local communities owed loyalty to their blood relatives or clans, which sometimes straddled the border.</p>	<p>Official warfare could be devastating. Armies lived off the surrounding countryside, often simply taking what they needed. English tactics in Scotland also involved deliberate destruction. For example, the Earl of Hertford's campaign in 1545 destroyed seven monasteries, 16 fortified towers, five towns, 243 villages, 13 mills and three hospitals. Many parts of the border region, like most war zones, were plagued by poverty, disease and under-development in this period.</p> <p>Very dangerous and violent for those who lived around the border. Lots of raids, cattle stolen, people murdered, homes looted and people taken hostage.</p>	<p>The end of the reivers The reivers prospered because it suited the English and Scottish rulers for the border to be turbulent. This all changed swiftly with the death of Elizabeth in 1603 and the accession of James VI of Scotland as James I of England in 1603. With the two thrones united, there was no longer any advantage to be gained from a lawless border region. English and Scottish forces combined to bring it under the same justice systems as England and Scotland and this was achieved by the end of the decade.</p> <p>Reivers were dealt with savagely. Many were executed, often without trial; others were conscripted to fight in the Netherlands or sent to Ireland as unwilling farmers.</p>
<p>The 1715 Jacobite rebellion: The Act of Union 1707 joined England and Scotland politically. However, many Scots were still bitterly opposed to it. The English nobility offered the Scottish crown to the Protestant Prince George of Hanover, as they were desperate to make sure a Catholic monarch did not claim it. Scotland were not happy.</p> <p>The Jacobite cause was particularly strong in the Scottish Highlands where many clans remained Catholic. The Highland clans were also highly</p>		<p>The British government did not see this rebellion as a major threat and showed leniency to the Jacobites.</p> <p>Yet for all the seeming success in uniting Scotland under Hanoverian rule there was underlying conflict. While many Scots supported the Hanoverian Succession for political, religious and economic reasons, others, especially in the Highlands, still favoured the return of the Stuarts and the Catholic religion.</p>

<p>militarised. A Jacobite rebellion, centred on the Highlands, occurred in 1715. The rebels, who supported the claims of James Stuart, were supported by England's old enemy, France. With its rising population and a small but growing overseas empire, France saw England as a real threat and was keen to help England's enemies. The Jacobites had initial success, and by October 1715 they had 20,000 troops in the field and had taken control of much of Scotland. However, the Jacobite leaders grew cautious. They knew the English would recover and they also knew that they had little support from Lowland Scotland, which they would need to maintain control of their country. A small Jacobite force invaded England, but it surrendered at Preston in November 1715. James Stuart, who came to Scotland, quickly returned to France, while Jacobite leaders retreated to the Highlands.</p>		
<p>The 1745 rebellion A second, more serious, Jacobite rebellion broke out in 1745. This was led by Charles Edward Stuart, known as Bonnie Prince Charlie or 'the Young Pretender' – the son of James Stuart.</p> <p>Several clans supported Charles's cause and he was eventually able to march south with 2,500 men. He arrived in Edinburgh in September 1745 and there proclaimed his father as James VIII of Scotland. On 21 September, his Highland army defeated a small British force at Prestonpans, ensuring Charles controlled much of Scotland. Charles's next target was England. In November his forces captured Carlisle and its castle. By 4 December, his 5,000 men had reached Derby, causing panic in London. Only 300 English Catholics had joined his army and he had received no extra help from France. Surrounded by pro-government forces, he decided to return to Scotland.</p> <p>The Battle of Culloden: 5,000 Highlanders were defeated in one hour by the English Cumberland's 9,000-strong army. Charles escaped from the battlefield and fled to France.</p>	<p>Hundreds of Jacobite supporters were hunted down and imprisoned, although most were later released. Over 100 were executed, with another 1,000 being transported to the British colonies in North America. Several high-ranking Jacobite leaders were publicly executed at the Tower of London.</p> <p>Thousands of Highlanders joined the British army and played a key role in the expansion of the British Empire. For example, Highland troops who had fought against each other at Culloden fought together against the French at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham at Quebec in 1756. This decisive battle led to the conquest of Canada by the British.</p>	<p>The government also used the invasion to stir up national sentiment. Most English people supported their Protestant German king. Noblemen raised regiments of volunteers to defend the monarch (it was at this time that the song 'God Save the King' was adopted as the national anthem). Lowland Scots – and many Highlanders who served in the British army – were also eager to fight back against the Jacobites. In fact, more Scots fought against Charles Stuart than fought for him.</p> <p>British government passed a series of laws intended to demilitarise the highland clans. All swords had to be surrendered. Even the wearing of tartan by anyone except soldiers in the British army was banned by an Act of Parliament. The government also ended the right of Highland chieftains to make law in their domains.</p> <p>From this point, Scotland was dominated by Lowland Scots who supported the government, backed by the British army. Englishmen were not sent to rule Scotland – loyal Scots did that effectively enough. In time, Jacobite sympathies faded and the Highlands became more integrated into Great Britain.</p>