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ECO 303Y1: The Economic History of Modern Europe to 1914

Topic No. 4 [4] : Warfare and the Industrial Revolution, 1700 - 1815

READINGS: the more important are indicated by asterisks

A. General Studies on Warfare and the British Economy

- * 1. A. H. John, 'War and the English Economy, 1700-1763', Economic History Review, 2nd ser., 7 (1954-55), 329-44.
- * 2. Phyllis Dean, 'War and Industrialisation', and Simon Schama, 'The Exigencies of War and the Politics of Taxation in the Netherlands, 1795-1810', both in J. M. Winter, ed., War and Economic Development: Essays in Memory of David Joslin (Cambridge, 1975), pp. 91-102, 103-138.
- * 3. Glenn Hueckel, 'War and the British Economy, 1793-1815: a General Equilibrium Analysis', Explorations in Economic History, 10:4 (Summer 1973) [1972-73], 365-96. An excellent and probing article, and/but one with a substantial amount of econometrics.
- * 4. W. W. Rostow, The Process of Economic Growth, 2nd edition (Oxford: The Clarendon Press and Oxford University Press, 1960), chapter 7, 'War and Economic Change: the British Experience', pp. 145-67.
- * 5. François Crouzet, 'War, Blockade, and Economic Change in Europe, 1792-1815', Journal of Economic History, 24 (Dec 1964), 567-90.
- * 6. T. S. Ashton, Economic Fluctuations in England, 1700-1800 (Oxford, 1959), chapter 3, 'War, Trade, and Finance', pp. 49-83.
- 7. T. S. Ashton, Iron and Steel in the Industrial Revolution (3rd edn., London, 1963), ch. VI, 'Iron Industry in Peace and War', pp. 128-61.
- 8. N.F.R. Crafts and Terence Mills, 'Endogenous Innovation, Trend Growth, and the British Industrial Revolution: Reply to Greasley and Oxley'; and David C. Greasley and Les Oxley, 'Endogenous Growth, Trend Output, and the Industrial Revolution: Reply to Crafts and Mills', Journal of Economic History, 57:4 (December 1997), 950 - 56, 957-60. Industrial growth during the Industrial Revolution in a new perspective.
- 9. Beverly Lemire, Dress, Culture, and Commerce: The English Clothing Trade Before the Factory, 1660 - 1800 (London: Macmillan, 1997). This monograph emphasizes the importance of eighteenth-century warfare and the rapid expansion of the military (army and navy) for the rapid growth in the industrial demand for textiles, ie. for uniforms.
- 10. Chris Evans, Owen Jackson, and Göran Rydén, 'Baltic Iron and the British Iron Industry in the

Eighteenth Century’, The Economic History Review, 2nd ser., 55:4 (November 2002), 642-65. Did warfare, in cutting off or interfering with supplies of Baltic iron, provide an incentive for technological innovations that led to the Industrial Revolution in metallurgy?

11. Leandro Prados de la Escosura, ed., Exceptionalism and Industrialisation: Britain and its European Rivals, 1688 - 1815 (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

B. Taxation and Other War-Related Fiscal Policies:

- * 1. Robert M. Kozub, ‘Evolution of Taxation in England, 1700 - 1850: a Period of War and Industrialization’, The Journal of European Economic History, 32:2 (Fall 2003), 363-388.
- * 2. Peter Mathias and Patrick O'Brien, ‘Taxation in Britain and France, 1715 - 1810: A Comparison of the Social and Economic Incidence of Taxes Collected for the Central Governments’, The Journal of European Economic History, 5 (Winter 1976), 601-50.
- * 3. Patrick O'Brien, ‘Fiscal Exceptionalism: Great Britain and its European Rivals— From Civil War to Triumph at Trafalgar and Waterloo’, in Patrick O'Brien and Donald Winch, eds., The Political Economy of British Historical Experience, 1688–1914 (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 245–65.
4. J. V. Becket and Michael Turner, ‘Taxation and Economic Growth in Eighteenth-Century England’, Economic History Review, 2nd ser. 43 (August 1990), 377 - 403.
- * 5. J.F. Wright, ‘British Government Borrowing in Wartime, 1750 - 1815’, The Economic History Review, 2nd ser., 52:2 (May 1999), 355-61.
6. Charles Wilson, ‘Taxation and the Decline of Empires: an Unfashionable Theme’, in his Economic History and the Historian: Collected Essays (London, 1969), pp. 114-27.
7. Larry Neal, The Rise of Financial Capitalism: International Capital Markets in the Age of Reason, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
8. John Munro, ‘The Medieval Origins of the Financial Revolution: Usury, *Rentes*, and Negotiability’, The International History Review, 25:3 (September 2003), 505-62.
9. Peter Temin and Hans-Joachim Voth, ‘Credit Rationing and Crowding Out During the Industrial Revolution: Evidence from Hoare’s Bank, 1702 - 1862’, Explorations in Economic History, 42:3 (July 2005), 325-348. A related, tangential, but important theme.
- * 10. Nathan Sussman and Yishay Yafeh, ‘Institutional Reforms, Financial Development and Sovereign Debt: Britain, 1690 - 1790’, Journal of Economic History, 66:4 (Dec. 2006), 882-905.
- * 11. David Stasavage, ‘Partisan Politics and Public Debt: The Importance of the “Whig Supremacy” for Britain’s Financial Revolution’, European Review of Economic History, 11:1 (April 2007), 123-53.
12. H. V. Bowen and A. González Enciso, eds., Mobilising Resources for War: Britain and Spain at

Work during the Early Modern Period (Barañáin: Ediciones Universidad de Navarra, 2006).

13. Carlos Marichal, Bankruptcy of Empire: Mexican Silver and the Wars Between Spain, Britain, and France, 1760 - 1810 (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008).
14. Lance E. Davis and Stanley L. Engerman, Naval Blockades in Peace and War: an Economic History Since 1750 (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006).

QUESTIONS:

1. Did warfare and expenditures on military forces stimulate or retard British economic development from ca. 1750 to 1815?
2. How did warfare and military expenditures stimulate technological innovations and economic expansion in various British industries during the 18th and early 19th centuries?
3. To what extent did warfare, war-financing, and wartime taxation contribute to the shift of economic power from Holland (the Netherlands) and France to England during the period 1760 - 1815? How was Britain able to finance both 'guns and butter' -- both warfare and the Industrial Revolution? How did Britain gain economically from warfare -- how did Britain exploit her victories at the economic expense of her rivals?
4. What was Britain's 'Financial Revolution': from 1694 to 1757? Explain its origins, especially in the aftermath of the 'Glorious Revolution' of 1688-89, its form and nature -- and above all, its relationship to financing Britain's overseas wars following the Glorious Revolution.
5. How did Britain, Holland, and France finance their warfare in the 18th and early 19th centuries? In England, what role did the Bank of England and the London money market play in financing that warfare? How did Britain finance the international competition that finally defeated Napoleonic France by 1815? See also the related topic on British and Dutch banking, no. 9).
6. Why was Great Britain a net capital exporter after 1815? See the related topic on British and Dutch banking (no. 9).