



George II
(1727-1760)

George II

- Immersed himself in details of running government
- Had a scrupulous regard for limitations imposed on him by Parliament
- Had 2 great Prime Ministers: Walpole and Pitt
 - the latter had a position of supremacy in Parliament greater than Walpole's

George II

- This period saw the expansion of British influence in India and Canada
- 1745: Charles Edward (James II's grandson) invaded Scotland, but was unsuccessful
end of Stuart attempt to claim the throne

Industrial Revolution

- Because of the colonies, the English merchants had a captive market to which to sell their woven goods
thus, England was destined to become the cradle of the Industrial Revolution
- The entrepreneurs and their backers, not the inventors, reaped the profits and spurred on the Industrial Revolution

Industrial Revolution Catalysts

- 1) improvements in the making of cast iron
increased the production of iron 10-fold in 40
years
with the advances in iron, machines began to
be powered by steam, bringing the price
further down
machinery replaced manual labor in textile
industry
1769: steam engine

Industrial Revolution Catalysts

2) improvements in cloth industry

move of the weaving industry from home cottages to large mills

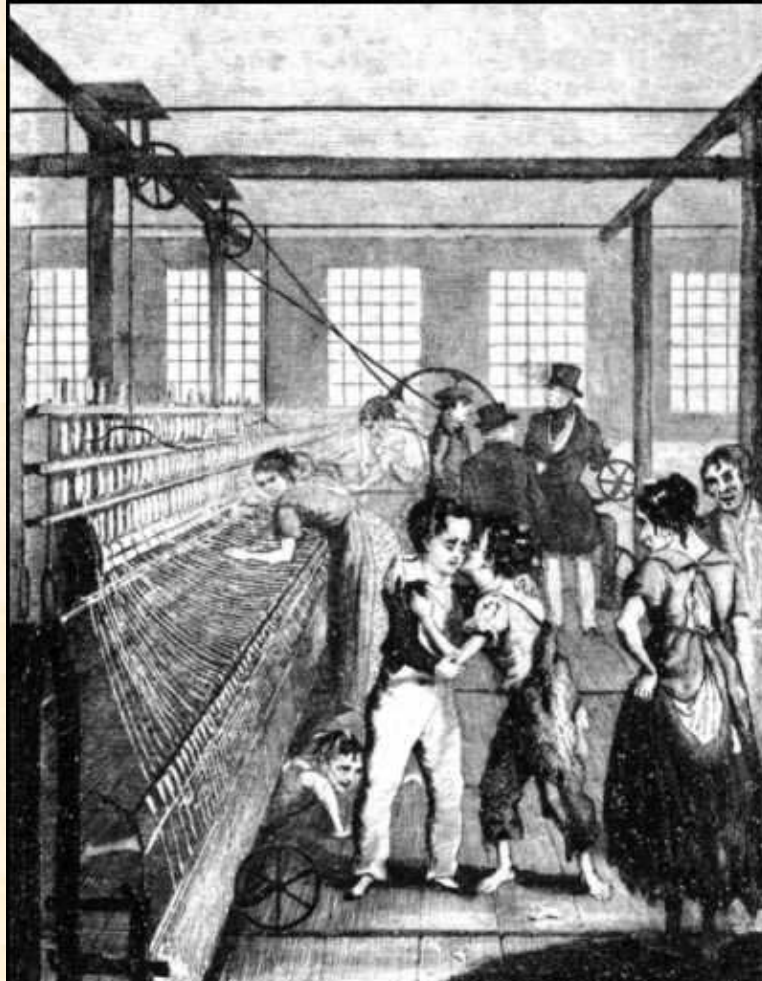
1733: creation of the flying shuttle, which allowed the weaving of cloth longer than arm's length

led to the lowering of the price of cotton

PRE-INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION



Industrial Revolution Catalysts

3) continued development of enclosure

threatened the independence of a number of
people who had previously felt themselves
to be independent

tendency of estates to get bigger

made estate owners more independent

owners of larger estates were willing to
experiment with new agricultural
techniques

Industrial Revolution Catalysts

4) the best agriculture in Europe through
improvements in agricultural techniques
improvement of implements

breeds of livestock

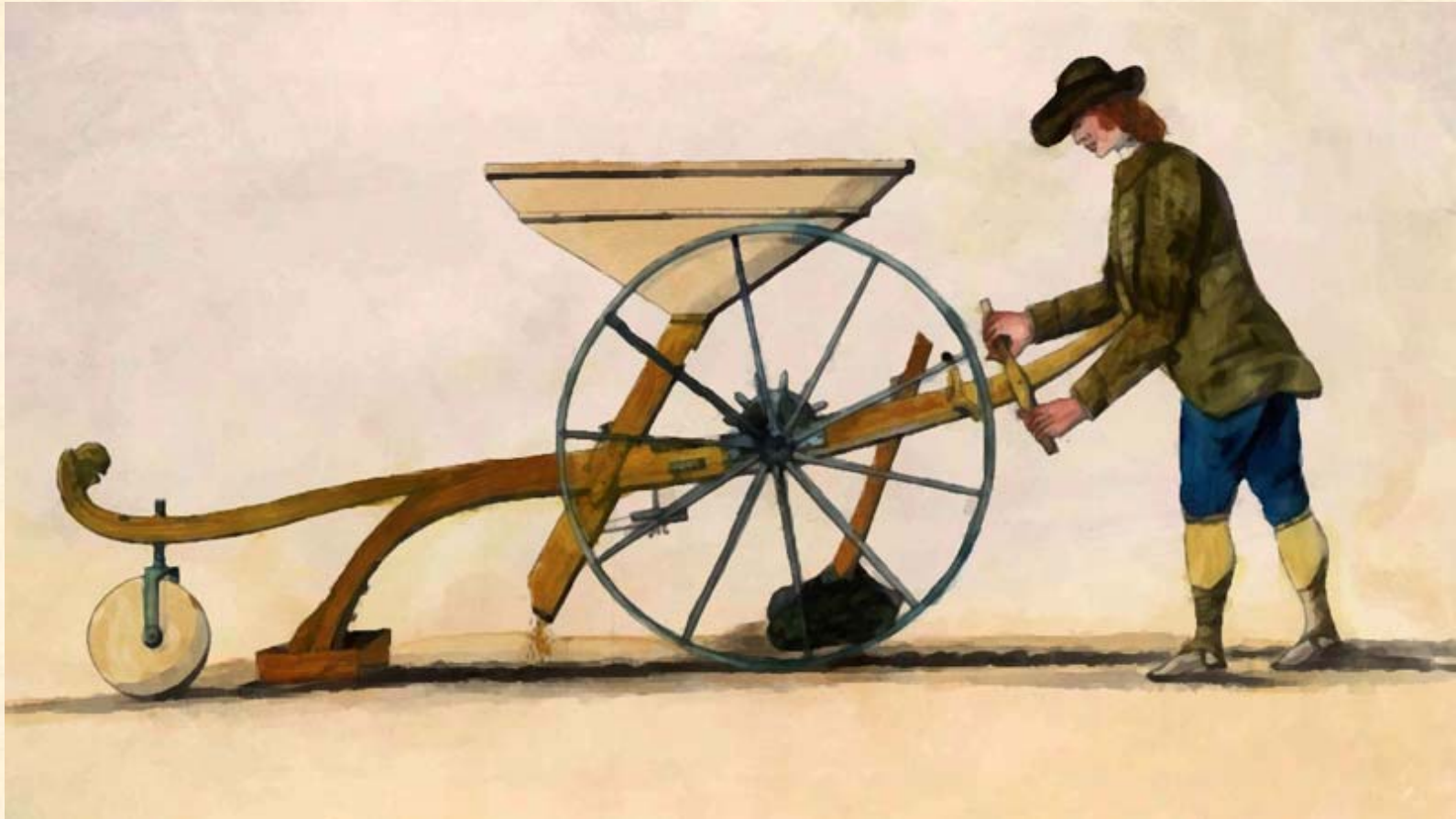
change from sustenance farming to farming for
profit

Townsend advocated the rotation of crops &
letting land lie fallow once in 3 years

England was really a self-sufficient country

with the exception of sugar, most of the imports
consisted of luxury or semi-luxury items

Improvements in Agriculture



Industrial Revolution Catalysts

5) growth in population, as a result of improvements in hygiene and agriculture

- cotton started to replace wool

- advance of habits of cleanliness

- improvements in sanitation

6) improvements in the highway system

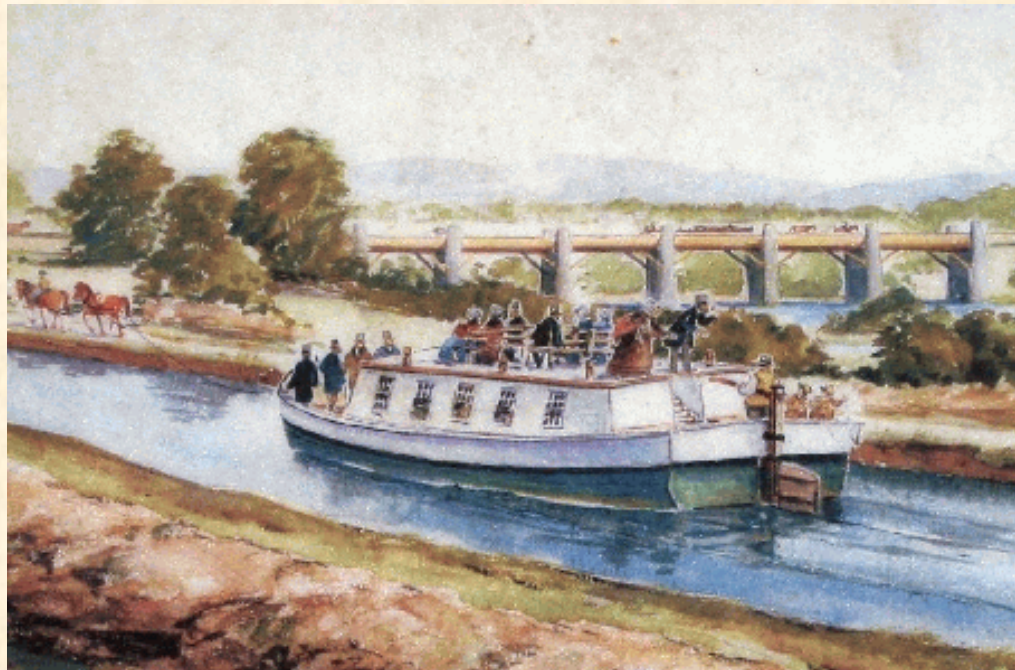
- road engineering improved

- travel time: mid-century--50-60 miles / day

- end of century--100-120 miles / day

Industrial Revolution Catalysts

- 7) building of canals, deepening of rivers
made movement of heavy materials easier



Industrial Revolution Catalysts

- 8) growth of consumer society
people had more leisure time and money to
spend on things other than necessities



SOCIETAL CHANGES

- 1752: introduction of Gregorian calendar
- Gin replaces ale as the drink for the poor



Creation of Postal System

Ralph Allen
pioneered a
scheme of
crossroads to
guarantee that
all parts of the
country would
get post



SOCIETAL CHANGES

- More household items such as soap and starch were purchased rather than made
- Buttons became popular and were expensive ornaments
- People become less contented with staying home all year round and begin to expect a holiday away

increase in popularity of Tunbridge, Bath, and Epsom

SOCIETAL CHANGES

- After Peace of Aix-à-Chappele in 1748, traveling to France became even more popular importation of French wine
- 1740: 1st circulating library, followed by successful imitators
- Journals and newspapers took place of pamphlets as the normal outlets for political controversy
 - throughout the century newspapers had a steady increase in the number of advertisements, but their main profit was from sales

SOCIETAL CHANGES

- Foundation of lying-in hospitals and orphanages
- 1753: founding of British Museum
- Cavendish: divided water into H₂O
- Priestly: isolated oxygen
- Licensing Act of 1737
 - limited number of playhouses
- 1750: begins practice of lowering curtain between acts